Reviewer's report

Title: Application of Disability-Adjusted Life-Year to Predict the Burden of Injuries and Fatalities due to Public Exposure to Engineering Technologies

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Reviewer: Kavi Bhalla

Reviewer's report:

My primary concern with this article remains with the suitability of the choice of disability weights.

1. Table 1, which presents disability weights, is very important because the results of the analysis scale directly with the values in this Table. The authors say that they have based the Table on the Australian BOD. I have now looked at the tables on the AIHW website and see very little correspondence between the sequelae categories used in this manuscript and the categories used in the Australian BOD. The manuscript includes a vague statement suggesting that there is not an exact correspondence. The authors need to be precise about how Table 1 was generated. My recommendation is to put footnotes under Table 1 explaining how the disability weights of various sequelae were mapped from the Australian BOD study.

2. I continue to worry about the implication of using GBD weights for characterizing high-incidence low-disability conditions. The authors say that they are considering revising their disability weights and the manuscript now states that "The current choice of injury types is subject to revision based on short-comings identified in [19] in relation to differentiating high-incidence low-severity injuries from low- incidence high-severity injuries and also based on the improved methodology to measure disability weights [20]." I find this unsatisfactory because it does not provide any indication of the suitability of the choices of DWs that have been used in this paper. The authors need to at least discuss the implications.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests.