

# Review of: "Sociodemographic Determinants of Gender Disparity in Dengue Fever Diagnosis and Treatment"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS: ACCEPT WITH REVISION**

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### **MAJOR COMMENTS**

#### **Introduction**

1. The introduction should have included more vital information on the subject matter. The introduction is the place to review other conclusions on the topic. The introduction section should introduce past findings to those needing more expertise. The introduction should have steps such as introducing the topic. The first phase of the introduction is to tell the reader what the topic is and why it's exciting or essential by describing the background, establishing the research problem, specifying the objective(s), and mapping out the paper. Also, remember that there are general phases that are associated with writing an introduction: stating the intent of the study, outlining the key characteristics of the study, describing essential results, and giving a brief overview of the structure of the paper. This study's introduction should follow the 'Funnel Shape' narrative method to scope and review existing studies worldwide and the study setting. This will illustrate the trends, patterns, and prevalence rates of the outcome of interest in this study. Kindly revise.
2. Where are the gaps identified in this study? What have the previous studies mentioned as regards the outcome(s) of this study? What is the current research saying about the current situation of your study outcome(s)? Always remember that a gap in a research study is an unanswered question or unresolved problem in a field, which reflects a lack of existing research in that space, or it can exist when there is a concept or new idea that hasn't been studied at all, when the existing research is outdated or insufficient, or when there is a disagreement, contextual, or methodological issue among the researchers. Kindly revise.
3. What are the main objectives of this study? What are the specific goals of this study? Kindly state them clearly.
4. Remove all the numbering from the sub-themes in the sections of this study.

#### **Methods**

5. Give a detailed description of the Study setting and design - First, give us a detailed geographical description of the study setting where you carried out this study. What is the justification for choosing the study setting? Second, what type

of design did you employ in this study? Kindly address this.

6. Sampling methods – even though you are utilizing primary data collection, kindly describe the type of sampling procedures initiated in your survey and justify the sampling methods in your study. Kindly address this.

7. Study method – This section should explain the study method, and detailed explanations of the techniques and the specific tools and procedures used in collecting and analyzing the data should be clarified. Give a justification for the choice of study method employed. Kindly address this.

8. Study population and Sampling technique – describe your study population. How did you arrive at reaching out to the population target? Give justification for the choice of these procedures you employed. How did you select them? Give us an adequate and precise procedure you used to get your population. Discuss them in detail with a separate section paragraph for each of them. Insert justification for both differently. Kindly address this.

9. Variable measurements (Outcome variable or Dependent variable) – A dependent variable is a variable that changes as a result of the independent variable (independent or explanatory variables or factors) manipulation. It's the outcome you're interested in measuring, and it "depends" on your independent variable. In statistical analysis, dependent variables are also called 'response variables' (they respond to a change in another variable). Therefore, specify your outcome variable well and show us how it will be measured. Is it a binary outcome variable, or what? This section should discuss the measurements of the outcome variable or dependent variable(s). Kindly address this.

10. Explanatory or Independent Variable: You did not indicate the independent variables you used in this study. When running the statistical analysis, you cannot have the dependent variable without the independent variable. Insert the independent variables and how they will be measured (References may be cited). Define all your Explanatory Variables or Independent Variables and how they were measured in your study. This is very important, affecting the statistical analysis process and approach. Kindly address this.

11. Statistical analysis – State and describe the type of statistical analysis suitable for each objective and how they will be analyzed in this study.

12. How did you account for missing variables or non-responses from the respondents? Kindly look into this.

13. Where is this study's "Declaration of Helsinki Ethical Principles"? Where is the Ethical Approval? What ethical principles did you employ? Did you follow the set of moral principles? Where is the informed consent form for research? How did you address these factors associated with research, such as ensuring the protection of participants' rights, ensuring that participants understand the nature and purpose of the study, the risks and benefits of participating, and their rights as participants whether to participate or decline at any time they feel not to. Kindly address this—informed consent forms were given to the respondents during the data collection.

## Results

14. Kindly report the results according to the objectives, using the objective as a theme heading. Show the type of

analysis employed and elaborate on the details of the study findings. Therefore, kindly revise. The results should include all the interpretations for the Tables, and the Table legend should be carefully and appropriately inserted in the primary research. Interpret and discuss the relevant and significant variables and make them precise so they don't lose meaning. Your readers will see the tables with the results. Kindly address these concerns mentioned.

## Discussion

15. The discussion section is one of the final parts of a research paper, in which an author describes, analyzes, and interprets their findings. They explain the significance of those results and tie everything back to the research question(s). It should focus on explaining and evaluating what you found, showing how it relates to your literature review and paper or dissertation topic, and making an argument supporting your overall conclusion. Therefore, let your discussion aspects focus on interpreting your findings and relating them to literature, whether they corroborate or not, with existing studies, alongside the in-citation of recent references. Let each paragraph relate to the objective findings. Discuss in assertion or not with the study's findings from other studies. Kindly advise.

## Conclusion

16. The conclusion should stem from summing up your research paper (by the following steps - restate your research topic, restate the thesis, summarize the main points, state the significance or results, and conclude your thoughts). Remember that a conclusion is not merely a summary of the main topic(s) covered or a re-statement of your research problem but a synthesis of key points and, if applicable, where you should recommend new areas for future research.

## Recommendations

17. Where is the Recommendation for this study? You can add it to the Conclusion section with the subheading – Conclusion/ Recommendations.

## References

18. Do the references to this study follow the journal format? Kindly check and revisit them all.

## Editing of the English content of the Manuscript

19....you should use one of them in British or American English.

20. Ask for a Professional English editor to address all grammatical errors and the lexis structure of your manuscript.

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