Reviewer's report

Title: Pattern of childhood Ocular Morbidity in Rural Eye Hospital, Central Ethiopia

Version: 3 Date: 28 August 2013

Reviewer: Phillippa Cumberland

Reviewer's report:

The author has addressed many of the points highlighted in the previous review. There are however still some aspects of the paper that still need attention.

Major revisions

1. Methods - It should be made clear that for each child one ‘main’ eye condition was reported and the criteria for the decision regarding the ‘main’ condition for those with more than one eye condition should be given.

It is a limitation of the study that multiple conditions are not reported as the proportion of children with each condition may be underestimated if only information on the ‘main’ condition is available. This point should be discussed.

2. Results - paragraph 2: Report of visual acuity (VA) (Table 1) is confused. VA was not measured in 97% of children #5 years so the comparison by age can only be between the two older age groups. There are no statistical differences in visual impairment vs better bilateral vision in older children (based on the data in Table 1), so the reported results need clarification. Statistical tests used should be specified.

3. Results - paragraph 5 (reporting results in Table 4): The author should note the general point (13) made by Kristina Tarczy-Hornoch regarding use of the term ‘prevalence’ and the need for related denominator information.

Minor essential revisions

1. Methods - Definitions and analysis: paragraph 1: Definitions for refractive error should be as DS in the better eye and for amblyopia as visual acuity in the affected eye or a >2-line difference.

2. Terms should be spelled out in full the first time an abbreviation is used and in the tables.

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

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