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.

S.no Comments

- 1 Abstract: Results: 634 repeating in methods and results, if no non-response rate, the repetition can be avoided
- 2 "Study participants" in methods section to be rephrased better. Better use active voice
- 3 Exclusion criteria: Can be explained why they are excluded for the current study
- 4 What if the person is not available in the selected cluster? How many times did the team visit to capture if not available?
- 5 Do we have the linelist of welders in the community? How do we list to select the participants within each cluster? Needs to be explained
- 6 SPSS to be expanded
- 7 Operation definition in methods to be included for terms like current smoker (eg.<1 week, in past 24 hours), chemical exposure list
- 8 "In terms of previous known chronic diseases, 625 (98.6%) of the study participants responded that they had no known chronic disease." Sentence not meaningful
- 9 First line of "Factors associated with visual impairment" results section belongs to methods section. To check the repetition of sentences in methods and results sections
- 10 "The possible discrepancy might be due to the fact that the study in Malaysia included a large sample size (n=1522)." The reason shall not be accepted for comparison, as authors have calculated for the current setting and the Malaysia setting has different estimates for sample size calculation.
- "The mean age of Indian participants was old, with a mean age of 45.5 +11.31 years, which could be attributed to differences." Suggest to explain better.
 Eg. Does the mean age in the current study is lower than in the Indian study? If yes, then is higher the age, more the prevalence of VI? If yes, suggest to write the discussion in such a way and provide reference
- 12 The Pakistan study difference stated that availability of devices in the discussion. Suggest to compare the devices and study population used in Pakistan and compare with the current study. Does it vary, and what is the contribution of that to prevalence?