Reviewer's report
Title: Trachoma in Yunnan province of Southwestern China: findings from Trachoma Rapid Assessment

Version: 0 Date: 06 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Christopher Estopinal

Reviewer's report:

Abstract

Line 3: Ages are 6-8. It may be more proper to state that this study is to understand active trachoma among children aged 6-8 years old.

Introduction
Page 1, Line 22: What is "WHA51.11?"

Please give background information on Yunnan Province in the introduction section.

Methods
Study sites, line 34: The WHO's TRA methodology recommends surveys be performed at the district level, a division with a population of about 100,000 people. Yunnan province's population is much higher at ~45 million people and you have sampled the population in spread-out areas. Do you have any additional data at the district level that might give a clearer picture of trachoma prevalence at a more local level?

Participants, line 7: The target population of this study appears to be children age 6-8 rather than 1-9. I would recommend changing the methodology and conclusions accordingly.
Investigation of trachoma awareness among health workers: While this information is interesting, it is not pertinent to the stated purpose of the paper, which is to understand the prevalence of active/scarring trachoma. I would recommend removing this from the analysis.

Results
Awareness of trachoma in health workers at primary level, line 33: I would recommend removing this section.

Discussion
Page 2, Lines 8-31: It would be helpful to know the prevalence of active and/or trachoma in Yunnan province as found the studies cited, rather than the percentage of impaired vision patients with trachoma.

Page 2, Line 58: While the rate of TF/TI was very low among school-age children, it may be higher among those children ages 1-5. Caution is needed when concluding that active trachoma has been eliminated. If screening school-age children is a validated proxy for screening all children from 1-9, citations validating this practice and a short description/explanation of this practice either in the methods or discussion would be helpful.

Page 3, Line 15: Remove this paragraph, as consistent with previous comments.

Conclusion
Line 3: Can a school-based survey give enough evidence of elimination of the disease?

Line 11: Remove as above

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes
Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
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