

# Depression and Insomnia among health care professionals during COVID-19 pandemic in Ethiopia: a systematic review and meta-analysis (#78597)

1

First submission

## Guidance from your Editor

Please submit by **17 Nov 2022** for the benefit of the authors (and your token reward) .



### Structure and Criteria

Please read the 'Structure and Criteria' page for general guidance.



### Custom checks

Make sure you include the custom checks shown below, in your review.



### Raw data check

Review the raw data.



### Image check

Check that figures and images have not been inappropriately manipulated.

Privacy reminder: If uploading an annotated PDF, remove identifiable information to remain anonymous.

## Files

Download and review all files from the [materials page](#).

7 Figure file(s)

4 Table file(s)

1 Other file(s)

## Custom checks

### Systematic review or meta analysis

- Have you checked our [policies](#)?
- Is the topic of the study relevant and meaningful?
- Are the results robust and believable?




## Structure and Criteria

### Structure your review

The review form is divided into 5 sections. Please consider these when composing your review:

1. BASIC REPORTING
2. EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN
3. VALIDITY OF THE FINDINGS
4. General comments
5. Confidential notes to the editor






 You can also annotate this PDF and upload it as part of your review

When ready [submit online](#).





### Editorial Criteria

Use these criteria points to structure your review. The full detailed editorial criteria is on your [guidance page](#).




#### BASIC REPORTING

-  Clear, unambiguous, professional English language used throughout.
-  Intro & background to show context. Literature well referenced & relevant.
-  Structure conforms to [PeerJ standards](#), discipline norm, or improved for clarity.
-  Figures are relevant, high quality, well labelled & described.
-  Raw data supplied (see [PeerJ policy](#)).

#### EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

-  Original primary research within [Scope of the journal](#).
-  Research question well defined, relevant & meaningful. It is stated how the research fills an identified knowledge gap.
-  Rigorous investigation performed to a high technical & ethical standard.
-  Methods described with sufficient detail & information to replicate.

#### VALIDITY OF THE FINDINGS

-  Impact and novelty not assessed. *Meaningful* replication encouraged where rationale & benefit to literature is clearly stated.
-  All underlying data have been provided; they are robust, statistically sound, & controlled.
-  Conclusions are well stated, linked to original research question & limited to supporting results.

## Standout reviewing tips

3



The best reviewers use these techniques

### Tip

### Example

**Support criticisms with evidence from the text or from other sources**

*Smith et al (J of Methodology, 2005, V3, pp 123) have shown that the analysis you use in Lines 241-250 is not the most appropriate for this situation. Please explain why you used this method.*

**Give specific suggestions on how to improve the manuscript**

*Your introduction needs more detail. I suggest that you improve the description at lines 57- 86 to provide more justification for your study (specifically, you should expand upon the knowledge gap being filled).*

**Comment on language and grammar issues**

*The English language should be improved to ensure that an international audience can clearly understand your text. Some examples where the language could be improved include lines 23, 77, 121, 128 – the current phrasing makes comprehension difficult. I suggest you have a colleague who is proficient in English and familiar with the subject matter review your manuscript, or contact a professional editing service.*

**Organize by importance of the issues, and number your points**

- 1. Your most important issue*
- 2. The next most important item*
- 3. ...*
- 4. The least important points*

**Please provide constructive criticism, and avoid personal opinions**

*I thank you for providing the raw data, however your supplemental files need more descriptive metadata identifiers to be useful to future readers. Although your results are compelling, the data analysis should be improved in the following ways: AA, BB, CC*

**Comment on strengths (as well as weaknesses) of the manuscript**

*I commend the authors for their extensive data set, compiled over many years of detailed fieldwork. In addition, the manuscript is clearly written in professional, unambiguous language. If there is a weakness, it is in the statistical analysis (as I have noted above) which should be improved upon before Acceptance.*

## Depression and Insomnia among health care professionals during COVID-19 pandemic in Ethiopia: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Aragaw Asfaw Hasen <sup>Corresp. 1</sup>, Abubeker Alebachew Seid <sup>2</sup>, Ahmed Adem Mohammed <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Statistics, College of Natural and Computational Sciences, Samara University, Semera, Afar, Ethiopia

<sup>2</sup> Department of Nursing, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, Samara University, Semera, Afar, Ethiopia

Corresponding Author: Aragaw Asfaw Hasen  
Email address: aragawasfaw5@gmail.com

**Introduction.** Healthcare professionals play a great role on struggle against COVID-19. They are highly susceptible to COVID-19 due to their responsibilities. This susceptibility directly affects their mental health status. Comprehensive evidence on prevalence of depression and insomnia during this pandemic is vital. Thus, this study aims to provide the pooled prevalence of depression and insomnia, and their associated factors during the COVID-19 pandemic. **Materials and methods.** This systematic review and meta-analysis follow the PRISMA guidelines. Studies were searched from PubMed, Cochrane Library, CrossRef, African Journals Online and Google Scholar databases from the occurrence of the pandemic to date. Study selection, data extraction and methodological quality assessment of study were done by two reviewers independently. The  $I^2$  statistics was used for testing heterogeneity. A random effect model was used. Stata 16.0 was used for statistical analysis. **Results.** Eight studies were incorporated for this systematic review and meta-analysis. From 7 studies the pooled prevalence of the depression was 40% (95% CI (0.23-0.57);  $I^2 = 99.00\%$ ;  $P=0.00$ ). From 3 studies the pooled prevalence of the insomnia was 35% (95% CI (0.13-0.58);  $I^2 = 98.20$ ;  $P=0.00$ ). Associated factors of depression on HCWs were being female pooled AOR: 2.09; 95% CI (1.41-2.76); working at COVID-19 isolation center (pooled AOR =2.13; 95%CI (0.94, 3.31)); being married (pooled AOR=2.95; 95% CI (1.83, 4.07)); underline medical illness (pooled AOR= 4.11; 95% CI (-1.66, 9.87)). **Conclusion.** COVID-19 is highly associated with the prevalence of depression and insomnia among healthcare professionals in Ethiopia. The pooled prevalence of depression and insomnia were significantly higher among healthcare professionals. Appropriate psychological counseling package should be realized for HCWs in order to recover the general mental health problems.

**Trial registration.** This review was registered PROSPERO with registration number; CRD42022314865.

1  
2 **Depression and Insomnia among health care professionals during COVID-19 pandemic in**  
3 **Ethiopia: a systematic review and meta-analysis**  
4

5 Aragaw Asfaw Hasen <sup>1\*</sup>, Abubeker Alebachew Seid <sup>2</sup>, Ahmed Adem Mohammed <sup>2</sup>

6 <sup>1</sup>Department of Statistics, College of Natural and Computational Sciences, Samara University  
7 Semera, Afar, Ethiopia

8 <sup>2</sup>Department of Nursing, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, Samara University, Semera,  
9 Afar, Ethiopia

10  
11 **\*Corresponding Author:**

12 Aragaw Asfaw Hasen <sup>1</sup>

13 Email: [aragawasfaw5@gmail.com](mailto:aragawasfaw5@gmail.com)

14 ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0000-6556-805X>

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24 **ABSTRACT**

25 **Introduction.** Healthcare professionals plays a great role on struggle against COVID-19. They  
26 are highly susceptible to COVID-19 due to their responsibilities. This susceptibility directly  
27 affects their mental health status. Comprehensive evidence on prevalence of depression and  
28 insomnia during this pandemic is vital. Thus, this study aims to provide the pooled prevalence of  
29 depression and insomnia, and their associated factors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

30 **Materials and methods.** This systematic review and meta-analysis follow the PRISMA  
31 guidelines. Studies were searched from PubMed, Cochrane Library, CrossRef, African Journals  
32 Online and Google Scholar databases from the occurrence of the pandemic to date. Study  
33 selection, data extraction and methodological quality assessment of study were done by two  
34 reviewers independently. The  $I^2$  statistics was used for testing heterogeneity. A random effect  
35 model was used. Stata 16.0 was used for statistical analysis.

36 **Results.** Eight studies were incorporated for this systematic review and meta-analysis. From 7  
37 studies the pooled prevalence of the depression was 40% (95% CI (0.23-0.57);  $I^2 = 99.00\%$ ;  
38  $P=0.00$ ). From 3 studies the pooled prevalence of the insomnia was 35% (95% CI (0.13-0.58);  $I^2$   
39  $= 98.20$ ;  $P=0.00$ ). Associated factors of depression on HCWs were being female pooled AOR:  
40 2.09; 95% CI (1.41-2.76); working at COVID-19 isolation center (pooled AOR =2.13; 95%CI  
41 (0.94, 3.31)); being married (pooled AOR=2.95; 95% CI (1.83, 4.07)); underline medical illness  
42 (pooled AOR= 4.11; 95% CI (-1.66, 9.87)).

43 **Conclusion.** COVID-19 is highly associated with the prevalence of depression and insomnia  
44 among healthcare professionals in Ethiopia. The pooled prevalence of depression and insomnia  
45 were significantly higher among healthcare professionals. Appropriate psychological counseling  
46 package should be realized for HCWs in order to recover the general mental health problems.

47 **Trial registration.** This review was registered PROSPERO with registration number;  
48 CRD42022314865.

49

50 **Keywords.** COVID-19, mental health, depression, insomnia, systematic review, Ethiopia

**Commented [MOU1]:** Please write completely before abbreviation

.....healthcare workers (HCWs).....

## 51 INTRODUCTION

52 The pandemic disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS CoV-  
53 2), first reported by officials in Wuhan City, China, in December 2019, which has spread to  
54 worldwide [1]. Healthcare professionals are forefront in the struggle against coronavirus disease  
55 2019 (COVID-19). They are particularly susceptible to this disease due to their clinical task in  
56 the healthcare settings. This affects their mental health status. Studies have started researching  
57 the mental health condition of under the COVID-19 pandemic. Study findings on Spanish  
58 healthcare workers imply that COVID-19 has impact on the mental health of [HCWs] [2]. In Iran,  
59 more than half of the nurses had depression in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.[3]. In Africa,  
60 the prevalence of depression is higher compared to those reported elsewhere [4]. Situation report  
61 of UNICEF points Ethiopia had 96,169 confirmed cases of COVID-19 on 31 October, 2020  
62 about 1,876 health care workers had tested positive and 77 had died [5]. Results of studies in  
63 Ethiopia the prevalence of depression was reported as 66.4% [6] 21.5%.[7] 25.8% [8] 58.2%.[9]  
64 Being female [6] age, family size [7] with medical illness [7] ; [9] being married, being  
65 pharmacist, contact with COVID-19 patients [9] are factors associated with depressive symptom  
66 of health care professionals during the pandemic. Also studies showed the prevalence of  
67 insomnia was 15.9% [10] 50.20% [11] and 40.8% [12]. Being female, being married and  
68 working in emergency unit are factors associated with insomnia of health care workers during  
69 the pandemic [11]. Furthermore, a worldwide meta-analysis during the pandemic result showed  
70 that the pooled prevalence of depression 34.31%. Mental health problems require early detection  
71 and initiation of intervention during the COVID-19 pandemic [13]. Study findings in Ethiopia on  
72 mental health problems (depression and insomnia) during the COVID-19 pandemic were varied.  
73 A comprehensive evidence on these findings helps policy makers, practitioners and researchers'  
74 in numerous ways. This study aims to provide the pooled prevalence of depression and insomnia,  
75 and their associated factors among health care professionals during the COVID-19 pandemic in  
76 Ethiopia.

### 77 Research questions

78 The following research questions were answered:

- 79 1. What is the pooled prevalence of depression and insomnia during COVID-19 pandemic  
80 among HCWs in Ethiopia?

Commented [MOU2]: Please write completely before abbreviation

.....healthcare workers (HCWs).....

Commented [MOU3]: This statement need references.

81 2. What is the pooled effect size of associated factors of depression and insomnia during  
82 COVID-19 among HCWs in Ethiopia?

### 83 Objectives

#### 84 General Objective

- 85 • This study aimed to assess the impact of COVID-19 on depression and insomnia among  
86 healthcare professionals in Ethiopia.

#### 87 Specific objectives

- 88 • To estimate the pooled prevalence of depression and insomnia during COVID-19  
89 pandemic among HCWs in Ethiopia.
- 90 • To estimate the pooled effect size and summary of associated factors of depression and  
91 insomnia during COVID-19 pandemic among HCWs in Ethiopia.

Commented [MOU4]: Please delete this part.

## 92 MATERIALS AND METHODS

### 93 Protocol Registration

94 To understanding of impacts of COVID-19 on depression and insomnia among health care  
95 professionals in Ethiopia, we conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis in accordance  
96 with the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA)  
97 statement and registered in the International Prospective Register of Systematic Reviews with  
98 PROSPERO registration number: CRD42022314865. ~~The PRISMA flow chart for reporting of~~  
99 ~~systematic review and meta-analysis is presented (Fig.1).~~

Commented [MOU5]: Is this study follow MOOSE (Meta-analyses Of Observational Studies in Epidemiology) Checklist ?

Commented [MOU6]: This systematic review and meta-analysis was conducted in accordance with the .....

Commented [MOU7]: Should be delete

Commented [MOU8]: Please mention about inclusion and exclusion criteria in this section

### 100 Search strategy

101 PubMed, Cochrane Library Database, CrossRef and Google Scholar databases were searched to  
102 get literatures and articles published to date were included. To assess the mental health impact of  
103 COVID-19 among healthcare professionals, observational studies were considered. Systematic  
104 searches were conducted by combining every possible combination of MeSH terms and  
105 keywords. Reference lists of key full text articles included in the review were checked to  
106 recognize any potentially eligible studies. The systematic procedure verifies that the literature  
107 search comprises all published studies on the impact of COVID-19 among healthcare  
108 professionals in Ethiopia. The search results were exported to Mendeley and duplicates were  
109 removed. Two reviewers (AAH and AAS) independently screened titles and abstracts of the

Commented [MOU9]: It is better if the authors mention in this section the search term that were used in this study.



110 studies, and any disagreement between the reviewers was resolved by discussin with third  
111 reviewer (AAM). The search strategy of PubMed database is presented (**Table 1**). The search  
112 strategy is considered as adequate to reduce the risk of selection and detection bias

**Commented [MOU10]:** Already mention in SELECTION of STUDIES part

### 113 Inclusion criteria

114 For this study only observational studies (cohort, case-control and cross-sectional) focus the  
115 impacts of COVID-19 on depression and insomnia among healthcare professionals during the  
116 pandemic in Ethiopia were included.

117 **Setting/context:** Studies conducted in Ethiopia was the main concern of this review.

118 **Population:** The review will include studies involving healthcare professionals as a whole.

119 **Study design:** Observational studies (cohort, case-control and cross-sectional studies) that  
120 reported the impacts of mental disorders and its associated factors during the pandemic.

121 **Language:** English language reported studies were considered.

### 122 Exclusion criteria

123 The following types of studies were excluded:

- 124 1. Studies on whole population;
- 125 2. Studies with very small sample size;
- 126 3. Studies that did not have enough statistical information to be extracted and
- 127 4. Descriptive reviews, randomized controlled trials, systematic review, meta-analysis,  
128 editorials, comments, conference abstracts and expert opinions, not precisely measured  
129 the prevalence and the determinants of mental illness of healthcare professionals were  
130 excluded.

**Commented [MOU11]:** Inclusion and exclusion criteria should be write in Research strategy part.

Please write with no enumeration

**Commented [MOU12]:** No enumeration

### 131 Outcome measures

132 There are two main outcomes in this systematic review and meta-analysis. The first outcome was  
133 the prevalence of depression and insomnia on healthcare professionals during the COVID-19  
134 pandemic. The second outcome of the study is to identify factors related to the prevalence of  
135 depression and insomnia among health care professionals during the COVID-19 pandemic in  
136 Ethiopia.

### 137 Selection of studies

138 Two reviewers (AAH and AAS) assessed the studies based on inclusion and exclusion criteria.  
139 Firstly, the reviewers assessed both the titles and abstracts of the studies identified from the

140 searched databases. Then full-text screening was done to screen the full texts selected in the  
141 previous stage. Moreover, we have a rationale for inclusion and exclusion of studies in the  
142 PRISMA flow diagram. Lastly, the final list of articles for data extraction for systematic review  
143 and meta- analysis was prepared.

#### 144 Data extraction

145 The data extraction was done by two reviewers independently. There was pretest the data  
146 extraction to ensure effective, facilitates the collection of all necessary data required for the  
147 valuable systematic review and meta-analysis. Disagreements were resolved by deep argument.  
148 For the included studies, we extracted the author's last name, year of publication, where the  
149 study was conducted, study design, cases, sample size, instrument used, outcome measures and  
150 main findings.

#### 151 Methodological quality assessment

152 Two reviewers (AAH and AAS) separately assessed the risk of bias of the included studies using  
153 the Newcastle-Ottawa Scale (NOS) [14]. NOS scale rates observational studies based on 3  
154 parameters: selection, compared between the exposed and unexposed groups, and  
155 exposure/outcome assessment. Studies with less than 5 stars were considered low quality, 5-7  
156 stars of moderate quality, and more than 7 stars of high quality [15]. Only studies with moderate  
157 and above quality score were included in this systematic review and meta-analysis.

#### 158 Data synthesis

159 The extracted data was entered into a Microsoft Excel and then imported in to STATA version  
160 16.0 software for the analyses. We calculated pooled prevalence and pooled adjusted odds ratios  
161 (AOR) with 95% confidence interval (CI) by the generic inverse variance method.  
162 Heterogeneity among included studies was assessed using the  $I^2$  test. If  $I^2 > 0.5$  or  $P < 0.1$  it is  
163 considered that there is a significant heterogeneity among the included studies,[16] and random-  
164 effect model with the inverse variance method was used. To determine the source of  
165 heterogeneity subgroup analyses was performed by regions and instruments used in individual  
166 studies. Publication bias across studies examined using the funnel plot method, Egger's test and  
167 Begg's test [17]. The funnel plot is symmetrical and the P value of Egger's, and Begg's tests is  
168  $> 0.05$ , no significant publication bias is considered to exist in the meta-analysis [18]. If  
169 publication bias is found, a trim and fill analysis used to evaluate the number of missing studies

**Commented [MOU13]:** Please mention/explain what data were extracted from each article.

For example:  
*The following data were extracted from each article by two reviewers independently: study type, total number of participants.....*

170 and recalculate the pooled prevalence and adjusted odds ratio with the addition of these missing  
171 hypothetical studies.

## 172 RESULTS

173 A PRISMA flow diagram illustrating the steps of data search and refining process for the study  
174 on depression and insomnia among health care professionals during the COVID-19 pandemic  
175 period (**Fig.1**). We have got 30 papers from the searched databases. 8 studies duplicated were  
176 removed, we examined the titles and abstracts and 3 papers removed. By examining the full text,  
177 we removed 4 that did not meet inclusion criteria. 7 Studies removed due to not reporting about  
178 depression and insomnia. Finally, 8 studies were relevant to the systematic review and meta-  
179 analysis.

### 180 Study characteristics

181 In this systematic review and meta-analysis, we included 8 studies [[19]; [7]; [10]; [6]; [8]; [9]  
182 ;[11]; [12]] focusing on the impact of COVID-19 on depression and insomnia among health care  
183 professionals in Ethiopia. Regarding the regional distribution 1 study [8] is from SNNP, 3 studies  
184 [19]; [7]; [6] are from Oromiya, 1 study [9] is from Amhara, 1 study [10] is from Addis Ababa  
185 and Oromiya, 1 study [12] is from Addis Ababa. Furthermore, the key characteristics of the  
186 included papers was summarized and showed in table (**Table 2**).

### 187 Quality of included studies

188 The methodological quality score of the 8 included studies using the modified Newcastle Ottawa  
189 scale for correctional studies quality assessment tool was presented (**Table 2**). Accordingly, 2  
190 studies were rated as moderate quality [9]; [11] and 6 studies were rated as high quality [19];  
191 [10]; [6]; [8]; [12]; [7] and were considered for final systematic review and meta analysis.

192

### 193 Publication bias

194 As a rule of thumb, tests for funnel plot asymmetry should not be used when there are fewer than  
195 10 studies in the meta-analysis because test power is usually too low to distinguish chance from  
196 real asymmetry [20]. Accordingly, the number of included studies for depression and insomnia  
197 are less than ten we do not apply the asymmetry test.

**Commented [MOU14]:** Please combine all of these sections to one section: *Characteristic of included studies*

### 198 Pooled Prevalence of depression

199 A total of 7 studies reported the prevalence of depression, and the pooled prevalence of the  
200 depression was 40% (95% CI [0.23-0.57];  $I^2 = 99.00\%$ ;  $p=0.00$ ) (**Fig.2**). From the heterogeneity  
201 test, there is significant heterogeneity is observed among individual studies on the prevalence of  
202 depression among healthcare professionals during the pandemic in Ethiopia.

### 203 Subgroup analysis of depression by region

204 To handle this variability in studies the subgroup analysis by region is done. From the forest plot  
205 (**Fig.3**), the pooled prevalence of depression in Addis Ababa & Oromiya, Oromiya, SNNP,  
206 Addis Ababa and Amhara is 60%, 35%, 26%, 27% and 63% respectively. The heterogeneity test  
207 indicates that there is significant variability among regions. The prevalence of depression is  
208 higher in Amhara region compared to the others.

### 209 Subgroup analysis of depression by instrument

210 Based on the instrument used in individual included studies, subgroup analysis is done. From the  
211 forest plot (**Fig.4**), the pooled prevalence of depression by DASS-21 and PHQ-9 is 48%, and  
212 34% respectively. The heterogeneity test indicates that there is significant variability on a study  
213 finding between measurements. The prevalence of depression measured in DASS-21 is higher  
214 than that measured by PHQ-9 among health care workers during the pandemic. This might be  
215 due to the difference in sensitivity and specificity of the assessment instruments.

### 216 Pooled Prevalence of Insomnia

217 Three studies reported the prevalence of insomnia, and the pooled prevalence of the insomnia  
218 was 35% (95% CI [0.13-0.58];  $I^2 = 98.20\%$ ;  $p=0.00$ ) (**Fig.5**). In the test of heterogeneity, we  
219 have seen that there is considerable variation among individual included studies on the  
220 prevalence of insomnia among health care professionals during the pandemic in Ethiopia.

### 221 Subgroup analysis of Insomnia by region

222 Subgroup analysis by region is done. From the forest plot (**Fig.6**), the pooled prevalence of  
223 insomnia in Oromiya and Addis Ababa is 24% and 41% respectively. The heterogeneity test  
224 indicates that there is significant variation in the prevalence of insomnia between regions. The  
225 prevalence of insomnia is higher in Addis Ababa than Oromiya.

### 226 Subgroup analysis of insomnia by instrument

227 Based on the instrument used in individual included studies, subgroup analysis is done. From the  
228 forest plot in (Fig.7), the pooled prevalence of depression measured by ISI and PSQI is 24% and  
229 41% respectively. The heterogeneity test indicates that there is significant variation on a study  
230 finding between measurements. The prevalence of depression measured in PHQI is higher than  
231 that measured by ISI among health care workers during the pandemic.

### 232 Pooled adjusted odds ratio of associated factors of depression and insomnia

233 The pooled adjusted odds ratio of the factors associated with prevalence of depression among  
234 health care professionals during COVID-19 in Ethiopia presented (Table 3). We looked at the  
235 association between sex and depression in this meta-analysis. Accordingly, female healthcare  
236 workers were two times more likely to de depression than male (Pooled AOR: 2.09; 95% CI:  
237 (1.41, 2.76)). The test statistics revealed no heterogeneity among the included studies ( $I^2 =$   
238 0.00% and  $p = 0.837$ ). We saw at the association between working units of healthcare workers  
239 and depression in this meta-analysis. Accordingly, working at COVID-19 isolation center were  
240 two times more likely to develop depression than their counterparts (pooled AOR: 2.13; 95%:  
241 (0.94, 3.31)). The test statistics revealed no heterogeneity among the included studies ( $I^2 = 0.00%$   
242 and  $p = 0.980$ ). Married HCWs were nearly three times more likely to develop depression than  
243 single (pooled AOR: 2.95; 95% CI: (1.83, 4.07)). The test statistics revealed no heterogeneity  
244 among the included studies ( $I^2 = 0.00%$  and  $p = 0.539$ ). We have seen association of healthcare  
245 workers with medical illness and depression. HCWs with medical illness were four times more  
246 likely to develop depression than not have medical illness (pooled AOR: 4.11, 95% CI: (-1.66,  
247 9.87)). The test statistics revealed no heterogeneity among the included studies ( $I^2 = 40.4%$  and  $p$   
248  $= 0.195$ ). Since the findings on the factors associated with the prevalence of depression and  
249 insomnia were hetrogenious and impossible to pooling. We explor these factors systematically  
250 summarized (Table 4).

### 251 DISCUSSIONS

252 Due to COVID-19 pandemic health care professionals faces a variety of mental health problems.  
253 There are studies at the single level, but to our knowledge, this systematic review and meta-  
254 analysis study was the first of its kind that assessed the pooled prevalence of depression and  
255 insomnia and their associated factors. The study included 8 studies [ [19]; [7]; [10]; [6]; [8]; [9]

Commented [MOU15]: In Discussion part, the authors should analyze the Results. Please do not state the results in Discussion part (Discussion does not repeat the results).

The authors should explain/mention the strength of their study.

256 ;[11]; [12] ] articles focus on the impact of COVID-19 on depression and insomnia status of  
257 health care professionals in Ethiopia. Studies are conducted with the ethical guideline. The  
258 pooled prevalence of depression and insomnia, and their associated factors were discussed. The  
259 pooled prevalence of depression among HCWs during the COVID-19 pandemic was 40%. This  
260 is higher than meta-analysis result 36% [21] and lower than the study results in Africa 45% [4]  
261 higher than a meta analysis results 31.8% [22] and 26.2% [23]. Among regions, there is  
262 heterogeneity on the prevalence of depression. The prevalence of depression in Amhara regions  
263 is 63%, is higher compared to the others. Subgroup analysis by instrument, the pooled  
264 prevalence of depression by DASS-21 and PHQ-9 is 48% and 34% respectively. The pooled  
265 adjusted odds ratio on female HCWs is 2.05, 95%CI (1.46, 2.64) implies that female HCWs are  
266 two times more likely to develop the depressive symptom than males during the pandemic.  
267 Similarly, working at COVID-19 isolation center pooled adjusted odds ratio is 2.22, 95%CI  
268 (1.06,3.37) meaning that working at COVID-19 isolation center two times more likely to develop  
269 depression than working pharmacy. Been married pooled adjusted odds ratio is 2.95, 95%CI  
270 (1.83, 4.07) indicate married HCWs are nearly 3 times more likely to develop depression than  
271 not married. The pooled prevalence of insomnia on HCWs during the COVID-19 pandemic was  
272 35%. This was inline with the poled prevalence of insomnia among HCWs 34% [23], higher  
273 than a meta analysis results 28% [4], 32% [23] and 27.8 % [22]. Subgroup analysis by region  
274 the heterogeneity test indicates that there is significant variation in the prevalence of insomnia  
275 between regions. The prevalence of insomnia in Addis Ababa is 41% higher than Oromiya. We  
276 have summarized the factors associated with insomnia due to small number of study obtained.  
277 This study is with strengths and some limitations. Data extraction and risk of bias assessment  
278 were performed by two reviewer independently. Newcastle-Ottawa Scale used to assess the risk  
279 of bias of the included studies were the strengths. The absence of sufficient studies on the impact  
280 of COVID-19 on the mental health of health care professionals in Ethiopia and heterogeneity  
281 among studies were the limitations of this systematic review and meta-analysis.

## 282 CONCLUSION

283 The COVID-19 pandemic caused a variety of mental health impacts among health care  
284 professionals in Ethiopia. Due to this pandemic, the prevalence of depression and insomnia  
285 among health care professionals became high in Ethiopia. The prevalence varied among regions

286 as well as instruments used. The suitable programs that offer awareness on the COVID-19 virus,  
287 psychological counseling and intervention should be implemented for HCWs in order to improve  
288 the general mental health problems including depression and insomnia.

289

#### 290 **Abbreviations**

291 **AOR** Adjusted Odds Ratio

292 **CI** Confidence Interval

293 **HCWs** Health Care Workers

294 **MeSH** Medical Subject Headings

295 **NOS** Newcastle Ottawa Quality Assessment Scale

296 **PRISMA** Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

297 **SNNP** Southern Nations, Nationalities and People

298 **WHO** World Health Organization

299

#### 300 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

301

302 We acknowledged the authors of studies included in this systematic review and meta-analysis.

303

#### 304 **Funding**

305

306 The author received no funding for this work.

307

#### 308 **Competing Interests**

309

310 The authors declare there are no competing interests.

311

#### 312 **Author's contributions**

313

- 314 • All authors have made significant contributions to this study.
- 315 • AAH developed the research question, wrote the first draft, designed the search strategy,  
316 and edited and approved the final version of the manuscript.

- 317 • AAS revised the search strategy of databases, developed the data extraction form, and  
318 edited and approved the final version of the manuscript.
- 319 • AAM revised the data extraction form and edited and approved the final version of the  
320 manuscript.

### 321 Data Availability

322 The data are included with in the article.

### 323 REFERENCES

- 324 1. World health organization. COVID-19 Situation Report. 2020;31(2):61–6.
- 325 2. García-Fernández L, Romero-Ferreiro V, López-Roldán PD, Padilla S, Calero-Sierra I,  
326 Monzó-García M, et al. Mental health impact of COVID-19 pandemic on Spanish  
327 healthcare workers. *Psychol Med.* 2022;52(1):195–7.
- 328 3. Rn SP, Rn SY, Rn HB. The relationship between mental workload and job performance  
329 among Iranian nurses providing care to COVID- - patients : A cross- - sectional study.  
330 2021;(December 2020):1–10.
- 331 4. Chen J, Farah N, Dong RK, Chen RZ, Xu W, Yin J, et al. Mental Health during the  
332 COVID-19 Crisis in Africa : A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. 2021;
- 333 5. UNICEF. Situation in Numbers cases 344 in critical condition. 2020 p. 1–14.
- 334 6. Yadeta TA, Dessie Y, Balis B. Magnitude and Predictors of Health Care Workers  
335 Depression During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Health Facility-Based Study in Eastern  
336 Ethiopia. *Front Psychiatry.* 2021;12(July):1–8.
- 337 7. Wayessa ZJ, Melesse GT, Amaje Hadona E, Wako WG. Prevalence of depressive  
338 symptoms due to COVID-19 and associated factors among healthcare workers in Southern  
339 Ethiopia. *SAGE Open Med.* 2021;9:205031212110328.
- 340 8. GebreEyesus FA, Tarekegn TT, Amlak BT, Shiferaw BZ, Emeria MS, Geleta OT, et al.  
341 Levels and predictors of anxiety, depression, and stress during COVID-19 pandemic



- 342 among frontline healthcare providers in Gurage zonal public hospitals, Southwest  
343 Ethiopia, 2020: A multicenter cross-sectional study. *PLoS One* [Internet]. 2021;16(11  
344 November):1–24. Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0259906>
- 345 9. Asnakew S, Amha H, Kassew T. Mental health adverse effects of covid-19 pandemic on  
346 health care workers in north west Ethiopia: A multicenter cross-sectional study.  
347 *Neuropsychiatr Dis Treat*. 2021;17:1375–84.
- 348 10. Jemal K, Deriba BS, Geleta TA, Tesema M, Awol M, Mengistu E, et al. Self-reported  
349 symptoms of depression, anxiety, and stress among healthcare workers in ethiopia during  
350 the covid-19 pandemic: A cross-sectional study. *Neuropsychiatr Dis Treat*. 2021;17:1363–  
351 73.
- 352 11. Yitayih Y, Mekonen S, Zeynudin A, Mengistie E, Ambelu A. Mental health of healthcare  
353 professionals during the early stage of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ethiopia. *BJPsych*  
354 *Open*. 2021;7(1):1–6.
- 355 12. Habtamu Y, Admasu K, Tullu M, Damene W, Birhanu A, Beyero T, et al. Mental Health  
356 Outcomes among Frontline Health-Care Workers at Eka Kotebe National COVID-19  
357 Treatment Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2020: A Cross-Sectional Study. *Neuropsychiatr*  
358 *Dis Treat*. 2021;Volume 17(August):2831–40.
- 359 13. Necho M, Tsehay M, Birkie M, Biset G, Tadesse E. Prevalence of anxiety, depression,  
360 and psychological distress among the general population during the COVID-19 pandemic:  
361 A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Int J Soc Psychiatry*. 2021;67(7):892–906.
- 362 14. Peterson J, Welch V, Losos M TP. The Newcastle-Ottawa scale (NOS) for assessing the  
363 quality of nonrandomised studies in meta-analyses. Ottawa Hospital Research Institute.  
364 Ottawa; 2011.
- 365 15. Paddy Ssentongo, Anna E. Ssentongo ESH and et al. Association of cardiovascular  
366 disease and 10 other pre-existing comorbidities with COVID-19 mortality: A systematic  
367 review and meta-analysis. *PLoS One*. 2020;15(8):e0238215.
- 368 16. Feilong Zhu, Ming Zhang, Min Gao, Cheng Zeng, Dan Wang, Qianqin Hong WC. Effects

369 of respiratory rehabilitation on patients with novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pneumonia in  
370 the rehabilitation phase: protocol for a systematic review and meta-analysis. *BMJ Open*.  
371 2020;10(e039771.).

372 17. Vandenbroucke J. Bias in meta-analysis detected by a simple, graphical test. Experts'  
373 views are still needed. *BMJ*. 1998;316:469–70.

374 18. Vignesh Chidambaram, Nyan Lynn Tun WZH and et al. Factors associated with disease  
375 severity and mortality among patients with COVID-19: A systematic review and meta-  
376 analysis. *PLoS One*. 2020;15(11):e0241541.

377 19. Jemal K, Deriba BS, Geleta TA. Psychological Distress, Early Behavioral Response, and  
378 Perception Toward the COVID-19 Pandemic Among Health Care Workers in North Shoa  
379 Zone, Oromiya Region. *Front Psychiatry*. 2021;12(May):1–12.

380 20. Sterne JAC, Sutton AJ, Ioannidis JPA, Terrin N, Jones DR, Lau J, et al.  
381 Recommendations for examining and interpreting funnel plot asymmetry in meta-analyses  
382 of randomised controlled trials. *BMJ*. 2011;343(7818):1–8.

383 21. Sun P, Wang M, Song T, Wu Y, Luo J, Chen L, et al. The Psychological Impact of  
384 COVID-19 Pandemic on Health Care Workers : A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.  
385 2021;12:626547.

386 22. Batra K, Singh TP, Sharma M, Batra R, Schvaneveldt N. Investigating the psychological  
387 impact of COVID-19 among healthcare workers: A meta-analysis. *Int J Environ Res*  
388 *Public Health*. 2020;17(23):1–33.

389 23. Zhang H, Li W, Li H, Zhang C, Luo J, Zhu Y, et al. Prevalence and dynamic features of  
390 psychological issues among Chinese healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic:  
391 A systematic review and cumulative meta-analysis. *Gen Psychiatry*. 2021;34(3).

392

**Table 1** (on next page)

PubMed search strategy.

1

Search number	Search detail
	"COVID-19"[MeSH Terms]
#2	"depression"[Mesh Terms]
#3	"insomnia"[Mesh Terms]
#4	"COVID-19"[Title/Abstract] OR "2019 novel coronavirus disease"[Title/Abstract] OR "2019 novel coronavirus infection"[Title/Abstract] OR "2019 ncov disease"[Title/Abstract] OR "2019 ncov infection"[Title/Abstract] OR "covid 19 pandemic"[Title/Abstract] OR "covid 19 pandemics"[Title/Abstract] OR "covid 19 virus disease"[Title/Abstract] OR "covid 19 virus infection"[Title/Abstract] OR "COVID19"[Title/Abstract] OR "coronavirus disease 2019"[Title/Abstract] OR "coronavirus disease 19"[Title/Abstract] OR "sars coronavirus 2 infection"[Title/Abstract] OR "sars cov 2 infection"[Title/Abstract] OR "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 infection"[Title/Abstract] OR "SARS-CoV-2"[Title/Abstract] OR "2019 novel coronavirus"[Title/Abstract] OR "2019 novel coronavirus"[Title/Abstract] OR "2019- nCoV"[Title/Abstract] OR "covid 19 virus"[Title/Abstract] OR "covid19 virus"[Title/Abstract] OR "Coronavirus disease 2019 virus"[Title/Abstract] OR "SARS coronavirus 2"[Title/Abstract] OR "SARS cov 2 virus"[Title/Abstract] OR "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2"[Title/Abstract] OR "Wuhan coronavirus"[Title/Abstract] OR "Wuhan seafood market pneumonia virus"[Title/Abstract]
#5	"Mental illness" [Title/Abstract] OR "Psychiatric problem" [Title/Abstract] AND "insomnia" [Title/Abstract] OR "depression" [Title/Abstract] OR "psychology problem" [Title/Abstract] OR "mental health effect" [Title/Abstract] OR "psychological disturbance" [Title/Abstract] OR "Mental Disorder" [Title/Abstract] OR "Psychiatric Illness" [Title/Abstract] OR "Psychiatric Diseases" [Title/Abstract] OR "Psychiatric Disorders" [Title/Abstract] OR Behavior Disorders" [Title/Abstract] OR "Severe Mental Disorder" [Title/Abstract]
#6	"health care professionals"[Title/Abstract] OR "health care workers"[Title/Abstract] AND "Ethiopia"[Title/Abstract] OR "Addis Ababa"[Title/Abstract] OR "Amhara"[Title/Abstract] OR "Afar"[Title/Abstract] OR "Oromia"[Title/Abstract] OR "SNNP"[Title/Abstract] OR "Somali" [Title/Abstract] OR "Gambella" [Title/Abstract] OR " Benishangul-Gumuz" [Title/Abstract] OR "Tigray" [Title/Abstract] OR " Harari" [Title/Abstract] OR "Dire Dawa" [Title/Abstract]
#7	#1 OR #4
#8	#2 OR #3 OR #5
#9	#6 AND #7 AND #8
#10	Limit to "observational studies" OR "cohort" OR "case-control" OR "cross-sectional"

**Table 2** (on next page)

Key characteristics of the included studies for depression and insomnia of HCWs during the COVID-19 pandemic in Ethiopia.

1

2

No	Authors /year	Region	Study design	Gender (male %)	Cases	Sample size (n)	Mental disorders (Outcomes)	Instrument	Prevalence (%)	Quality
1	Jemal et al.(2021) A	AA and Oromiya	CS	540(66.17)	492	816	Depression	DASS-21	60.3	8
2	Jemal et al. (2021) B	Oromiya	CS	279(66.90)	66	417	Insomnia	ISI	15.9	8
					68	417	Depression	PHQ-9	16.3	
3	Yitayih et al.(2021)	Oromiya	CS	118(47.38)	125	249	Insomnia	ISI	50.2	7
4	GebreEyesus et al.(2021)	SNNP	CS	167(51.86)	83	322	Depression	PHQ-9	25.8	9
5	Habtamu et al. (2021)	AA	CS	101(42.43)	65	238	Depression	PHQ-9	27.3	9
					97	238	Insomnia	PSQI	40.8	
6	Wayessa et al. (2021)	Oromiya	CS	173(62.90)	59	275	Depression	DASS-21	21.5	8
7	Yadeta et al.(2021)	Oromiya	CS	133(50.18)	176	265	Depression	PHQ-9	66.4	8
8	Asnakew et al.(2021)	Amhara	CS	292(69.7)	244	419	Depression	DASS-21	58.2	7

3

**Table 3** (on next page)

Pooled adjusted odds ratio of associated factors of depression.

1

Studies	Mental illness	No of studies	Variables	Reference category	Pooled AOR ( 95% CI)	Heterogeneity	
						I <sup>2</sup> (%)	p-value
[10][19][6][12]	Depression	4	Sex(female)	Male	2.09 (1.41, 2.76)	0.00	0.837
[10][19]	Depression	2	Working unit (COVID-19 isolation center)	Pharmacy	2.13 (0.94, 3.31)	0.00	0.980
[10][8][12]	Depression	3	Marital status (married)	Single	2.95(1.83, 4.07)	0.00	0.743
[7][9]	Depression	2	With medical illness	Not	4.11(-1.66, 9.87)	40.4	0.195



**Table 4** (on next page)

A summarized review of study findings on factors of depression and insomnia with their magnitude among healthcare professionals during the COVID-19 pandemic in Ethiopia.

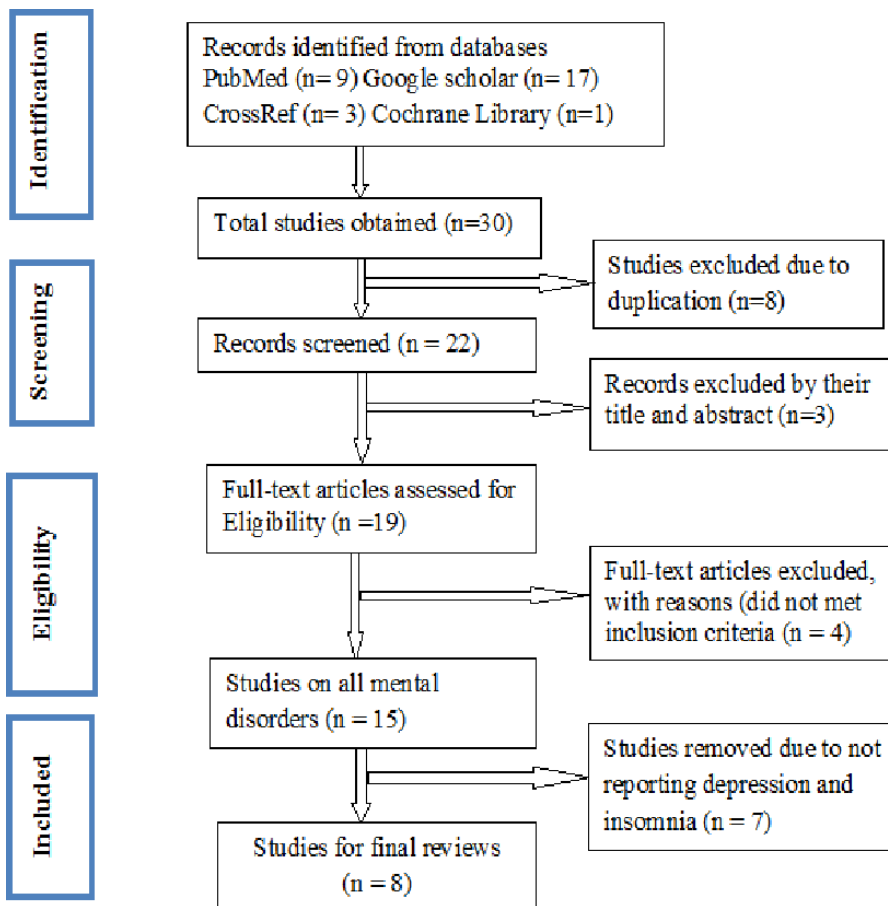
1

No	Authors	Mental Disorders	Variables	Category	AOR(95% CI)
1	et Al.(2021) A	Depression	Hcws in the Oromiya special zone Medical laboratory professionals	Central Oromiya Pharmacy	3.94 (1.94, 8.09) 4.69 (2.81, 9.17)
2	et al. (2021)	Depression	Married participants unit of years Poor behavioral responses Poor perception to COVID-19	Single Outpatient >=10 years Good response Good	2.87 (2.03, 4.30) 2.11 (1.27, 4.61) 2.07 (1.89, 4.84) 2.13 (1.18, 3.57) 1.47 (1.88, 2.64)
3	Gebreeyesus et al.(2021)	Depression	Masters and above Whose educational status, degrees Live with their husband/wife Live with their families	Deploma Deploma Alone Alone	10.844 (1.131,4.551) 2.269 (3.314,35.482) 5.824 (1.896,17.88) 3.938 (1.380,11.242)
5	Wayessa et al. (2021)	Depression	Age 25-29 Family size>=4 members Alcohol use Having training on COVID-19 Poor knowledge on COVID-19	Age >=35 1 person Not Not Good	2.35 (1.126,3.95) 3.56 ( 1.09,11.62) 4.31 (1.76, 10.55) 0.37 (0.17–0.81) 15.34 ( 6.32–37.21)
6	Yadeta et al.(2021)	Depression	Perceived susceptibility to COVID-19	Not	4.05 (1.12-14.53)
7	Asnakew et al.(2021)	Depression	With Mental illness Contact confirmed COVID-19 patients Poor social support	Not Not contct Good	2.72(1.05,7.01) 2.59 (1.37,4.89) 1.87(1.08,3.22)
8	Jemal et al. (2021) B	Insomnia	Female HCWs Married participants Working in the emergency units Working experience of <5 years Poor behavioral responses to COVID-19 Have poor perception COVID-19	Male Single Outpatient >=10 years Good Good	2.16 (1.58, 4.38) 3.31 (1.56, 6.68) 2.74 (1.85, 6.45) 2.45 (1.28, 4.90) 1.69 (1.02, 3.17) 1.98 (1.56, 3.95)

2 AOR=Adjusted Odds Ratio, CI=Confidence Interval, HCWs= Health Care Workers

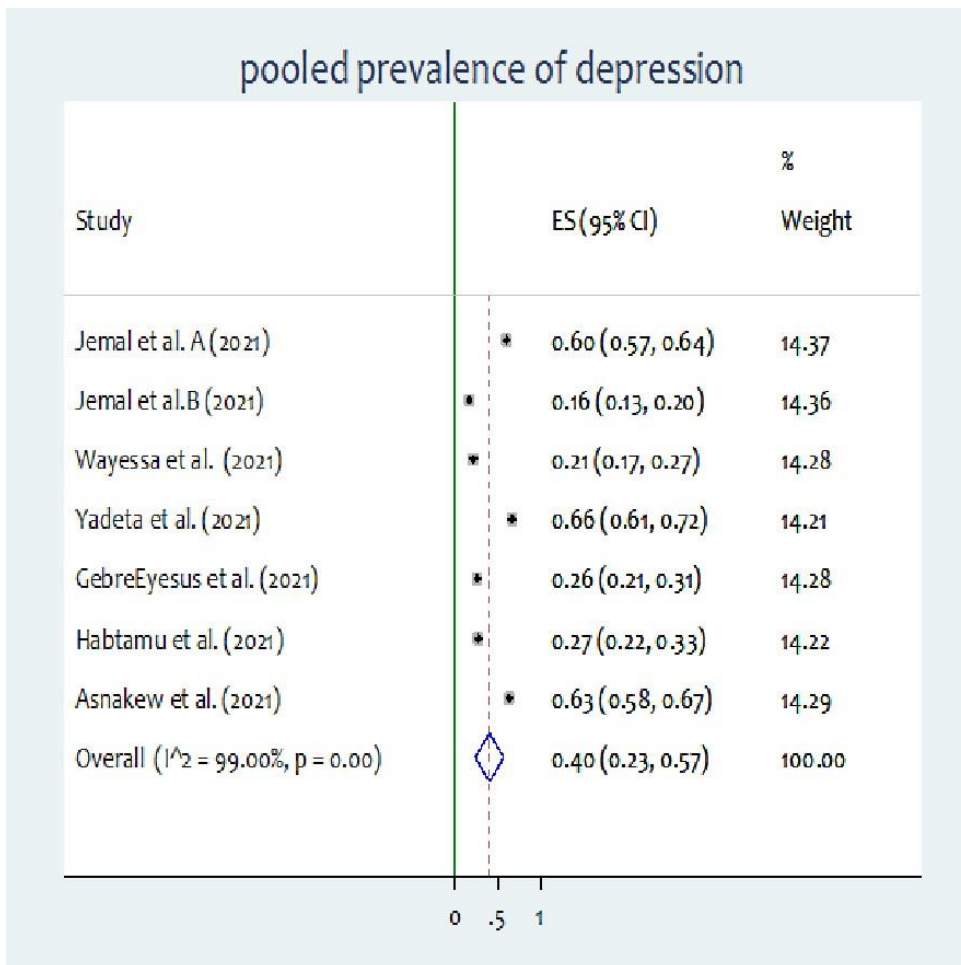
## Figure 1

Preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses (PRISMA) flow chart



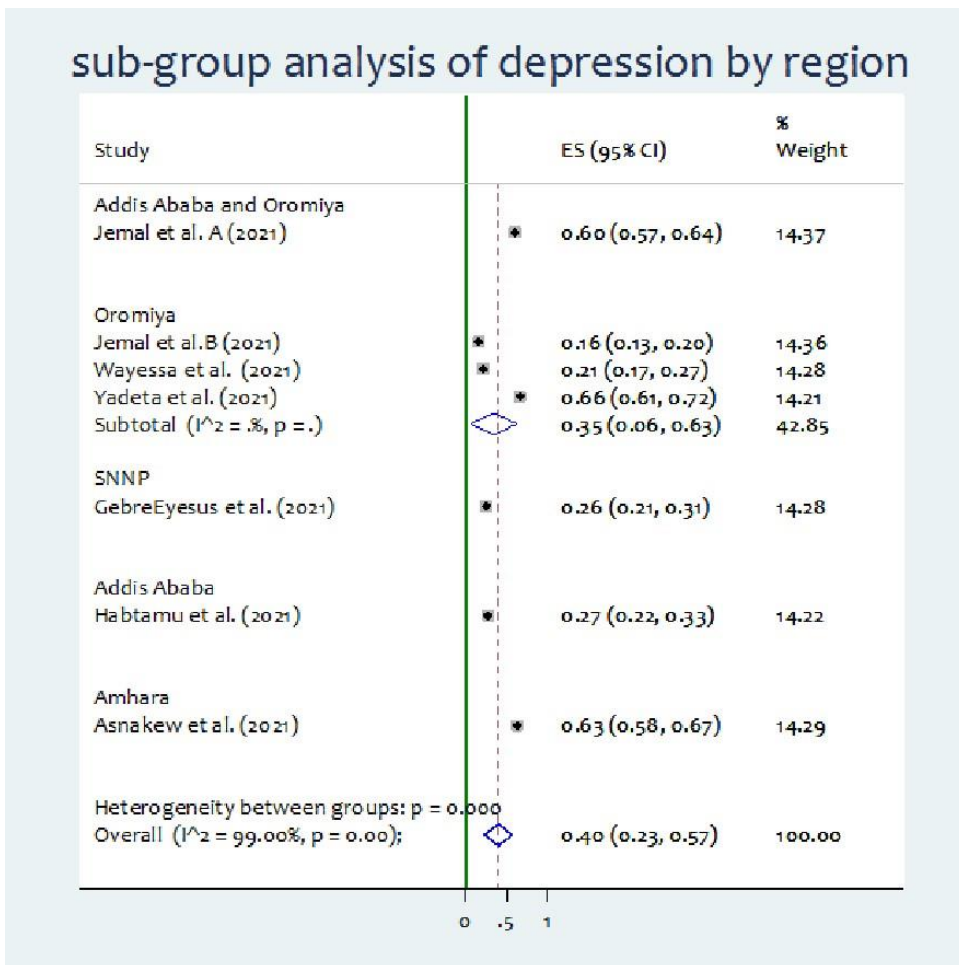
## Figure 2

A forest plot for the prevalence of depression among the health care professionals during the COVID-19 pandemic. ES, effect size; CI, confidence interval; Weight, weight of each included study (degree of impact on pooled results).



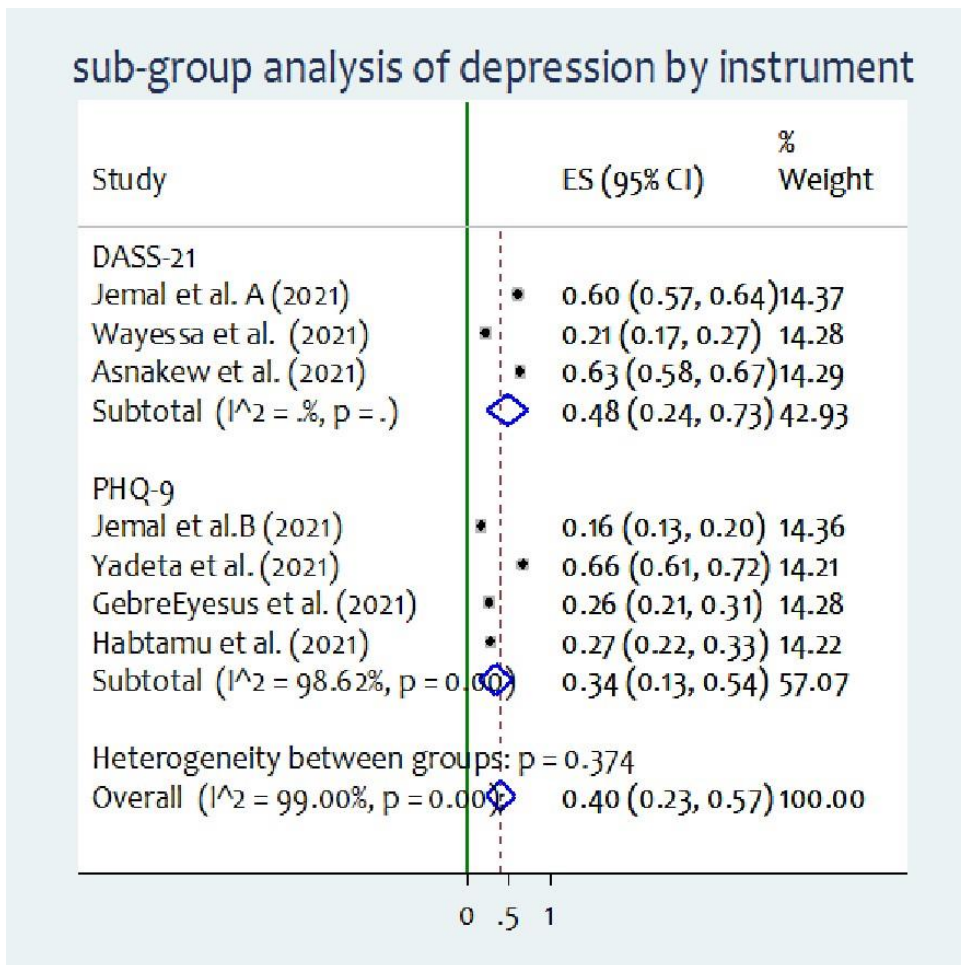
## Figure 3

A sub-group analysis of prevalence of depression among health care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic by region. SNNP, Southern nation9s nationalities and people; ES, effect size; CI, confidence interval; Weight, weight of each included study (degree of



## Figure 4

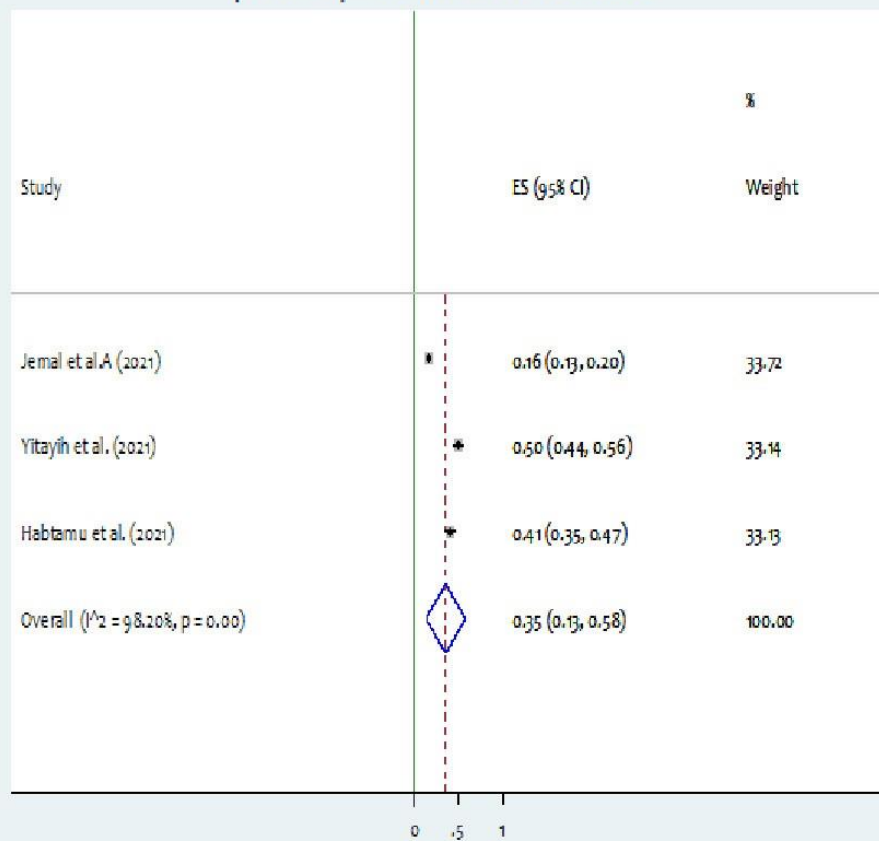
A sub-group analysis for prevalence of depression among health care professionals during the COVID-19 pandemic in Ethiopia by instrument. DASS-21, Depression, Anxiety, Stress Scale -21; PHQ-9, the 9-item Patient Health Questionnaire.



## Figure 5

A forest plot for the prevalence of insomnia among the health care professionals during the COVID-19 pandemic. The pooled prevalence of Insomnia ES, effect size; CI, confidence interval; Weight, weight of each included study (degree of impact on pooled re

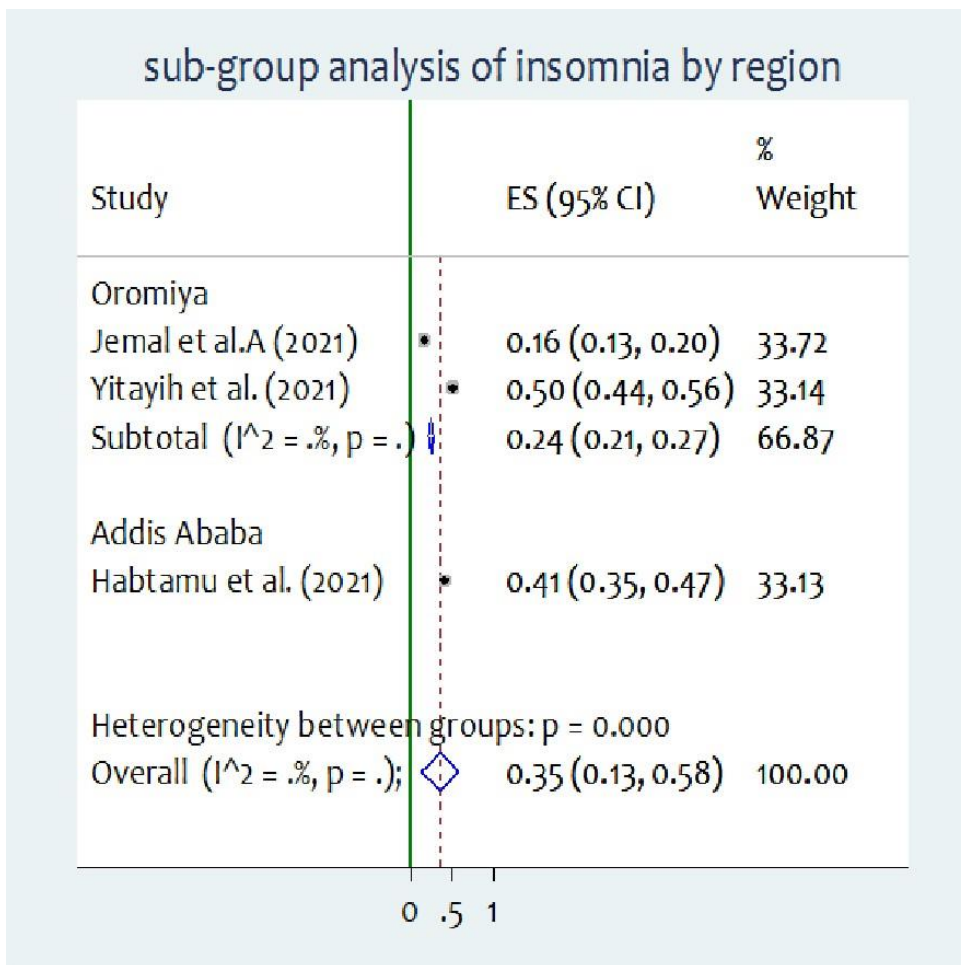
## pooled prevalence of insomnia





## Figure 6

A sub-group analysis of prevalence of insomnia among health care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic by region.



## Figure 7

A sub-group analysis of prevalence of insomnia among the health care professionals during the COVID-19 pandemic in Ethiopia by instrument. ISI, Insomnia Severity Index; PSQI, Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index.

