

Prevalence and risk factors associated with latent tuberculosis infection in a Latin American region

Double check figures and tables

- The figures and tables were double-checked.
- There were no clear titles for the figures and tables
- **Figure 2**, the age categories will read better as years instead of year for example 14-19 years not 14-19 year.
- **Table 1** the average age stated in line 187 was not found in the table, BMI was not labeled correctly (**Table 1** and **4**).
- **Table 3** the age groups start at 40-49.
- Highlighting the significant variables in the tables (bolded/ by using asterisks * -used in text as a pointer to an annotation or footnote) would simplify interpretation of the tables.

Open the raw data

- I managed to open raw data and it was well described in English, the dataset had information on the 589 participants.

English language check

- Language is clear, intelligible and professional but some sentences could be paraphrased.

Basic Reporting

Clear and unambiguous, professional English used throughout

- The article was written in English, fairly clear, unambiguous and technically correct. The professional standards of courtesy and expression.
- For the abstract line 24 and **identifying** the associated risk factors reads better than **knowing** the associated risk factors.
- The authors started most sentences with numbers, line 29, 120, 189 and it does not read well please paraphrase and start the sentences with words.
- Please paraphrase lines 30-33 ...Logistic regression showed that being aged between 40 to 69, male, employed and low alcohol consumption were risk factors for TST positivity , while living in the north and suburb zone and having secondary education were protective factors against TST positivity.
- The use of **gender** (men and women) throughout the manuscript could be replace with **sex**. Please stick to using females and males (14 year olds cannot be classified as men and women). Sex is a biological concept based on biological characteristics such as differences in genitalia and on the other hand, gender primarily deals with personal, societal and cultural perceptions of sexuality.

- Paraphrase lines 37-39 ...Being an employed male, over 40 years of age with lower level of education, low alcohol consumption and being overweight should be a priority group for the prophylactic treatment as a strategy for the TB control in the city.

Introduction

- The introduction is well done and the reviewed literature is properly referenced.
- Maybe introduce the different cut off points for the TST in paragraph 4 (Lines 85-92).
- The aim is clear and to the point. The research question is well defined and relevant.

Materials & Methods

- There is no clear justification for the selection of the 4 hospitals (line 107).
- Line 108-109 please introduce the zones fully. It is not clear whether north, suburb and center were the only zones in Cali.
- Line 151 and 551-552. *MinSalud*, its not clear whether it is a citation or not, there is no year.
- Line 169 is **or** the proper conjunction to use.

Results

- Line 186 there is typo its 14-70 not 19-70 years-old.
- Paraphrase lines 186-187.
- Line 200 its males not male.
- Lines 202-203, males, and females not male and female. Please consider exchanging (line 202) with **growing** age to **increasing** age.
- Line 232 from **table 3** does not have age group 30 above it starts at 40-49 years.
- Line 241 specify that the results presented are for the bivariate analysis.
- Line 243 male should be males and female females. Plural and not singular.
- Paraphrase line 253-258...it was found that being aged 30 and above with OR from 4.29-8.30, being male [OR = 1.71, **CI not IC** 95 1.04-2.84], Please consider exchanging **being employed** not **be active at work** ...
- Line 275, please consider exchanging **belonging to the male** gender to **being male**.

Discussion

- Lines 293-300, the sentence is too long, please restructure. Remove the citations within the sentence and place the citations at the end of the sentence.
- Paraphrase 301-304, please consider exchanging ...**without chronic diseases underlying to any underlying chronic diseases**.
- Paraphrase lines 306-308. Please remove the citations within the sentence and place the citations at the end of the sentence. It can be ...the LTBI prevalence reported in Singapore (*Yap et al., 2018*).
- Paraphrase lines 333-337. Please consider exchanging men with males and women with females (lines 333 and 337-338) and place the citations at the end of the sentence.

- Paraphrase lines 350-353, the sentence is too long.
- Lines 360-367 there is repetition, *Narasimhan et al (210)* is not correctly cited and it not in the reference list. There is a typo in line 362 it is **in** not **In**.
- Line 377... Please consider exchanging ...**Being male** and low alcohol consumption increased the LTBI risk not **the male gender**.
- Lines 382-384 restructure the sentence and place the citations at the end of the sentence.
- Paraphrase lines 391-394 *Shero et al (Shero et al., 2014)* can be removed and the citation can be at the end of the sentence for better comprehension.
- Paraphrase lines 402-405 cite properly.
- Lines 408 and 409 the numbers (170) and (187) are misplaced.
- The zone East and South were mentioned for the first time in line 419.

Conclusion

- It is well stated and linked to the aim and limited to the stated limitations.

General comment

- The writing style and the English language can be improved to ensure that the paper can be clearly understood by the international audience, the current phrasing makes comprehension difficult.
- Citations can be presented better to help with the flow of ideas and to avoid repetition.
- Presentation of results should be improved upon before acceptance.