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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-56812

Title: Advances in Dental Caries Detection: Current Technologies and Future Perspectives

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision.....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity	✓			
Significance	✓			

Reviewer's ID: JPR-198

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This manuscript presents a narrative review of diagnostic technologies for dental caries, covering a broad range from conventional methods to emerging tools like optical coherence tomography (OCT), salivary biomarkers, and artificial intelligence (AI). The topic is highly relevant and timely, aligning with the current shift towards minimally invasive and precision dentistry. The manuscript is generally well-structured and provides a comprehensive overview. However, several methodological, technical, and formatting issues must be addressed to enhance its clarity, accuracy, and suitability for publication.

Major Comments

1. The manuscript is presented as a narrative review but does not include a methodology section. A brief "Methods" section (or a clear statement within the introduction) outlining the search strategy is required to establish the review's credibility.
2. The comparative analysis section should be strengthened with a more critical discussion, acknowledging the limitations of the evidence base for newer technologies. A summary table comparing technologies based on key parameters (e.g., diagnostic target, sensitivity/specificity range, advantages, limitations, clinical accessibility) would greatly enhance this section.
3. There is a clear mismatch between in-text citations (which reference numbers up to 20 in the conclusion) and the appended reference list (which ends at number 30). Furthermore, some in-text citations are incorrectly repeated (e.g., ¹⁶, ¹⁶).

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Minor Comments

4. Several sections contain overlapping information, which affects conciseness.

Examples: The limitations of visual-tactile and radiographic methods are repeated in the Introduction, the dedicated "Conventional Methods" section, and the "Comparative Analysis" section. The "Challenges and Research Gaps" section also revisits points made earlier.

The manuscript should be streamlined by consolidating these discussions to avoid repetition and improve flow.