

Review Form 3

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| Journal Name: | International Journal of Research and Reports in Dentistry |
| Manuscript Number: | Ms_IJRRD_122740 |
| Title of the Manuscript: | Discovering the determinants of children's behavior in dental prophylaxis |
| Type of the Article | Original Research Article |

General guidelines for the Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guidelines for the Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

| Compulsory REVISION comments | Reviewer's comment | Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i> |
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| Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part. | The manuscript "Discovering the Determinants of Children's Behavior in Dental Prophylaxis" is pivotal for the scientific community as it sheds light on the factors that influence children's responses to preventive dental care. Understanding these determinants is crucial for developing effective strategies to improve oral health outcomes in pediatric populations. By identifying behavioral drivers and barriers, this research can inform the design of tailored interventions that foster positive dental habits early in life, ultimately contributing to better long-term oral health and reducing the prevalence of dental diseases. | |
| Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title) | **** Alternative Title: "Exploring Influences on Children's Attitudes Toward Dental Prophylaxis" | |

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| <p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p> | <p>***** Note for the Author: The abstract serves as a concise summary of the research, aimed at ensuring clarity and quick comprehension for readers. Always, to ensure it is easily understandable for readers to grasp the research quickly.</p> <p><u>Suggest to add the following Abstract:</u></p> <p>Aims: The behavior of children during dental procedures can be shaped by a range of factors, including individual traits and external influences such as social and family dynamics. This study aimed to assess and compare the behavior of children undergoing dental prophylaxis using a low-rotation handpiece versus a toothbrush, while also examining the relationship with their oral health status, demographic characteristics, and socioeconomic factors.</p> <p>Study Design: This was a cross-sectional study.</p> <p>Place and Duration of Study: The study included children aged 4 to 12 years who attended the Pediatric Dentistry clinic at the Faculty of Dentistry, Federal University of Alfenas (UNIFAL-MG), between March and July 2023.</p> <p>Methodology: Children's behavior was assessed using Frankl's Behavior Rating Scale, their oral health condition was evaluated using the DMFT/dmft index, and their socioeconomic and demographic status was gathered through a questionnaire. Data analysis was conducted using IBM SPSS software version 22.0, with statistical significance set at P<0.05. The Kruskal-Wallis and Chi-Square tests were employed for analysis.</p> <p>Results: A total of 153 children participated, 52.3% (n=80) of whom underwent prophylaxis using a toothbrush. The mean age was 7.62 (±2.32) years, with 53.6% (n=82) being male. The analysis revealed that children who displayed definitely negative behavior were more likely to have single parents (P=.01), a higher severity of caries (P=.02), a greater number of decayed teeth (mean 2.39 ± 3.26, P=.005), a high DMFT index (mean 5.13 ± 3.50, P=.04), and retained primary teeth (P=.01).</p> <p>Conclusion: The method of dental prophylaxis did not significantly impact the children's behavior in this sample. However, children who exhibited uncooperative behavior tended to have more decayed teeth and a worse overall oral health condition.</p> | |
| <p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p> | <p>I suggest that the author include Frankl's Behavior Rating Scale in your research paper on discovering the determinants of children's behavior during dental prophylaxis. This scale is a well-established tool in pediatric dentistry and could provide valuable insights into the behavioral responses of children in the dental setting. By incorporating this scale, you could quantitatively assess the cooperation levels of children and correlate these with various determinants, such as anxiety levels, parental influence, and previous dental experiences. This could significantly enhance the depth and applicability of your findings.</p> <p>Frankl's Behavior Rating Scale is commonly used in pediatric dentistry to assess a child's behavior during dental visits. It helps the reader understand how cooperative a child is and guides the dentist in managing their care. The scale also categorizes a child's behavior into four distinct groups:</p> <p>Rating 1 - Definitely Negative (- -): The child is completely uncooperative, often crying, screaming, or showing intense fear and resistance.</p> <p>Rating 2 - Negative (-): The child is uncooperative but not as intense as in Rating 1. They might be reluctant, fearful, and not willing to comply with instructions, though not completely disruptive.</p> | |

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| | <p>Rating 3 - Positive (+): The child is generally cooperative, follows instructions with some reservation, but is relatively calm and willing to undergo the treatment.</p> <p>Rating 4 - Definitely Positive (+ +): The child is completely cooperative, enjoys the interaction, and may even actively engage in the dental procedure, showing interest and enthusiasm.</p> <p>This scale is widely used because it's simple yet effective in assessing and managing children's behavior during dental procedures.</p> | |
| <p>Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The manuscript on discovering the determinants of children's behavior in dental prophylaxis is scientifically robust and technically sound due to its use of validated assessment tools and a comprehensive research design.2. By employing Frankl's Behavior Rating Scale, the study provides an objective measure of children's behavior, ensuring accurate and reliable data collection.3. The manuscript carefully examines various influencing factors, such as anxiety levels, parental influence, and previous dental experiences, through a well-structured methodology that enhances the depth and credibility of the findings.4. Additionally, the study follows established protocols in behavioral research, reinforcing its scientific validity and contribution to the field of pediatric dentistry. | |
| <p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p> | <p>I request that the author include recent references, such as those from 2021, 2023 and 2024, in the manuscript. Incorporating up-to-date studies will ensure that the research reflects the latest advancements and findings in the field, enhancing the manuscript's relevance and comprehensiveness.</p> | |

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| <p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p> | <p>Can be improved</p> | |
| <p>Optional/General comments</p> | <p>General Comments:</p> <p>1. Relevance and Contribution: The manuscript addresses a significant area in pediatric dentistry by exploring the determinants of children's behavior during dental prophylaxis. This research is valuable for enhancing understanding and improving management strategies for children in a clinical setting.</p> <p>2. Methodological Rigor: The study employs a well-structured methodology, including the use of validated assessment tools such as Frankl's Behavior Rating Scale. The approach to examining various determinants, such as anxiety levels and parental influence, is comprehensive and adds depth to the analysis.</p> <p>3. Clarity and Organization: The manuscript is generally clear and well-organized, but there are opportunities to improve the presentation of findings. Ensuring that the results are effectively communicated with clear tables and figures will enhance the readability and impact of the research.</p> <p>4. Recent References: To ensure the manuscript reflects the most current research trends, it is advisable to include recent references from the years 2021, 2023, or 2024. This will help in situating the study within the latest developments in the field and strengthening its relevance.</p> <p>5. Practical Implications: The implications of the findings for clinical practice are well articulated. However, expanding on how these insights can be applied in real-world settings and potential strategies for implementation would further enhance the manuscript's contribution to pediatric dental practice.</p> <p><u>" But, Unfortunately, the research paper lacks a concluding chapter, including sections on future research directions and final thoughts. I suggest that the author add the following conclusion to the research paper:"</u></p> <p>This study reveals that factors such as age, gender, guardian's characteristics, use of rotary instruments, and socioeconomic status do not have a significant impact on children's behavior during dental appointments. However, a clear relationship was observed between oral health conditions and behavior, with children displaying more negative behaviors correlating with higher numbers of decayed teeth and greater severity of oral conditions. Additionally, children who have not begun losing their deciduous teeth were more likely to exhibit negative or definitely negative behaviors. Future studies should explore additional factors that may influence behavior, such as parental dental anxiety or specific dental procedures. Expanding the sample size and including a broader range of demographics could also provide more comprehensive insights. The findings underscore the importance of addressing oral health conditions to improve children's behavior during dental visits. Enhanced focus on managing caries and early intervention could potentially lead to better experiences for young patients in dental settings.</p> <p>The importance of the research paper is appreciated; however, it requires minor improvements to be accepted. The author should address all the changes mentioned in the review form to facilitate paper acceptance.</p> | |

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PART 2:

| | Reviewer's comment | Author's comment <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i> |
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| Are there ethical issues in this manuscript? | <i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i> | |

Reviewer Details:

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| Name: | S. Vijayalakshmi |
| Department, University & Country | Sri Sarada College for Women (Autonomous), India |