

Review of: "Human health effects of volcanic eruptions – a systematic review"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper represents systematic review of the impact of volcanic eruptions on short- and long-term consequences on human health. The structure of the paper is appropriate, the terminology is adjusted not only to the scientific community but also to the general population, and each subheading is adequately elaborated.

The introduction offers basic information about the issue, topic and the importance of the work, with all relevant information. The epidemiological and historical context of the most significant volcanic eruptions in the world is given.

The methodology is comprehensive and precise, the inclusion criteria for the study are clearly defined, a multilingual search model was applied, and the potential limitations of the study were avoided by adequate quality evaluation.

The results of the work are clearly presented. I would simplify Table 2. It is enough to divide studies according to the diseases they study (e.g. respiratory diseases: then list all the studies) because in the introduction you have listed the references of all the works, which will give the curious reader the opportunity to research in more detail.

In the discussion, I expected a slightly more detailed review of the cause-and-effect relationship between volcanic eruptions and public health, addressing the perspective for human health in the future. However, considering that this is a systematic review, such interpretations should be left to papers in a field of public health policy.

I personally enjoyed reading the paper, primarily because of the choice of topic, but also the style, scope and interesting results. Some studies you have mentioned gave vague and contradictory results about the prevalence of the diseases after the exposure. I expect future studies to clarify this issue. Finally, I wish the authors the best of luck in their future work and to successfully continue research in this field.

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