

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

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ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	The role of gender, family, lifestyle, and psychological factors in self-rated health among urban adolescents in Peru: a school-based cross-sectional survey
AUTHORS	Sharma, Bimala; Nam, Eun Woo; Kim, Dohyeong; Yoon, Young Min; Kim, Yeunju; Kim, Ha Yun

VERSION 1 - REVIEW

REVIEWER	Albert Lee The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong I know Professors Eun-woo NAM and Youg-min YOON through Healthy Cities project in Asia. I have not been involved in this study nor been consulted for this study.
REVIEW RETURNED	16-Oct-2015

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>This is a good piece of study and it will add values to global health with research in Latin America. There are few issues to be addressed.</p> <p>The authors need to discuss the validation of Peruvian Student Health Survey (2010) and how it was adapted from the Global School Health Survey into local context.</p> <p>The sampling needs more details whether it is simple random sampling and the proportional sampling sampling should be elaborated.</p> <p>I would not find any data reflecting the socio-economic status of the students. The SE status is important independent variable. If they were not collected, the authors need to address as limitation and how would it cause bias if the sample is skewed to one side.</p> <p>As socio-economic status is not available, the authors would consider analysing the socio-economic status of the catchment area (is it classified as low, average or above average comparing with national norm) where each school is situated using it as proxy measure to be included for analysis.</p> <p>It would be helpful to have some brief description of the country's demography for international audience</p> <p>The authors should have some suggested recommendations on public health interventions based on the findings.</p> <p>The authors should also discuss how the findings would be useful to global adolescent health</p>
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REVIEWER	Dr S Chaudhury Pravara Institute of Medical Sciences India
REVIEW RETURNED	24-Oct-2015

GENERAL COMMENTS	A good paper assessing the roles of gender, family support, life style and psychological factors on self-rated health among adolescents in Peru. It has been planned and analyzed scientifically, the results are adequately discussed and conclusion is logical. However, similar work has been carried out in other developed and developing countries and the novelty is that this is the first study in Peru. Following points need attention: Total calculated sample size was 975. Authors state that 975 students completed the questionnaire. Then why only were 970 selected for analysis. Check the following sentence "Parental understanding was found to be positively associated with poor SRH among Pakistani adolescents. 18 "
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VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer 1

This is a good piece of study and it will add values to global health with research in Latin America. There are few issues to be addressed.

1. The authors need to discuss the validation of Peruvian Student Health Survey (2010) and how it was adapted from the Global School Health Survey into local context.

Authors' Reply: Thank you very much for your kind suggestions. The questionnaire used for the Global School-based Student Health Survey in Peru in 2010 was adopted from the WHO Global School-based Student Health Survey questionnaire, with little modification to make the options country specific along with Ministry of Health, Peru; and it was translated into Spanish language. Most of the questions for our survey were adopted from the above sources, as well as some relevant questions were added collaborating with KOICA, Peru office and Ministry of Health, Peru. We have clarified the existing sentence and added the above mentioned information in the data collection and measurement section (page number 7).

2. The sampling needs more details whether it is simple random sampling and the proportional sampling should be elaborated

Authors' Reply: One stratum from each school was selected by simple random sampling; and students from each stratum were selected using proportionate simple random sampling technique based on the number of students in each stratum. We have mentioned it at sampling section (page no. 6).

3. I would not find any data reflecting the socio-economic status of the students. The SE status is important independent variable. If they were not collected, the authors need to address as limitation and how it would cause bias if the sample is skewed to one side. As socio-economic status is not available, the authors would consider analyzing the socio-economic status of the catchment area (is it classified as low, average or above average comparing with national norm) where each school is situated using it as proxy measure to be included for analysis.

Authors' Reply: Thank you very much for your kind suggestion regarding the economic status of the students. We also agree socioeconomic status is one of the important independent variable.

i. In the questionnaire survey, to assess economic status, we asked "During the last month, have you missed a meal because there was nothing to eat at home?" However, we did measure monthly

income of the households or other economic status indicators, which is one of the limitations of the study (page number 8 &18).

ii. In the present study, 11.7% respondents reported they missed their meal in the last one month due to the lack of food at their home, in contrast, only 3.2% of students reported it according to Global School- based Student Health Survey conducted in 2010, which indicates lower economic status of the study area compared to the average of Peru, considering the indicator as one of the proxy measure of economic status. However, we did not measure monthly income of the households or other economic status indicators, which is one of the limitations of the study. The information we have added in the discussion section, (page number 18).

iii. Adolescents who missed their meal due to shortage of food at their home in last one month preceding the survey were more likely to have poor/fair SRH. The information we have added in the result section, (page number 14).

4. It would be helpful to have some brief description of the country's demography for international audience.

Authors' Reply: A brief description of socio- demographic situation of Peru has been added at third paragraph of introduction (page number 5). We have added 3 references related to this information, reference no. 25-27(page number 24).

5. The authors should have some suggested recommendations on public health interventions based on the findings.

Authors' Reply: According to your suggestion, we have added four recommendations based on the findings. The information we have added in the conclusion section (page number 20).

6. The authors should also discuss how the findings would be useful to global adolescent health.

Authors' Reply: A joint effort of school, family, and community is vital for healthy development of adolescents, as adolescent health is affected by a large number of social, behavioral, and psychological factors. The information we have added in the conclusion section (page number 21).

Reviewer 2

A good paper assessing the roles of gender, family support, life style and psychological factors on self-rated health among adolescents in Peru. It has been planned and analyzed scientifically, the results are adequately discussed and conclusion is logical. However, similar work has been carried out in other developed and developing countries and the novelty is that this the first study in Peru. Following points need attention:

1. Total calculated sample size was 975. Authors state that 975 students completed the questionnaire. Then why only were 970 selected for analysis

Authors' Reply: Thank you for your kind concern. A total of 981 students were randomly selected and invited to participate in the study. However, some students were absent on the day of information collection and few samples were excluded from the analysis because of incomplete information. We have added the information at sampling section (page number 7).

2. Check the following sentence "Parental understanding was found to be positively associated with poor SRH among Pakistani adolescents. 18 "

Authors' Reply: Thank you very much for identifying our mistake. We corrected the sentence adding 'lack of'. "Lack of parental understanding was found to be positively associated with poor SRH among Pakistani adolescents (page number 19).

(Note: The revisions we made in the manuscript are highlighted in red color for the convenience.)

VERSION 2 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Albert Lee JC School of Public Health and Primary Care, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong I have collaboration with the first author professionally, Prof. Eun-woo Nam. I have not been involved or consulted for this particular study. I assess this study impartially and independently.
REVIEW RETURNED	28-Dec-2015

GENERAL COMMENTS	The revised version has addressed most of the comments raised by the reviewers
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REVIEWER	Dr S Chaudhury Rural Medical College, Pravara Institute of Medical Sciences (Deemed University)
REVIEW RETURNED	23-Dec-2015

GENERAL COMMENTS	The paper is now recommended for publication
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