Reviewer’s report

Title: Calcium and vitamin D supplementation and/or periodontal therapy in the treatment of periodontitis among Brazilian pregnant women: protocol of a feasibility randomised controlled trial (THE IMPROVE TRIAL)

Version: 0 Date: 19 Nov 2018

Reviewer: R.A.G. Khammissa

Reviewer’s report:

These are the comments related to the study that I have:

1. Will base-line measurements be taken before supplementing the patients with vitamin D?

2. Pregnant patients with periodontal disease will be entered into the study. However there are two 'forms' of periodontal disease: chronic and aggressive. Patients suffering with aggressive periodontal disease may have a genetic association to the development of their disease. I therefore suggest that the researchers exclude patients with aggressive periodontitis.

3. I noticed that periodontal disease will only be diagnosed by periodontal charting. I don't think this is sufficient to confirm the diagnosis. What if the patient has pseudopockets with no bone loss. Therefore I think an x-ray (even bitewings) may be mandatory to confirm the diagnosis especially since there is an increase in gingivitis in pregnant patients.

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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