Reviewer’s report

Title: Dental materials’ interaction with peri-implant soft tissue: study protocol for a prospective, randomized clinical pilot-trial

Version: 1 Date: 1 July 2015

Reviewer: Leslie Laing

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions:

• This is a very pertinent study and a timely one at that.
• The study design will adequately test the hypothesis.
• In addition to different abutment materials, patients involved with the study will have to wait an extra 2 months prior to receiving their final crown.
• On what basis will the final abutment type be chosen? Perhaps patients should be asked if they preferred one type of material over another, and if so, why.
• Will patients be compensated for having to wait an extra 2 months prior to receiving their final crown?
• Although mention of why the 4 biomolecular markers were chosen is indicated in the discussion, it would be useful to also have this written in the Introduction/Background. More details as to why each marker was chosen and what relevance each one has to the study would be useful.
• Since the tissue biopsies will be taken from the same site, will there be any differences in cell type in the original biopsy material, versus one taken from a later, healed site?
• When referring to the location of something intra-orally, please use “lingual” rather than “oral”.
• Sufficient details are provided at this stage to allow replication of the work or comparison with related analyses.
• The planned statistical analysis appears to be appropriate.
• The figure and table presented appear to be genuine.
• The writing overall is acceptable. There are a few sentences where the grammar could be improved but that should come in the final draft of the paper.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.