

Reviewer's report

Title: A cross-sectional study of the prevalence and risk factors for hypertension in rural Nepali women

Version: 1 **Date:** 19 June 2012

Reviewer: RANIL JAYAWARDENA

Reviewer's report:

This study presents detail of hypertension in middle aged women in a selective sample in Nepal. These findings have limited value for general picture in Nepal or South Asia. However, it is important to disseminate findings from developing countries.

Major Compulsory Revisions

Details of the study design and sample selection must be mentioned.

Definitions and cut-offs of Obesity/overweight is not correct. Given references are not satisfactory. Asian Indian position statement recommends BMI ≥ 23 kg.m⁻² for overweight and BMI ≥ 25 kg.m⁻² for obesity (Misra et al. 2009).

Minor Essential Revisions

Ref. 10 should include access date, last update.

Details of MUAC are needed such as inter and intra variability of measurements and techniques.

In fact what is the relevance of MUAC with hypertension? (Please provide evidence)

First paragraph in the discussion is repeating some results.

Is there any evidence for dietary factors in this population, perhaps they get less salty diet? Or high fruit and vegetable intake?

How did you categorized smoking and alcohol consumption? Compared to other regional countries smoking and alcohol prevalence is extremely high in this cohort.

Discretionary Revision

Some similar reference can be removed and limit the number of references.

Prevalence of Metabolic syndrome can be compared with another regional national level study from Sri Lanka. (Katulanda et al. 2012)

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the

statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

none