Reviewer's report

**Title:** Interaction of titanium, zirconia and lithium disilicate with peri-implant soft tissue: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 26 August 2015

**Reviewer:** Leslie Laing

**Reviewer's report:**

Only Minor Essential Revisions are requested:

- The manuscript is more appropriate in the current version with respect to English language and grammar. Please be consistent with numbers. If you are choosing the format whereby numbers greater than ten are written numerically, whereas those from one up to and including ten are written in full, then keep this pattern throughout the paper. For example, on pg 2: “After one month…” rather than “After 1 month…”.

- On pg 6: instead of “As no adjustments were needed after treating the first three patients (for feasibility testing), the remaining 21 patients will be treated similarly” write something along the lines of: “Since the first three patients required no adjustments post-treatment, it is feasible that for the treatment of the remaining 21 patients no further adjustments will be required.”

- Pg. 7: Patients will be included in the study provided they:
  - Are between 18 and 75 years of age.
  - Have an edentulous space at least 7 mm in width.
  - Have primary implantation or status after two-stage or one-stage augmentation (sinus lift or minor lateral augmentation).
  - Have gingiva #3 mm in height.
  - Are in need of prosthetic treatment [What is meant by “legally competent”?]

- Pg. 8: Patients will be excluded from the study if:
  - Extensive lateral one-stage augmentation is required (two-stage augmentation with bone block and one-stage sinus lift or minor lateral augmentation is possible).
  - They are smokers.
  - Implant insertion using an implant template before the beginning of the study is not possible.
  - The edentulous space <7 mm in width (conservation of papilla).
  - The gingiva <3 mm in height at the lowest point.
  - There is no consent given for study participation.
- A chronic disease is present.
- They are pregnant.
- There is evidence of alcohol or drug abuse.
- There are signs of anamnesis before the beginning of the study. [I'm not sure of the relevance of this.]

- Pg 16: “four biomarkers” not “4 biomarkers”

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests