Reviewer’s report

Title: Use of traditional cooking fuels and the risk of young adult cataract in rural Bangladesh: a hospital-based case-control study

Version: 1 Date: 6 July 2010

Reviewer: Catherine A McCarty

Reviewer’s report:

This is an interesting manuscript about risk factors for young adult cataract in Bangladesh.

Major compulsory revisions

1. Given the difference in distribution of years of sunlight exposure between the case and control groups, this variable should be included in the multivariate models.

2. The authors should consider other potential confounders to their observed association between cooking fuel and young adults cataract, specifically dehydration crises. There is a fairly large body of literature on the relationship between dehydration crises and cataract. It is possible that cooking fuel use is associated with access to clean water, which could bias the results.

3. The authors need to add information in the methods section about the protocol for determining that reduced visual acuity was due to cataract as opposed to some other ocular condition.

Minor essential revisions

1. English language editing

Discretionary revisions

1.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests