

Subject: [BDS] Editor Decision

Dear Wadhah Alhaj; Alhaj NJ; Basmail FA:

Your submission Prevalence of periodontal diseases and correlations with risk factors among a sample of Yemeni people: Cross-sectional study: Prevalence of periodontal diseases and correlations with risk factors to Brazilian Dental Science, has been revised and according to reviewers' comments, there are questions to be addressed and/or points to be clarified/corrected.

Please answer the reviewers considerations point-by-point in a separate document and also please make all the corrections in the text highlighted in yellow.

Deadline: 30 days

Thank you for considering Brazilian Dental Science for publishing your research.

We are looking forward the revised version of you manuscript.

Sincerely,

Reviewer A:
Recommendation: Revisions Required

Questionnaire

Does the manuscript contain new and significant information to justify publication?*

Yes

Does the Abstract (Summary) clearly and accurately describe the content of the article?

Yes

Is the problem significant and concisely stated?

Yes

Are the methods or research design described comprehensively? Is the statistical analysis adequate?

Yes

Are the interpretations and conclusions justified by the results?

Yes

Is adequate reference made to other work in the field?

Yes

Is the language acceptable?

Yes

Manuscript Structure

Length of article is:*

Adequate

Number of tables is:

Adequate

Number of figures is:

Too Short

Please state any conflict(s) of interest that you have in relation to the review of this paper (state “none” if this is not applicable).

None

Rating

Interest*

Good

Quality

Good

Originality

Excellent

Overall

Good

Recommendation

Accept

Would you be willing to review a revision of this manuscript?

Yes

Comments

Comments to the Author

Dear Editor,

Please find attached my technical review of the manuscript titled "Prevalence of periodontal diseases and correlations with risk factors among a sample of Yemeni people: Cross-sectional study."

The review includes a detailed evaluation of the study's relevance, methodology, results, writing, and overall structure, with constructive suggestions for improvement.

Should you need any further clarification, I remain at your disposal.

Kind regards,

TECHNICAL REVIEW

Title: *Prevalence of periodontal diseases and correlations with risk factors among a sample of Yemeni people: Cross-sectional study*

1. Relevance and Originality

The study addresses the prevalence and risk factors of periodontal diseases in the Yemeni population, highlighting the specific role of khat chewing — a regional habit that is rarely explored in international literature. This is a relevant topic from an epidemiological perspective, with the potential to contribute meaningfully to the literature on oral health in specific geographic and cultural contexts.

2. Methodology

The study design is cross-sectional, which is appropriate for estimating the prevalence of chronic diseases such as periodontal disease. The sample consisted of 405 adult patients recruited from university and private clinics in three cities. Data collection involved a structured questionnaire and clinical examination using multiple periodontal indices — a methodological strength.

Positive aspects:

- Multicenter sampling and inclusion of diverse clinical and behavioral variables;
- Use of standardized clinical parameters recognized internationally.

Methodological limitations that should be addressed in the article:

- Although multicenter, the sample was predominantly concentrated in Sanaa, which limits representativeness;
- Absence of multivariate analysis. Associations between risk factors and outcomes were assessed only through bivariate tests (chi-square and correlation), which do not control for confounding factors;
- Inclusion of participants from age 16, although inclusion criteria specified ≥ 18 years.

3. Results and Discussion

The data indicate a high prevalence of periodontitis (79.3%) and gingivitis (51.6%) in the studied population. The article shows statistically significant correlations between oral hygiene practices, smoking, khat chewing, and the presence of periodontal disease.

Constructive criticisms:

- The discussion lacks theoretical depth. Repetition of numerical data from the results section could be reduced in favor of critical interpretation and comparisons with international findings;
- The paragraph discussing the possible "protective" effect of khat is poorly structured, confusing, and contradictory. It is recommended that the authors clarify the hypothesis and present the controversy in a more organized and scientific manner;
- The results section is overly descriptive and could be more concise, with better-formatted tables and visual figures to facilitate interpretation.

4. Writing and Structure

The text is written in understandable technical English, but it contains numerous grammatical mistakes, issues with subject-verb agreement, and awkward sentence constructions that affect clarity and readability. A thorough revision by a native speaker or a professional specialized in academic English is strongly recommended.

Examples of recurring issues:

- Incorrect verb tenses (“was constricted” → “has been restricted”);
- Long and confusing sentences (“Tooth brushing, daily brushing and patients who brushes twice daily...”);
- Redundancy and unnecessary repetition (“Not tooth brushing, khat-chewing with chewing khat daily, duration more than 20, smokers especially who smoke more than 20 years is considered the most related risk factors”).

5. Conclusion and Recommendation

The study presents relevant data, collected with reasonably sound methodology and addressing specific cultural factors. However, it suffers from methodological limitations and significant language problems that hinder scientific clarity.

Recommendation: Major Revision

Suggestions for improvement:

- Thorough revision of the language and textual structure;
- More analytical discussion of the findings;
- Inclusion of multivariate analysis to control for confounding;

Better visual organization of the results.