

Review of: "Consumption of Beverage among Secondary and Intermediate Students in Riyadh Schools, Saudi Arabia: A Cross-Sectional Study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Ali Bani Mfarrij, Hassan Faqeehi, Issam AlFayyad Consumption of Beverage among Secondary and Intermediate Students in Riyadh Schools, Saudi Arabia: A Cross-Sectional Study

The study deals with a topic of public health relevance as it is about the sufficiency of beverage consumption among secondary and intermediate students in Riyadh Schools, Saudi Arabia as the area belong to the warm climate zone.

I have only minor type of comments. Concerning the reports of consumed volumes in the Abstract and also later in the manuscript brackets with a + and – signs are given without any explanation for what they represent. Please, specify. For some reason, I did not get access to the Tables.

Moreover, I think a word is missing in the following sentence in the Abstract 'Children aged (14-18) years consumed higher coffee (206.84±234.29) ml/day compared to those aged (12-13) years (78.68±140.71) ml/day (p<0.001). Should be e.g. Children aged (14-18) years consumed higher volumes of coffee (206.84±234.29) ml/day compared to those aged (12-13) years (78.68±140.71) ml/day (p<0.001).'

The claim in the Introduction 'It has been recognized for quite a long period that drinking water helps avoid the formation of kidney stones.' lacks a supporting reference and I would recommend adding '...in susceptible individuals'

Still in the Introduction I suggest revising the sentence 'Humid and hot weather, along with physical exertion, can increase fluid loss; as a result, our bodies demand more fluid intake [17]. somewhat to the form 'Humid and hot weather, along with physical exertion, can increase fluid loss; as a result, our bodies demand higher intake [17).'

In the Materials and Methods chapter the authors state that the parents were asked to assist the participating children in evaluating the children's consumption of beverages and conclude that incorporating the parents helped us minimize the bias of children's comprehension of the study questionnaire. As the age bracket of the random sample of children recruited in the study from 20 schools in Riyadh was 12 – 18 years, this means that the parents probably helped much more the younger than the older children. Could this partially lie behind the statistically significant differences between the 12 – 14 and older children? Also, in the Results chapter the consumed volumes are given with an adjacent number in brackets with a + and – sign. Are the brackets giving the standard deviation?

Please, explain the abbreviation EFSA, although it is easy to google, in the Discussion chapter.