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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1. The definition of mental illness used in mental illness might not be comprehensive. Recommend adding "that result in significant distress and impairment in important areas of functioning".

2. Recommend updating "The duration can range from weeks to years" as Major Depressive Disorder can be diagnosed if symptoms persist for 2 weeks or more.

3. Recommend changing the terms "mentally distressed individual" to individual with mental distress.

4. Recommend including all forms of depressive disorders in DSM-5-TR, and changing the terms anxiety disorders to "disorders that are characterized by anxiety" as OCD and PTSD are no longer categorized as anxiety disorders in DSM-5-TR. Recommend updating the term "psychosomatic disorders" to "somatic symptom disorder" to standardize the term as per DSM-5-TR

5. Do you have a more recent data on the National Housing and Population Census? It is year 2023, and the data from year 2007 (15 years ago) was cited.

6. Is it a cross-sectional study? I am a bit confused reading about the follow-up data collection time in the exclusion criteria. A more thorough explanation can be helpful.

7. Is there any rationale to run the binary logistic regression first before running the multivariate binary logistic regression?

8. They are 76 participants of age 20-24 who are studying in high school. It will be helpful if the high school population is explained better in the article, and age 20-24 is not considered as adolescent.

9. It will be helpful if the SRQ-20 results and bar graph are reported as per the proposed cutoff. The values seem to be different there, kindly check if there's any typo.

10. Have all the assumptions for the statistical analysis met? Is dummy variable coded?

11. Some of the points in discussion are very loosely organized. It will be very helpful for readers if the points can be reorganized.

Overall, this is an interesting study and I look forward to read more papers from the author.