

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.

Hello author,

In general, this is indeed a crucial topic for today's discussion. Nonetheless, there are parts that require refinement. Here are some suggestions for possible improvements:

Introduction: Please explained your study rationale and objective/s. Tighten up the narrative path.

Methodology:

1. It is not necessary to highlight 55% females population.
2. Do you have current census data?
3. What is the purpose of explaining the school club?
4. Recommend to add age group for 9th - 12th grade
5. The author state sample size for objective one. But there is no "objective one" mentioned in the text/ introduction section
6. The SRQ-20 tool had been validated in Eritrea and been forward-backward translated to check for consistency. Therefore, the author could include result of the consistency test if available.
7. Exclusion criteria was students who were absent in their classrooms during follow-up data collection time. This mean these students was not eligible in your study. So how your calculate your response rate?

Results:

1. Please standardise the term used for your main outcome. CMI or CMD? Choose only one
2. Figure 1 didn't show mean score and not present severity of CMI. The value not match as written in text. Suggest to revise
3. Suggest to remove repetition of AOR in text. For example "The odds of common mental illness were 2.46 times higher among students who chew khat currently compared to those who don't chew [AOR=2.46, 95% CI: (1.07, 5.65)]"

Discussion:

1. I recommend starting by comparing the prevalence with the national study, then moving on to a comparison with both

developing and developed countries. Afterward, elucidate the disparities or differences in the findings.

2. Please add strength and limitation of your study

Conclusion:

The author appears to reiterate the findings. Address your objectives and incorporate your recommendations.