

Association of imbalanced diet with dental caries: A case-control studyMoral MAA et al. (rizdinahossain11@gmail.com)

| Reviewer's information | | | |
|---|-----------|--|-----------|
| Date review assigned | 12-Apr-23 | Date review returned | 18-Apr-23 |
| Reviewer name | A | Affiliation | - |
| Email | - | ORCID | - |
| Do you have any conflict of interest with the author/s? | No | Do you wish to be disclosed to the author? | No |

| Reviewer's comments (08-May-23) [Please select "Yes" or "No"] | | Author's response (27-May-23) [Please write a response if the reviewer's comment is "No". You must change the manuscript as per your response. Mention line numbers.] | |
|--|----------------|---|--|
| 1. Is the title appropriate? | Yes | - | |
| 2. Is the research question or study objective clearly defined in measurable terms? | Yes | - | |
| 3. Is the abstract accurate, balanced and complete? | Yes | - | |
| 4. Is the study design appropriate to answer the research question or achieve objective? | Yes | - | |
| 5. Are the Methods described sufficiently to allow others to repeat it? | Yes | - | |
| 6. Are the operational definitions and ascertainment of key variables given adequately? | Yes | - | |
| 7. Are the outcomes clearly defined? | Yes | - | |
| 8. Are statistics used appropriately and described fully? | No | Have revised the statistical section (lines 193-198) | |
| 9. Do the Results address the research question or objective clearly? | Yes | - | |
| 10. Are the tables and figures clear and appropriate to address the objective or research question? | Yes | - | |
| 11. Does the Discussion cover the main points of the paper? | Yes | - | |
| 12. Are the strengths and limitations addressed? | No | Have addressed the strengths and limitations of the study (lines 248, 250) | |
| 13. Are the conclusions justified by the results | Yes | - | |
| 14. Are the references up-to-date, and appropriate? | No | Revised the references no. 1, 5,7,15 and 17 according to journal format (lines 415,423, 446, 450, 514) | |
| 15. Is the standard of written English acceptable for publication? | Yes | - | |
| 16. Descriptive comments to the authors (Divide it into MAJOR and MINOR points). | | Respond and reflect it in your manuscript. If you refute, justify your argument using references. Mention line numbers. | |
| This article has clinical importance. However, the manuscript needs revision. MINOR points | | | |
| 1. Need to mention the type of statistical analysis (at line 891). | | 1. Mentioned appropriate statistics (lines 193-198). | |
| 2. Need to add the limitation in respect to periodontal disease. | | 2. Added the limitation of the study in respect to periodontal disease (Line no. 249). | |
| 3. Reference number 1,5,7,15 and 17 needs to be written according to the journal format. | | 3. Corrected. | |
| Reviewer's Recommendation | Minor revision | | |

| Editor's comments | Author's response Please respond to all comments from the editor and reviewer(s). Indicate the line number(s) of the manuscript where the changes are done. |
|---|---|
| 1. Considering the content, this manuscript may be considered as a brief article. Kindly see the criteria for a brief article from the attached Submission Checklist. In brief, it should have 200 words in the abstract, 1500 words in the main text, 3 data visuals (table or graph), and 20 references. Kindly format the manuscript as per the checklist. | I have revised the abstract section in manuscript according to criteria for a brief article (line no. 73-87) It has 200 words now (Line no. 19). Main text word 1186 (Line 20). 3 data visuals were added (Line no. 494). References were revised (Line no. 414,422,445,449, 513) |
| 2. Please add four highlights of the article in bullet points. | I added four highlights of the article in bullet points. Line no. 48,146,163,201,212 |
| 3. Add reference to the ICSAS scores in line 158 of the manuscript. | Reference no. was added to the ICSAS score. Line no. 172 |
| 4. Acknowledgement should be individuals who helped you in the study. Please write the acknowledgement section accordingly. | I have revised the acknowledgement section. Line no. 246 |
| 5. Brief articles can have a maximum of three tables and figures. Please decide which three table and figures you want to include in the manuscript. The first and last picture which shows the patient and visual of data collection by the author needs to be dropped. | Three tables and figures were decided in manuscript. Line no. 494 |
| Editor's Decision | Major revision |