

Review of: "Health Outcome and Economic Growth: The Case of Malaria in Nigeria"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

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Qeios,

REVIEWER'S COMMENTS ON "HEALTH OUTCOME AND ECONOMIC GROWTH: THE CASE OF MALARIA IN NIGERIA."

Reviewed By Benjamin Pulle Niriwa on 21.05.2024, a Health Tutor of the College of Health-Yamfo and a PhD student at the University of Ghana.

REVIEWER'S IMPRESSIONS OF THE PAPER.

The topic is appropriate and relevant; it has targeted a major health and societal problem that would contribute significantly to knowledge. Malaria remains one of the diseases causing serious morbidities and mortalities in human beings, but there is little literature that links "health outcome and economic growth" to the effective diagnosis and treatment of malaria.

This project would be of interest to most readers, especially people living in malaria-endemic regions of the world. These are meant to help improve the paper.

REVIEWER'S COMMENTS

Abstract: Authors have adequately explained "health outcomes and economic growth"; however, they still could not explain clearly how malaria, which is the case study for the project, contributed to this. It is only the first sentence that made mention of malaria.

I initially commented on the abstract not being structurally organized, but this could be detected by experienced readers as structurally written. Every journal has its own way of allowing authors to write the abstract. But if there could be an internationally accepted format for writing abstracts, that could be very helpful in ensuring uniformity and preventing confusion. For example, globally, the scientific community could decide whether abstracts should be structured or not.

Background:

Still, the first sentence of the background raised an essential issue: “A prevailing consensus suggests that the trajectory of economic growth inherently holds the capacity to fundamentally elevate health standards,” but is not cited. The whole introduction has no paragraph, and there is no citation detected until “Assessment of Health Conditions in Nigeria.” Most of my initial comments on the manuscript are not addressed too!

Example, the authors used some expressions which were not necessary! Those expressions could be removed without affecting the message that they intent to convey. For example, “Should this reciprocal relationship exist, the subsequent analysis necessitates a meticulous examination of the nuanced significance of health's contribution within the broader context of other empirically acknowledged determinants steering economic growth.” The expressions “a meticulous”, “nuanced”, and “empirically acknowledged” could be removed without negatively affecting the meaning of the sentence.

Also, in the whole background, there was nowhere that the authors wrote anything about malaria and how properly managing it contributes to improved economic activities. The authors rather wrote little on “HIV/AIDS,” quoting its prevalence in the country. Since malaria is the main disease used as a case study to explain how health contributes to increased economic growth, the authors should have written on it. Readers would love to know the current situation of malaria in Nigeria.

REVIEWER'S SUGGESTIONS

The authors should try to address the comments and suggestions of the reviewers, especially the comment or suggestion to write small about malaria in Nigeria. Authors can write something small on malaria, similar to what they wrote about HIV/AIDS (at the introduction or background). But since malaria is their main target, they can let readers know whether malaria cases in Nigeria are increasing or decreasing (at the literature review).

At the result section, they should bring at least one table or chart that talks about the prevalence of malaria in some states. They can also talk about the measures that the government and health experts are putting in place to help address malaria in Nigeria (at the discussion section). Or, they can also delete: “The Case of Malaria in Nigeria” if writing small about it would be difficult for them.

They should revisit my previous comments and suggestions on this manuscript for more section-specific issues.

Conclusion

The paper is appropriate and relevant, but authors seem reluctant to apply suggestions or address comments of reviewers. If reviewers' comments and suggestions are addressed, the paper could stand out as an important educational tool, contributing significantly to knowledge.

Thank you!

Yours sincerely,

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