

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-59043

Title: Photobiomodulation in Facial Nerve Regeneration and Functional Recovery: A Scoping Review

Recommendation:

Accept as it is..... ☐☐☐☐

Accept after minor revision ☒☐☐☐

Accept after major revision ☐☐☐☐☐

Do not accept (*Reasons below*) ☐☐☐

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

Reviewer ID: JP085

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

The article reviews the use of photobiomodulation (PBM) for facial nerve recovery. The authors included 20 primary studies, including human and animal studies. Most studies showed positive results, but the treatment methods were different between studies.

Strength:

1. The topic is useful and relevant.
2. The review follows PRISMA-ScR and JBI guidelines.
3. The search and selection methods are clearly described.
4. Human and animal studies are included.
5. Treatment parameters and outcomes are presented clearly.

Weakness:

1. The number of patients in many studies was small.
2. Only one randomized controlled trial was included.
3. PBM treatment settings were different between studies.
4. Many studies used other treatments along with PBM, so the effect of PBM alone is not clear.
5. A formal quality or risk-of-bias assessment was not performed.
6. Some studies did not use standard methods to measure improvement.
7. The conclusion should be more cautious because the evidence is limited.

Overall assessment:

The article provides a useful overview of PBM for facial nerve recovery, but the available evidence is limited and differs greatly between studies. The manuscript needs some improvement before publication.

Recommendation: Manuscript accepted for publication after minor revision.