

# Review of: "Prevalence of visual impairment and associated factors among welders in West Shewa Zone Oromia Region, Ethiopia"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## Abstract

- Add the sex of the welders included in the study.

## Introduction

### Major comments

- What classification did you use to define visual impairment in your study? The definition used by the WHO defines visual impairment for a VA less than 6/18 and not 6/12, as mentioned in your introduction.
- Reference 5, on which you based yourself to define visual impairment, does not include the definition criteria.

### Minor comments

- Write the meaning of the abbreviation PPE when it first appears in the text.
- Improve the following sentence to make it more understandable: "duration of work, training [16][17][18] were affecting visual impairment" by writing "were affecting visual impairment frequency."

## Materials and methods

### Major comments

- In the materials and methods section, you must detail the classification criteria for the different types of visual impairments that you include in your results: "severe VI" and "moderate VI."
- You have not described how you selected the 5 districts for the study.
- You have not described how you determined the income of the subjects, based on what you categorized the different socio-economic classes, by adding a reference if possible.
- What was the total number of welders in the study area, and what percentage did those selected correspond to?
- In the section « Data collection procedures and tools », can you add the reference for this sentence : « The data collection tool was adopted from the World Health Organization (WHO) and related different literature »

## Minor comments

- Sometimes you use the word “city” and sometimes “districts,” which causes confusion; please standardize.
- In the “Study setting and design” section, “381,079 people, with 1,166,729 males,” can you add the percentage that men represent?

## Results

- « When the smoking status of welders was assessed, most of them 562 **88.61%**) were non-smokers » standardize by using only one digit after the decimal point.
- In the sentences : Out of 186 visually impaired welders, 79 (42.47%) **stated** they had bilateral VI and 107 (57.53%) had monocular VI. The subject stated that they had VI or it has been determined by the measurement of the VA you did.
- What is the classification you used for « severe VI » and « moderate VI »?
- What is the total number of eyes with VI ?
- Modify table 5 to make it more informative: on the Y-axis, place the VI categories, and on the X-axis, the eyes concerned (OD, OG), with a column for the total number of involved eyes (OD+ OG).

## Discussion

- Reformulate the sentence: « Nevertheless, the current study was higher than a study done in Pakistan which stated that prevalence as (7.3%) ».
- Replace “my study” with “our study” or “this study” in these sentences: « In my study, training on eye PPE used, working hours per day ».

## Limitations of The Study

- The limits of the study must be placed before the conclusion.
- Other limitation: in your study, you did not identify what the causes of visual impairment among the welders were.

## Conclusion

The recommendations are part of the conclusion; we should not make it a separate section.