Letter to the editor

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Dear editor,

This is in reference to a very well-written article titled “Preoperative chronic sinusitis as significant cause of postoperative infection and implant loss after sinus augmentation from a lateral approach” by Kazuma A et al. [1]. The study design is well thought of and I must commend the authors for undertaking such a novel study. However, there are certain points of concern regarding the methodology which I would like to highlight through your esteemed journal.

Firstly, no standard guideline or criteria have been taken for diagnosing patients with chronic sinusitis despite the fact that there are multiple guidelines which define chronic sinusitis [2]. It is not clear whether preoperative sinus radiographs taken to define the extent and severity of sinusitis as this can have a bearing on the final outcome.

Secondly, the implant site infection can also be due to an oral infection and iatrogenic infection and may not be related to the sinusitis at all. In order to prove an association, it would have been prudent to obtain swabs for culture from the infection site and the sinuses and see whether the same organism is causing the infection or not.

Thirdly, the authors mentioned that post augmentation, antibiotics were prescribed, but they have not mentioned which antibiotics and for how long they were prescribed. The type

and duration of antibiotic use have a bearing on the sinus infection and can ultimately influence the result of the study.

I would once again compliment the authors for conducting a very useful study and hope that my suggestions can be used in further similar studies.

Compliance with ethical standards

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Conflict of interest The author declares that he has no conflict of interest.

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