

Review of: "Prevalence of Common Mental Illness and Its Associated Factors among Hawassa City High School Students in Hawassa, Sidama Region, Ethiopia"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I extend my congratulations to the authors for selecting such an interesting topic and addressing this specific population, Well done! Nevertheless I suggest minor revisions and corrections. Below are my section-comments:

Background provides a comprehensive understanding of the major points however, better wording and grammatical corrections are highly recommended. Also multiple paragraphs should be cited to provide a proper attribution and support for the information presented.

I appreciate your inclusion of the information about Khat in your study, however I would like to suggest elaborating on this cultural practice to give a more comprehensive understanding for your readers.

In the methods section you have mentioned that a pretest was done however there seems to be a lack of clarity regarding the type of test that was carried out, it would be helpful if you specify whether it was a reliability test, and if so, provide details such as the sample size and the calculated Cronbach's alpha.

In the results section of the manuscript, integrating a gender based analysis into your study would allow for a more in depth exploration of factors influencing common mental illness.

the limitations of the study should be highlighted.

Please provide a clear explanation with respect to the consent process regarding students who are below 18.

I would appreciate clarification on why certain references were labeled as 'other references.' Kindly consider either incorporating them into the references section or omitting them entirely for consistency and clarity in your work.