

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.

This is a well-thought paper focusing on an essential workforce that in many places is not given due attention and is not properly followed up to ensure their safety when performing their work.

I have a few areas on which I suggest the authors work in order to further improve the paper. The suggested comments are in two aspects as follows:

- a. Editorial/grammatical comments; and
- b. Comments focusing on the paper content as shown below.

Editorial/grammatical comments

ABSTRACT

- a. Methods, last line: Separate the word "asstatistically" to be two words: "as statistically";
- b. Results, second line: Delete "Factors include" so that the sentence will begin with "Training on.....";
- c. Conclusion, first line: Delete "Factors including the absence of" so that the sentence starts as follows: "Training on eye.....".
- d. Conclusion, second line: Edit the word "used" to "**use**".

CONTACT DETAILS OF Kassahun Rikita Bifessa and Mihret Getnet,

- a. Edit "PO. BOX" to "P. O. Box".

INTRODUCTION

- a. Second line: Edit "Most" to start with a small "m";
- b. Second paragraph, third line: Replace "visual acuity" with its abbreviation, VA;
- c. Third paragraph, first line: Replace "visual impairment" with its abbreviation, VI; edit "Health" to start with a small "h"; and edit QOL to be QoL;
- d. Fourth paragraph, first line: Replace "visual impairment" with its abbreviation, VI; replace "quality of life" with its abbreviation, QoL;
- e. Fourth paragraph, fourth line: Write PPE in long form and its abbreviation in brackets as follows: personal protective

equipment (PPE);

- f. Fourth paragraph, last line: Replace “visual impairment” with its abbreviation, VI;
- g. Fifth paragraph, first line: Replace “visual impairment” with its abbreviation, VI;
- h. Fifth paragraph, second line: Replace UV-rays with its abbreviation, UVR; and
- i. Sixth paragraph, second line: Replace “visual impairment” with its abbreviation, VI.

METHODS

Data collection procedures and tools

- a. First paragraph, third line: Replace “visual acuity” with its abbreviation, VA;

Data processing and statistical analysis

- a. First paragraph fourth line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI.

RESULTS

Socio-demographic characteristics of study participants

- a. First line of the paragraph: Insert “were” between welders and from; and
- b. Third line of the paragraph: Delete “respectively” so that the sentence ends with Ambo.

Working place-related characteristics of the participants

- a. Third line of the paragraph: Replace personal protective equipment with its abbreviation PPE;

Prevalence of visual impairment

- a. First line and second line of the paragraph: Replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI;

Severity of visual impairment among study participants

- Replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI.

Factors associated with visual impairment

- a. First paragraph – first line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI;
- b. Fourth paragraph – second line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI;
- c. Fifth paragraph – second line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI; &
- d. Sixth paragraph – first, second, and third lines: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI.

DISCUSSIONS

- a. First paragraph – first line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI;
- b. Second paragraph – second line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI;

- c. Fourth paragraph – first line: Edit “used” to be “use”;
- d. Fourth paragraph - first and second lines: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI;
- e. Fourth paragraph – third line: replace personal protective equipment with its abbreviation PPE;
- f. Fourth paragraph – fifth line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI;
- g. Fourth paragraph – sixth line: Insert abbreviation UV in bracket after the word ultraviolet;
- h. Fifth paragraph – first line: Replace ultraviolet (UV) with the abbreviation UV;
- i. Sixth paragraph – second line & fifth line: replace personal protective equipment with its abbreviation PPE;
- j. Seventh paragraph – first line: edit the word “used” to be “use”;
- k. Seventh paragraph – first, second, and fourth lines: Replace personal protective equipment with its abbreviation PPE;
- l. Seventh paragraph – second line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI;
- m. Eighth paragraph – first line and third line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI;
- n. Ninth paragraph – fourth line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI; and
- o. Tenth paragraph – fourth line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI.

CONCLUSIONS

- a. First line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI; and
- b. Second line and third line: Replace personal protective equipment with its abbreviation PPE.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- a. First line: replace visual impairment with its abbreviation VI.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To Welders association: second line: Replace personal protective equipment with its abbreviation PPE

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- Add another abbreviation UV: ultraviolet

Comments focusing on the paper content

I suggest to the authors that they consider adding literature to the introduction section that can form the basis of the three recommendations (“*To Welders association; To Woreda administration, social and labor offices; and To the Woreda health office*”) out of the four recommendations (“*To Welders association; To Woreda administration, social and labor offices; and To the Woreda health office; and To Future researchers*”) which the authors have provided. A particular paragraph can be added just before the last paragraph, which starts with “*However, in Ethiopia, there is a gap in.....*”

The literature should focus on the situation of governance arrangements for occupational safety and health in Ethiopia in general (Kumie *et al.*, 2016) and in the Shewa Zone, Oromia, Ethiopia. Also, I suggest to the authors that they consider adding an elaboration of how regulation of occupational safety and health is enforced in Ethiopia. This will be essential

based on the fact that strong regulation can help to make workers in their workplaces comply with technical recommendations for safety such as the use of personal protective equipment (Verbeek & Ivanov, 2013).

References

Kumie A, Amara T, Berhane K, Samet J, Hundal N, G/Michael F, Gilliland F. Occupational Health and Safety in Ethiopia: A Review of Situational Analysis and Needs Assessment. *Ethiop J Health Dev*. 2016;30(1 Spec Iss):17-27. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5578617/pdf/nihms899327.pdf>

Verbeek J, Ivanov I. Essential Occupational Safety and Health Interventions for Low- and Middle-Income Countries: An Overview of the Evidence. *Saf Health Work*. 2013; 4(2):77-83. DOI: [10.1016/j.shaw.2013.04.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shaw.2013.04.004)