Reviewer’s report

Title: Effect of non-surgical periodontal treatment on glycemic control of patients with diabetes: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials

Version: 1 Date: 17 December 2014

Reviewer: Steven P Engebretson

Reviewer’s report:

Review
Effect of non-surgical periodontal treatment on glycemic control of patients with diabetes: a meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials
Quan Li, Sha Hao, Jie Fang, Jing Xie and Jian-Xin Yang
Trials (Submitted: 2014-09-27)

Major Compulsory Revisions
1. This systematic review and meta-analysis addresses an important topic that has been reviewed in the past, but recent new evidence necessitates an update.

The systematic review is well conducted, and balanced. The figures are of good quality but there are some mistakes in the tables, and the standard of writing is generally acceptable following some revision.

The PRISMA guidelines are available and the checklist should be used whenever publishing a systematic review. Most items are already present, but please check.

http://www.prisma-statement.org

Major Compulsory Revisions
2. Abstract: the n=498 is different than in the text which states n=900. Please revise and clarify

3. Since some of the studies included were of 6 months duration, an six month analysis should be done or explain why it was not done.

Minor Essential Revisions
4. Introduction: 1st paragraph last sentence is vague; …can alleviate periodontal disease (?) this needs to be reworded

5. WHO should be spelled out at the first usage as should DM2 at first usage

6. Methods, states Appendix 1 contains search terms, could not locate appendix 1 in the manuscript files, search terms should be placed in the text.

7. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS second paragraph line 1 should read….comparison were included[23]

8. RESULTS second paragraph second sentence should read The mean age od
subjects in the included studies ranged from….

9. Methodological study quality assessment first sentence should use colon (:) after ‘which are’

10. heterogeneity use superscript I^2

11. Publication Bias second sentence should be reworded is unclear meaning

12. Discussion: describe for the reader what is meant by ‘small sample size effect’

13. 4th paragraph possible pathomechanism… sentence is unclear please reword.

14. 5th paragraph Second sentence please reword. Last sentence should read ‘treatment regimens’

15. 6th paragraph, last sentence should be omitted

16. Tables: Need to align columns, also 2013 USA study should be 514 not 540

17. Table 2 third column heading is incomplete, ‘blinding of participants and ….? 

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I have no competing interests to declare