Author’s response to reviews

Title: A bibliometric analysis of scientific production in the field of lingual orthodontics

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A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTION IN THE FIELD OF LINGUAL ORTHODONTICS IN DENTISTRY.

Head & Face Medicine

Dear Prof. Dr. T. Stamm, Editor-in-Chief;

August 14th, 2019

We have revised, changed and suitably addressed your comments (included below) in our article point by point. Please find below an annotated list of our responses to the report and all the changes that have been made.

Replies and changes are marked in red color.

We believe that the article has been substantially improved and thank you for your help and advice.

I look forward to hearing from you.
Yours sincerely,

Dr Vanessa Paredes

Corresponding author

REVIEWER #1: ACCEPT. LANGUAGE REVIEW - VERY GOOD

1- COMMENT 1.

ANSWER. We thank the reviewer for his time. A language review has been done for a better understanding as he suggested.

REVIEWER #2: THE ARTICLE IS OF GREAT INTEREST TO CLINICIANS AND CLINICAL RESEARCHER. SO THE RECOMMENDATION IS: "ACCEPT WITH MINOR REVISION".

1- COMMENT 1. Please, observe the guidelines "Preparing your manuscript", especially in the chapter "References".

ANSWER. We have reviewed the references guidelines and changes have been done.

2- COMMENT 2. In the chapter "Abstracts" the sentence "Bibliometric indicators showed an irregular increase in the rate of publication over time ….. ." should be changed into "Bibliometric indicators showed a tremendous increase in the rate of publication over time ….. ."

ANSWER. We have check and changed the sentence in the chapter "Abstracts" as the reviewer suggested.

3- COMMENT 3. In the same chapter the sentence "Although articles on lingual orthodontics are published mainly in North American journals, it is largely a European domain." should be checked. The sentence could be changed into: "Although articles on lingual orthodontics are published mainly in North American journals, lingual orthodontics is largely a European domain."

ANSWER. We have check and changed the sentence in the chapter "Abstracts" as the reviewer suggested.
4. COMMENT 4. Additionally, the same sentence should be changed in the chapter "Conclusions".

ANSWER. We have check and changed the sentence in the chapter "Conclusions" as the reviewer suggested.

5. COMMENT 5. The quality of Figs. 2-4 should be improved.

ANSWER. The quality of Figs. 2-4 have been improved.

6. COMMENT 6. Please, check the kind of citation in Table 4, improve the citation according the guidelines "Preparing your manuscript" und use the standard abbreviation of a journal’s name.

ANSWER. We have reviewed the guidelines and changes have been done in citation in Table 4.

REVIEWER #3: However before publication I recommend authors to consider the following points:

1. COMMENT 1. The conducted literature search is limited to two databases. I recommend authors to enlarge the search including those commonly found databases: U.S. National Library of Medicine, EMBASE, Web of Knowledge of Thomson Reuters, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials. In addition a hand search for journals with a limited amount of online papers at the early time starting from 1978 is also recommended: eg. American journal of orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics, The Angle orthodontist, European Journal of orthodontics, Journal of Orofacial Orthopedics, Orthodontics and Craniofacial Research, Seminars in Orthodontics.

ANSWER.

SCI and Scopus cover the majority of the related literature. The National Library of Medicine and forms the core of PubMed and produced Medline (which also includes the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews). Indexed Medline records are delivered to Elsevier and incorporated into Embase, which is included (abstracts and citations) in Scopus. Web of Science (previously known as Web of Knowledge) is no longer maintained by Thomson Reuters. SCI is the database inside of WOS, which indexes medical related journals from 1900 to present. Moreover, limited amount of online papers does not mean exclusion from indexing. SCI and
Scopus include articles from before 1960. All mentioned journals are included. Therefore, it can be assumed that by using SCI and Scopus almost 100% coverage of the topic “lingual orthodontics” between 1978-2017 has taken place (except non-English papers).

2- COMMENT 2. Please clearly define first and second stage study selection points within the methods part.

3- COMMENT 3. Please also declare specific exclusion criteria within the methods part.

ANSWER to 2 & 3.

We have not used different study selection points. The selection criteria for this bibliometric analysis were defined under search strategy. Inclusion criteria were defined with the search strategy (“journal article, review and LIMIT-TO). We also added “Non-English papers were excluded.”

4- COMMENT 4. Please specify data analysis and methodical work. Did author use to independent assessors?

5- COMMENT 5. Please define a separate section reporting on quality assessment of selected studies including the risk of bias.

ANSWER to comment 4 & 5.

In contrast to a systematic review or meta-analysis this bibliometric analysis aimed to present the scientific activity in the field of orthodontics. It was not the aim to assess the evidence of lingual orthodontic treatment regimens. Therefore, no quality assessment nor risk of bias estimation were performed.

6- COMMENT 6. Figure 2: please increase quality. At the current version, I cannot truly review this figure

ANSWER. Yes, the PDF preview is of low quality. We have checked and changed this figure and we will ask the journal whether we could add a high quality copy as a supplement.

7- COMMENT 7. Figure 3: please increase quality. At the current version, I cannot truly review this figure
ANSWER. Yes, the PDF preview is of low quality. We have checked and changed this figure and we will ask the journal whether we could add a high quality copy as a supplement.

8- COMMENT 8. Figure 4: please increase quality. At the current version, I cannot truly review this figure

ANSWER. Yes, the PDF preview is of low quality. We have checked and changed this figure and we will ask the journal whether we could add a high quality copy as a supplement.

9- COMMENT 9. To enhance the understanding to the reader, please include the central point within the figure and table legends.

ANSWER. The central point has been included within the figure and table legends.

10- COMMENT 10. Results part of the manuscript: Please enhance the writing style.

ANSWER. We have enhanced the writing style.