

To whomsoever it may concern

I am pleased to submit our manuscript titled **“Discrepancies in Visual Impairment Prevalence: Comparing Self-Reports and Standard Tests in the Longitudinal Ageing Study of India”** for consideration for publication in **Ophthalmology**.

In this study, we analyze the inconsistency between self-reported visual impairment (VI) and objective measures obtained through standard visual acuity tests using data from the first wave of the Longitudinal Ageing Study of India (2017-18). Our findings reveal a significant discrepancy, with self-reports underestimating the true prevalence of VI compared to objective measures. This underestimation is particularly pronounced among certain socio-demographic groups, suggesting that education and awareness interventions are crucial for improving the recognition and reporting of visual impairment among older adults in India.

The novelty of our work lies in its large-scale analysis, encompassing over 56,000 individuals, and the use of robust statistical methods, including sensitivity, specificity, and kappa statistics, to evaluate the accuracy of self-reports. Our results highlight the need for more reliable diagnostic tools and suggest that relying solely on self-reported data may lead to an underestimation of the burden of visual impairment, with significant implications for public health policy and resource allocation.

We believe that our findings will be of great interest to the readership of **Ophthalmology**, as they provide crucial insights into the limitations of self-reported health data in the context of visual impairment and emphasize the need for targeted interventions to address disparities in health reporting.

We confirm that this manuscript has not been published elsewhere and is not under consideration by another journal. All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with its submission to **Ophthalmology**. We have no conflicts of interest to disclose.

Thank you for considering our submission. We look forward to your feedback.

Sincerely,
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