Reviewer’s report

Title: Influence of URE and UREN on visual impairment in a Brazilian population

Version: 1 Date: 16 April 2014

Reviewer: Augustinus Laude

Reviewer’s report:

Overall, this is a well conducted study on a fairly important issue with public health interest for the said population. The manuscript is well-written and the message is clear. Just some minor corrections required as stated below.

Minor Essential Revisions

Title: Please spell out in full rather than use acronyms URE and UREN in the title.

Abstract: Please rewrite the Conclusion section to better summarise the key message of this paper.

Background: Page 3, para 3: Please rewrite the sentence, “Several population-based surveys.....” to improve the grammar and sentence structure.

Page 4, para 3: Please spell out the full URE and UREN.

Results: Page 9, para 2: I am confused with the descriptions of the UCVA and the symbols. As I understand it, for logMAR VA, the greater the number, the worse the VA. However, the authors have indicated the level of blindness as UCVA < 1.3 logMAR, instead of >1.3logMAR. There are several other similar issues whenever the ranges of VA are described in relation to logMAR VA. The authors should review all their VA reporting and ranges in the manuscript.

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, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.