

Review of: "Factors influencing women's decision choosing a public or private health facility for tuberculosis (TB) services: An analysis of Nepal demographic and health survey data 2016"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The provided article presents a comprehensive study conducted in Nepal to explore the factors influencing women's choices between public and private health facilities for tuberculosis (TB) services. Here's a review and commentary on the article:

Strengths:

Clear Objective: The article clearly outlines the aim of the study: to investigate how socio-demographic characteristics influence women's decisions regarding TB service providers.

Data Source: Utilizing the nationally representative cross-sectional data from the Nepal Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) 2016 lends credibility to the study's findings.

Analytical Approach: Employing descriptive, bivariate, and multivariate logistic regression methods provides a robust framework for comprehensively analyzing the influencing factors.

Relevance and Novelty: The study addresses a gap in the literature by focusing on a previously unexplored area—women's decision-making factors related to TB service provider choice.

Findings:

High Participation: The discovery that 88% of women preferred public health facilities for TB services underscores the significance of these facilities in the context of Nepal.

Identified Factors: The study highlights key socio-demographic factors that significantly influence women's preferences. This includes TB knowledge, age, geographical region, wealth, and religion, providing actionable insights for policy makers.

Implications:

Access to Quality Services: The study's conclusion draws attention to the insufficient access to quality TB services among women in public health facilities, indicating the need for targeted improvements.

Intervention Plan: The article's assertion that the findings can help shape an intervention plan aimed at women who are less likely to choose public health facilities is particularly noteworthy. It underlines the practical application of the study's outcomes in policy development.

Areas for Consideration:

Limitations: While the article is insightful, it's important to acknowledge potential limitations of the study, such as the cross-sectional nature of the data, which might not capture temporal changes or causal relationships.

Additional Context: The article might benefit from a brief discussion about the broader healthcare landscape in Nepal and the role of public and private health facilities beyond TB services.

Further Recommendations: Given the focus on women's preferences, suggesting potential avenues for increasing awareness among women, especially those in marginalized groups, could enhance the article's impact.

Overall Impression: The article is a valuable contribution to understanding the dynamics of women's decision-making regarding TB services in Nepal. Its emphasis on actionable insights and intervention planning demonstrates its potential to influence policy and improve healthcare access. While the findings are enlightening, acknowledging the study's limitations and providing broader contextual insights could further strengthen its contribution to the field.