Reviewer’s report

Title: Spin in the reporting, interpretation, and extrapolation of adverse effects of orthodontic interventions: protocol for a cross-sectional study of systematic reviews

Version: 0 Date: 02 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Spyridon Papageorgiou

Reviewer's report:

It is really surprising and refreshing to see such a nice and transparent study, especially in the field of orthodontics. The authors have done a very very nice job on this protocol and are to be commended. I am supportive of this protocol and have only some few very minor comment that might be considered. Thanks for letting me see this.

1. I am somewhat confused as to why the first research question is given (and given first), since it is not the study’s main outcome according to the title.

2. I'm not sure if I understood correctly your text regarding sample size calculation. Have you set a goal towards how many reviews you want to include or will you include all reviews available according to your criteria?

3. Is there a reason why you are searching the database of each journal and not 2-3 wide-coverage databases like PubMed, Scopus, Web of Knowledge, etc?

4. I can think of several limitations of using the impact factor as measure of the journal's quality.

5. Minor language issues like the "an adverse effects". You can do another quick check to the manuscript.

6. You can also consider evaluating (a) involvement of a statistician/methodologist/epidemiologist in the review team and (b) any conflicts of interest or funding that a review has.

7. Please add the effect size that you will choose for your regression model. Is it OR or RR?

8. Please consider adding in-text the repository where the study's dataset will be made openly available.

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:

Acceptable

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