Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and determinants of pre-hypertension and hypertension among the adults in rural Bangladesh: Findings from a community-based study

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Reviewer: Wen-Cher Lai

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This manuscript by Khanam MA et al entitled “Prevalence and determinants of pre-hypertension and hypertension among the adults in rural Bangladesh: Findings from a community-based study” describes a cross-section study of common traditional risk factors by surveillance sites of Bangladesh. They found that about 1/3 and 1/6 of the adults of rural Bangladesh were patients with pre-hypertension and hypertension, respectively. Since there is no data reporting the prevalence of pre-hypertension and the associated risk factors, as authors claimed, this report might be of high interest for their domestic journal reports.

For the publication on BMC public health, the authors should offer the rationales for the potential readers that why characterising the prevalence and determinants of pre-hypertension and hypertension in rural Bangladesh can have potential impacts for other countries or area in the worlds. The English writing and grammar are both excellent and easy to follow. However, there are still some major revisions needed to be accomplished before this manuscript can be considered accepted in the Journal of BMC public health.

Major revisions:

I Please offer the rationale directly in the introduction and in the beginning of the abstract why readers should recognise the findings from this rural community cross-sectional study from Bangladesh. Is there any difference, implication or significance from socio-economic status viewpoints that might affect the management of pre-hypertension or hypertension adults?

I In the Fig. 1 -3, the percentage distribution of pre-hypertension and hypertension were illustrated by 3 different parameters, e.g. Fig. 1 by age, Fig. 2 by sex, and Fig. 3 by BMI. However, the formats that authors adopted to demonstrate these findings were not consistent among these 3 figures.

Using Box-Bar methods and including the normotensive patients can make readers easier to catch the ideas and avoiding confusion in Fig. 1 and Fig 3. Using Pie plot might be alternative options to illustrate Fig. 2.

I These data seems to be derived in 2005. Were these data still valid nowadays in Bangladesh 2014?