Reviewer’s report

Title: Main causes and 3-year-incidence of registered blindness in Jing-An District, Shanghai, China during 2001-2009.

Version: 3 Date: 2 March 2011

Reviewer: Arsaell Arnarsson

Reviewer’s report:

I have only a few discretionary recommendations to this paper.
1) I would consider simplifying the title. Omitting the words "main", "registered" and "during" might be appropriate.
2) In the results section of the abstract it says: "Age can significantly affect prevalence..." where I would prefer "Age significantly affects prevalence..."
3) The authors use two digits after the decimal point in most cases. I think one would suffice. For example, writing that the mean age is 70.66 is irrelevant. 70.7 is better. Similarly, to say that the 14.5% of blindness is caused by MMD when you only have 15 cases, is better than 14.50%
4) In the beginning of the second paragraph in the Background section, the name "Shanghai" appears three times in a row. I would consider rephrasing
5) In the Results section, first paragraph, where it is says "Gender was not a significant factor (P>0.05)..." I would prefer not to have the p-value.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests