

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 an interesting manuscript with valuable results on a very important public health problem. The authors, however, need to address some problems before the manuscript could be published.

ABSTRACT:

Methodology: Please describe how the criteria for the definition of visual impairment were assessed.

Results: Add a unit for age; give the proportion of women; in the second sentence (factors include...), do you mean associated factors? Please clarify.

Conclusion: Please do not rewrite the results. You can conclude on the implications of the results in the population.

INTRODUCTION

Paragraph 3: There is a lack of evident data on visual impairment. Add some recent data on the prevalence or the incidence, particularly in the country or the region.

Paragraph 4: Please define PPE.

METHODOLOGY

Sample size determination and sampling techniques: The use of the term P-value here is not appropriate. Instead, use the term "proportion"; no information has been given on the sampling technique and the recruitment procedure. Please explain well how and where the participants were recruited, where the examinations were conducted, and also what the inclusion and exclusion criteria were.

Data collection procedures and tools: Describe the data that were collected using the questionnaire; "The data collection tool was adopted from the related literature and the World Health Organization (WHO)": please give some references for this;

"Visual acuity was performed with the aid of the Snellen chart": give the reference; explain (with reference) how the visual impairment was defined and classified;

RESULTS

Table 1: Please explain why you use very large age intervals to describe the population. We see that almost all the participants were represented in the first interval (18-44 years). I suggest that you reduce the width of the intervals to better appreciate the distribution of age.

DISCUSSION

I think that it is unnecessary to have too many small paragraphs. I suggest that you merge some paragraphs that bear the same idea or discuss the same result or objective.

Paragraph 4: "In my study": please avoid selfishness. It is better to say "in our study."

Don't you think that a relatively low prevalence of visual impairment found in a very high-risk population like welders can be due to the diagnostic tools you used to define visual impairment? It would be interesting to discuss your results according to the diagnostic tools you used.