

Subject: [BDS] Editor Decision

Dear Elyda Misrohmasari, Ari Tri Wanodyo Handayani, Hestieyonini Hadnyanawati:

Your submission The Effectiveness of Theory-Based WhatsApp Reminders on Oral Hygiene Status and Practices Among Adolescents 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:

Adequate

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

Average

Overall

Good

Recommendation

Major Revision

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

Yes

Comments

Comments to the Author

The manuscript addresses a relevant and current topic in dental public health exploring the use of WhatsApp reminders to improve oral hygiene behaviors in adolescents. The study presents practical applicability, especially in contexts of

low- and middle-income countries, and includes both behavioral and clinical stages, which strengthens its contribution.

However, several aspects need improvement before the manuscript can be considered for publication: 1. Methodological limitations should be more clearly recognized and discussed, especially the absence of randomization and the potential for selection pathways. 2. Basic differences between groups (e.g., plaque index and brushing duration) must be better discussed, including their possible influence on the results. 3. The rationale for the covariates included in the statistical models (such as maternal occupation) should be clarified. 4. The manuscript does not present information on participant adherence to the intervention (e.g., reading the messages or level of engagement). 5. The short follow-up period limits suggestions about long-term effectiveness and should be considered with greater caution. 6. The quality of the writing can be improved by reducing redundancies, shortening long sentences, and increasing clarity, especially in the Discussion section.
