



ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Meta-Analysis

ESPS manuscript NO: 14797

Title: Hypertension in Zimbabwe: a meta-analysis to quantify its burden and policy implications

Reviewer code: 00070411

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

Date sent for review: 2014-10-27 16:07

Date reviewed: 2014-11-01 10:59

CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This manuscript is a meta-analysis on the prevalence of hypertension in Zimbabwe. Its' results have provide evidences on policies and interventions hypertension. The results are interesting but the number of publications included in the study and the total number of patients makes the article not sufficiently strong in the final conclusions. 1. Introduction is too long. It would be better to cut to ~1-1.5 pages. Do not review the subject extensively. 2. In the methods section, the authors must define their search strategy and their sources. The criteria for exclusion should also be clearly defined in this section. Otherwise it may be assumed that important papers have not been cited or that there is a selection bias. 3. In the abstract-- "The search was restricted to community or population based studies that used either the WHO (BP ≥160/95 mmHg) or the 7th report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure (BP ≥ 140/90 mmHg) criteria." In the Methods section--"and reported prevalence of hypertension defined as a blood pressure (BP) level >140/90 mm Hg." In the Results section--"One study used a mean diastolic threshold of >94 mmHg." –How did the authors choose the papers that have been included? Authors should clarify the inclusion criteria of the studies. 4. Abstract– "The prevalence of hypertension increased over the 14 year study period (p <0.005), and appears to be rising more rapidly in urban settings compared with rural settings." The author should provide detailed data including statistical analysis in the Methods and Results sections. 5. The authors should check the



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entire manuscript for linguistic errors. 6. References should be uniform. The references are in variable format and need to be consistent and in the format required by the Journal.



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ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Meta-Analysis

ESPS manuscript NO: 14797

Title: Hypertension in Zimbabwe: a meta-analysis to quantify its burden and policy implications

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Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
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<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This article might be helpful to understand the prevalence of hypertension in Zimbabwe. However, it is just estimation since the diagnostic criteria and research subject characteristics such as age are different. The size of sample seems small in some studies. Therefore, it might be required that a national survey should be performed in the future to further define the prevalence of hypertension.