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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Diabetes*

Manuscript NO: 109352

Title: Prevalence of diabetes distress among people with type 2 diabetes in South Asia: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05393454
Position: Editorial Board
Academic degree and professional title: PhD, Professor
Reviewer's Country/Territory: India
Author's Country/Territory: United Kingdom

Manuscript submission date: 2025-05-07

Reviewer chosen by: Hong-Xin Jiang

Reviewer accepted review: 2025-05-09 02:14

Reviewer performed review: 2025-05-20 08:24

Review time: 11 Days and 6 Hours

Content to be reviewed	Does the manuscript's content fall within the scope of the journal? **Yes** Is there any Key Word that is not included in the manuscript title? **Yes** Do authors' affiliations correspond to the content of the manuscript? **Yes** Does the Abstract contain the contents of each part of the manuscript (IMRaD)? **Yes** Are the Key Words complete? **Yes**

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	Is the content of the Introduction adequate? **Yes** Is the content of the Materials and Methods complete? **Yes** Is the description of the experiments clear and complete? **Not Applicable** Are the experimental data presented in the manuscript's biostatistics content reliable? **Not Applicable** Are the experimental data of the Results true and reliable? **Not Applicable** Are the quality and resolution of the images up to standard? **Yes** Do the selection and design of the figures and tables follow the principles of necessity and clarity? **Yes** Is there any duplication between various parts of the manuscript and between the main text and the content presented in the figures and tables? **No** Are the figures and tables numbered consecutively in the order in which they appear in the manuscript? **Yes** Is the content of the Discussion reasonable? **Yes** Is the Conclusion reasonable? **Yes** Are all references necessary and reasonable? **Yes** Do authors omit important references? **Yes** Are all references related to the topic of the manuscript? **Yes** Do authors only cite their own earlier publications? **No** Is the manuscript's text correct, concise, and clear? **Yes** Will the manuscript's content be of interest to readers? **Yes** Are additional experiments needed for the study? **No**

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	Does the research scope comply with ethics? **Not Applicable**
Scientific quality	Grade C (Good)
Novelty of this manuscript	Grade C (Good)
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	Grade C (Good)
Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	Grade C (Good)
Language quality	Grade C (Good)
Does this manuscript describe a study of the existing knowledge system?	Yes
Does this manuscript report a revolutionary innovation?	Yes
Does this manuscript report an unconventional innovation?	Yes
Conclusion	Minor revision
Re-review	Yes
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: Anonymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: No
Are your review comments generated by AI tools?	

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. There are some grammatical, alignments and typographical errors are noted in the manuscript and it should be thoroughly checked and corrected throughout the manuscript. 2. The use of abbreviations in the title may distract readers who wish to quickly skim through several publications before deciding to read one in full. It may therefore help to write out terms fully in title (For example, HbA1c). 3. Additional

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keywords may be included and the keywords that are not in the title. The keywords should assist computer searches to find your specific article. 4. Check the abbreviations throughout the manuscript and introduce the abbreviation when the full word appears the first time in the abstract and the remaining for the text and then use only the abbreviation (For example, Diabetes distress (DD), T1D, etc.,). Make a word abbreviated in the article that is repeated at least three times in the text, not all words to be abbreviated. 5. In table, the authors may include what types of diabetic complications identified since it is general and the results given in overall percentage and it is difficult to understand. 6. The authors should provide more information in the figure legends for non-experts. All legends should have enough description for a reader to understand the figure without having to refer back to the main text of the manuscript. For example, the necessary expansion (for abbreviations) should be given which are used in the present investigation. 7. A review paper is summarizing the outcomes of previous paper. The manuscript has authors' insights, opinions, perspectives, discussions on current evidence, potential research gap, limitation. All sections are well-written, but not future recommendation, hence it should be included for better understanding and outcome of the manuscript. 8. The old reference cited may be replaced with most recent literature, especially last 5 years for wide reader interest.

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PEER-REVIEW REPORT

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Manuscript NO: 109352

Title: Prevalence of diabetes distress among people with type 2 diabetes in South Asia: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 08257669
Position: Peer Reviewer
Academic degree and professional title: Associate Professor, MD, PhD
Reviewer's Country/Territory: Ukraine
Author's Country/Territory: United Kingdom

Manuscript submission date: 2025-05-07

Reviewer chosen by: Hong-Xin Jiang

Reviewer accepted review: 2025-05-10 07:48

Reviewer performed review: 2025-05-20 08:26

Review time: 10 Days

Content to be reviewed	Does the manuscript's content fall within the scope of the journal? **Yes** Is there any Key Word that is not included in the manuscript title? **No** Do authors' affiliations correspond to the content of the manuscript? **Yes** Does the Abstract contain the contents of each part of the manuscript (IMRaD)? **Yes** Are the Key Words complete? **Yes**

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Scientific quality	Grade A (Excellent)
Novelty of this manuscript	Grade A (Excellent)
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	Grade A (Excellent)
Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	Grade A (Excellent)
Language quality	Grade A (Excellent)
Does this manuscript describe a study of the existing knowledge system?	Yes
Does this manuscript report a revolutionary innovation?	No
Does this manuscript report an unconventional innovation?	No
Conclusion	Minor revision
Re-review	No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: Anonymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: No
Are your review comments generated by AI tools?	

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

Dear authors! Thank you for opportunity consider your work. It should be noted that manuscript is well structured, sound, and well-written. Importantly to mention adhering to PRISMA guidelines, authors strongly followed checklist and clearly outlined each section by subheadings, allowing fast navigation, along with demonstrating strong methodological rigor. There are few minor comments for incorporation: Introduction: rationale of SR is well argued, however if possible slightly stress it by citing more recent sources (with recent 5 years time frame). Also, in paragraph 2, last sentence, change “has

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not been published" to "has not been conducted". Methods section is well organized, but there are few minor suggestions, mostly for authors consideration. Thus, demonstrating research question using PICO or similar framework will strength the study. Please, specify timeframe of literature screening, which is important due to delays of indexing, and might affect reproducibility. In addition, provide exact full search query for each database to demonstrate reproducibility and validity of results. Minor comment: Google Scholar is not database, it is search engine – thus, correct sec. 2.2, sentence #1. Results. It is impressive clear dividing into subsections. I would suggest authors to add summary column in Table S2 (total score), which will allow readers assess overall quality quickly. To improve readability, no reason to list each source, but mentioning ranges like [26-53] will be enough (instead of listing all 28 references). In additionally, very small p-values are reported as

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RE-REVIEW REPORT OF REVISED MANUSCRIPT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Diabetes*

Manuscript NO: 109352

Title: Prevalence of diabetes distress among people with type 2 diabetes in South Asia: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Provenance and peer review: Invited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 05393454
Position: Editorial Board
Academic degree and professional title: PhD, Professor
Reviewer's Country/Territory: India
Author's Country/Territory: United Kingdom

Manuscript submission date: 2025-05-07

Reviewer chosen by: Ming Fan

Reviewer accepted review: 2025-07-08 02:09

Reviewer performed review: 2025-07-08 06:41

Review time: 4 Hours

Content to be reviewed	Does the manuscript's content fall within the scope of the journal? **Yes** Is there any Key Word that is not included in the manuscript title? **Yes** Do authors' affiliations correspond to the content of the manuscript? **Yes** Does the Abstract contain the contents of each part of the manuscript (IMRaD)? **Yes** Are the Key Words complete? **Yes**

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	Are additional experiments needed for the study? **No** Does the research scope comply with ethics? **Not Applicable**
Scientific quality	Grade C (Good)
Novelty of this manuscript	Grade C (Good)
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	Grade C (Good)
Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	Grade C (Good)
Language quality	Grade B (Very good)
Does this manuscript describe a study of the existing knowledge system?	Yes
Does this manuscript report a revolutionary innovation?	Yes
Does this manuscript report an unconventional innovation?	Yes
Conclusion	Accept
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: Anonymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: No
Are your review comments generated by AI tools?	

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. This suggestion is not carried out properly and it should be rectified (Check the abbreviations throughout the manuscript and introduce the abbreviation when the full word appears the first time in the abstract and the remaining for the text and then use only the abbreviation). For example, Diabetes distress (DD) and this types of corrections need to be checked all other abbreviations used in the manuscript.

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