

Table 2 Plaque score reductions using new or 3-month old toothbrushes in the same subjects according to increases in brushing surface area of brushes (*n* = 93 children)

| BSA increase (%) | No. | Plaque score | | | | Difference in mean scores (95% CI), new versus old brush | <i>P</i> -value |
|------------------|-----|--------------|------|------------|------|--|-----------------|
| | | New brush | | Worn brush | | | |
| | | Mean | SD | Mean | SD | | |
| 0.03–9.9 | 21 | 57.7 | 11.0 | 56.2 | 12.0 | 1.5 (–0.1 to 3.0) | 0.06 |
| 10–39.9 | 65 | 56.1 | 11.5 | 56.5 | 11.8 | 0.3 (–0.9 to 1.6) | 0.61 |
| 40–90.8 | 7 | 58.2 | 13.8 | 57.6 | 12.2 | 0.6 (–1.9 to 3.1) | 0.61 |

BSA = brushing surface areas; *SD* = standard deviation; *CI* = confidence interval