Reviewer's report

Title: Burden and predictors of Hypertension in India: Results of SEEK (Screening and Early Evaluation of Kidney Disease) Study

Version: 2 Date: 25 March 2013

Reviewer: Varun Agrawal

Reviewer's report:

Major revision:
The authors have addressed most of my concerns- I am still not sure if serum creatinine is to be chosen over eGFR because of ‘collinearity’. The authors should write this reasoning in the manuscript as every reader is bound to ask this question in reading the paper. A biostatistician input would be very helpful here.

Minor revisions:
1. Abstract: the authors need to clearly state the associations. was prevalence of HTN associated with high or low waist circumference, was it associated with presence or absence of DM - they have to be clear about the direction of the associations in the results and conclusions. As stated in my previous comments 'Conclusion needs to be clearly written - when stating dependent variables, describe them as ‘sedentary occupation’ or ‘elderly age’ as opposed to just saying ‘occupation’ or ‘age’ as in page 2, line 15.'

2. Introduction: still very lengthy. The world prevalence of HTN is well known and so the paragraph from Both systolic and …. life years can be deleted. Instead they should focus on setting up the stage for HTN data from India as they appropriately do in the next paragraph.

3. Methods (page 5): ...eligibile to participate in the screening... They need to clearly state how did they recruit the study subjects. Were they invited to participate ie did they volunteer to be studied. This seems to be the model, but they need to be very clear in the methodology.

4. Overall Results (page 8):... pre-hypertension is not defined anywhere in the text and they should clarify what the BP definition of pre-hypertension was. SD to be stated along with means whenever a mean value is reported - pls make this change throughout the manuscript.

   (page 8) The prevalence at various centers is depicted.... Are they referring to the prevalence ‘of HTN’? Pls clarify.

5. Predictors of Hypertension (page 10): Having a 9th grade +/-some college education... - this statement is confusing. The most significant predictors of hypertension..... What does ‘most significant’ mean? Pls clarify.
6. Discussion (page 11): again there is no need to state world prevalence of HTN and repeating the introduction. Consider removing HTN is a major.... to sample of India.

Similarly (page 13): Proteinuria is the earliest..... ......CVD and CKD complications - this is going away from the message of the paper which is simply to report the prevalence of HTN. Pls delete the above discussion.

Figure 2a) Mention which bar (white vs black) represents male vs female.

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