

# Review of: "Prevalence of Buruli Ulcer Among Residents in Jasikan Municipality: A Cross-Sectional Study"

Souad Belkebir<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> An-Najah National University

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

**General comment:** The idea of the study is really interesting, specially that it tackles a neglected disease. The study reflects important efforts made to conduct this study and collect the data and the information is valuable for the local community and the healthcare providers. Nevertheless, improvements can be introduced to improve the overall quality of the manuscript. I hope the following comments can be useful for authors for that purpose.

**Introduction:** in my opinion needs revision, authors focused on the data regarding the distribution of the disease but did not provide any information about the following: the general characteristics of the distribution and occurrence of the disease, risk factors, health consequences to illustrate the impact of the disease on patients, health system and society. What is the importance of conducting the study and knowing the prevalence? what would change? How this study will contribute in the overall knowledge about the disease.

**Study site:** multiple and exhaustive information is provided, but not related to the disease itself. Why mentioning all this information about sex ratio, total fertility rate, general fertility rate, age dependency, the Jasikan Municipality hospital provides both antenatal and postnatal care services to the population, the climate????..... authors need to explain the potential association between those variables and the distribution of the disease, actually it is a bunch of information but without clear connection.

**study population:** included all ages?? both genders?

**Exclusion criteria:** why do you exclude those "The study excluded residents with wounds who were seriously ill and required medical care"?

**sample size calculation** should be explained better, how did you determine the 56? how did you select them? Sampling method should be explained in detail to ensure that authors have selected a representative sample, which is one of the most important aspects in cross sectional studies. From the description, we cannot follow the steps implemented to reach the 56 and if really with 56 it is enough.

**Data collection tool:** please describe how did you construct your questionnaire and what variables were included, so far in your manuscript, no mention to any independent variables have been mentioned. You also have to state an operational definition for your outcome and how do you measure it, what case you finally defined as positive, as outcomes. you talk about a control, why did you take a control?

What were the results of the validity tests if you have done a statistical one, or was in face and content validity, what kind of changes you performed after the pilot study?

Statistical Analysis: this part is not only about the tool used to perform the analysis, but about what type of analysis you have run? describe the descriptive and analytical analysis you have performed.

Please provide a description of the abbreviations before using them: example: level of education: what is JHS?SHS?

around 60% of your PCR is pending, what is the impact of this on your main outcome which is the prevalence? this again refer us to the case definition you adopted which is not clear.

you tool controls in your data collection, what did you do with this information?

how did you define disability yes/no? what is the operational definition of disability limits movement?

finally, what are the conclusions and recommendation based on this study? why this study results are important?

The discussion can be modified further based on the changes made on the introduction and a deeper analysis and explanation about the relationship between the study variables and the occurrence of the disease can also be discussed.

Good luck.