Reviewer's report

**Title:** Metabolic Syndrome among hypertensive patients at University of Gondar Hospital, North West Ethiopia: a cross sectional study

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 19 August 2014

**Reviewer:** Joanne Luke

**Reviewer's report:**

**Major compulsory revisions**

112-120 Need to include what models were adjusted for in the methods.

Methods section- Include how social markers have been defined not just clinical

151 Abnormal body mass mentioned- need to define abnormal BMI in methods, as unsure if this is underweight and overweight or overweight....also underweight and overweight people have very different risk files the categories underweight, normal, overweight/obese might be more clinically relevant.

191 says female gender showed a protective effect against MetS???? Women had a 2-3 fold higher odds for the MetS than Men!

Whole of report. Cannot say that variables are 'protective' or 'risk' factor for MetS as this is a cross sectional paper it does not show direction or nature of association- all that can be reported is what is associated

202 change great risk to 'prevalance'

225 Cannot say people had a greater chance of developing MetS....as from cross section reports you do not know if they developed it...can only say BMI was associated with MetS.

228 Need reference to support this.... lowHDL is associated with larger obese BMI...

231 this is a cross section paper it cannot be said people had a greater chance of developing MetS as you did not look at incidence only prevalence. MetS at a time point. it can only be said MetS was associated with taking one or 2 drugs. this finding needs to be in results section not discussion

ALL DISCUSSION- Ixnores the social contexts of MetS despite reporting in the discussion. I think an important findings was around gender differences...why is education association but not income....these need discussion

254- in a cross sectional survey you cannot report protection or risk. only say something is assoiated

**Minor essential revisions**

11 change get to got

11-14 include how MetS was defined in method rather than results section of abstract.
21-23 The first sentence is a finding and should be in results section not conclusion section.

29-49 include in background 1-2 sentences about why MetS is an issue in Ethiopia (Globalisation-as outlined in abstract). The paper would benefit from this socio-political context.

31 change examined to estimated

30-32 This reference would best be reported as % in 2000 and % in 2025 as population size would change so values of 1 billion in 2000 and 1.5 billion in 2025 don't mean as much as a %

87 type plane to plain

88 capitalise Density and Lipoprotein

104 Change modified to Updated- was confusing, I thought authors had adapted the definition

139 Current Smoking was not examined. This is a limitation of this study

141 read and write...what language? local? foreign? very important for context.

145 Table 1 looks at Gender differences. These need to be described ie "in univariate analysis men were more likely to be older, married, have a higher income, consume alcohol and use palm oil.

148 and 149 change both 'started medication' to "were on"

152- delete 121/300 as the % has already been reported

189- Seek advice from epidemiologist. Obesity (as defined by waist measurement) is a component of the metabolic syndrome so it makes sense BMI also a marker of obesity is associated with MetS.

222-223 delete as repeated on previous page

discretionary revisions

30 find more recent reference

97 In methods include definitions of social factors

149 change 'drugs' to 'medication'?

240-243 - No age may be a consequence of the older populations being less exposed to Western influences and globalisations.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests