

Review of: "Demographic and Clinical Characteristics of Refugee Children Utilizing Healthcare Services of Türkiye (2021-2022): A Single-Centre Study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

An insightful article highlighting the plight of children affected by global conflict, a problem clearly on the rise with geopolitical instability.

The introduction describes the problem succinctly. Lower-income countries often suffer from overutilization of emergency care (for non-emergent problems), as barriers to access and waiting times are less than those for accessing routine channels of healthcare. This floods a strained system, adds to health care costs, and overburdens already overworked healthcare staff.

Grammatical feedback:

The abstract could be worded slightly differently. In results, I suggest phrasing the paragraph without using a number. 'There were 4383 refugee children included in the analysis, of which 81.9% were emergency admissions, 15.1% were outpatient patients, and 3% were inpatient clinic patients.'

'Most of the visits were non-urgent' - How many exactly? Percentage, n=?

Introduction:

What is well-baby care? Can this be termed better or described?

Refugee children are at risk of developmental delay ...dislocation from their homes. The term 'dislocation' should not be used. Rather, use the term 'separation.'

Methods:

Turkish ID (identification number or documents), thereafter use abbreviation.

Methodology:

A calendar year is generally used (1 June to 31 May, for example), but this is insignificant.

Terminology was well described for those who don't routinely deal with refugees and their classification.

Statistical parameters well defined.

Results:

Please define 'intoxication'. Is this poisoning in young children or alcohol/substance use in older children and adolescents?

Discussion:

'A systematic review showed that refugee children exhibit a high estimated prevalence ~~of~~ anemia (14%).' Use the word 'of' instead of 'for.'

70% of children from the Middle East ~~who~~ were studied...

Overall impression:

I cannot overemphasize the importance of this study and the information it provides. It highlights the negative impact conflict has on vulnerable population groups, such as children. The detrimental effects are felt during early development but continue on throughout their lives, into adulthood. Noting the importance of detecting Vit D deficiency in refugee children is also helpful in making recommendations to authorities and policymakers. Excellent study and highly recommended for publication/dissemination.