



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Medicine and Health
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJMAH_37029
Title of the Manuscript:	The Relationship between Upper Extremity Motor Function and Oral Hygiene among Stroke Survivors: Study Protocol for a Mixed-Method Design
Type of the Article	Study Protocol

General guideline for 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 guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link: (<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)

PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (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)
Compulsory REVISION comments	1- A lot of work and effort was put into this study but the expected outcome was disappointing. 2- The discussion and conclusion sections are better to be placed after finishing the study. 3- The sample size (No.60) is not enough for this kind of study and it will affect the results of the study. 4- The effect or the advantages of using the mixed-method design was not mentioned in the study objectives, which represent the novel part of the study. 5- The authors stated in the limitation section that the possible poor oral hygiene might been present even before the stroke. I am in the opinion that the subjects with poor oral hygiene before the stroke could have been excluded from this study. This will of course reduce the sample size even further. 6- Referring to previous similar researches in this field, interventional studies are recommended to explore the effects of different interventions on oral hygiene. Since this study was planned to be cross sectional study, I suggest that the researchers depend on the subjects' dental history to determine the type of oral hygiene interventions that they are already using. The subjects and their caregivers' education status should also be determined and whether they perform regular tooth-brushing which is then compared with subjects using more complex, sophisticated intervention methods such as using mouthwash or assisted tooth-brushing.	1. Issue of Quality of Life (Oral health-related QoL inclusive) is an important one in the rehabilitation of people with neurological disorders. Literature (kwok et al 2015) shows that stroke survivors are at risk of developing oral health related problems. The outcome of this study is expected to, among other things: give an insight in to the oral hygiene status of stroke survivors, implication of upper extremity motor function, determine oral health needs of these individuals, similarly, bring out the opinion of the stroke survivors and their health care provider on oral health post stroke as well as identify further research areas. I believe these outcomes are worth the effort. 2. Discussion section is removed and will be placed after the study is done. 3 & 5. Having a history of poor oral health prior to the occurrence of the stroke was added as exclusion criteria. This can be found highlighted in green in the manuscript under the sub heading 'participants' 4. A case was made for using the mixed-method design in the introduction section, highlighted in green. 6. suggestion accepted, data on dental history, oral healthcare will be included in the questionnaire and the interview guide.
Minor REVISION comments		
Optional/General comments		