Review of: "A Cross-sectional Survey of Public and Private Cancer Care in Nigeria and Romania"

Sharad Desai

Potential competing interests: I work in a private sector in the rural region in an underdeveloped region. Private sector mainly tries to ensure high patient satisfaction. No other potential competing interests to declare.

I have gone through the the article of public and private cancer care in Nigeria vs Romania.

The authors seem to have put in lots of efforts for this study.

I have a few concerns.

1. Any publication or article should have a broad aim of study.

2. This is an unfair comparison of two unrelated sectors, and authors should some have more comparable subjects profiles. In the present case, the only homogeneity is that both populations were Cancer patients, and both countries mostly follow international guidelines from ASCO, ESMO and NCCN.

3. Ethical committee permission is always preferable in underdeveloped nations especially because the population is less educated and under pressure.

4. Keywords were not focused on the subject of study.

5. Introduction is not focused on the aim of study.

6. Quality of care is not just patient satisfaction alone.

7. Efficiency is not equivalent to delay, not is fast service.

8. Was the privacy of the patient respected and were the answers blinded from the investigators?

Despite these limitations,

1. The authors seem to have thoroughly computed the answers.

2. An attempt is made to compare underdeveloped African cancer care vs a European corporate hospital.

3. Sample size is decent.

4. Patient perceptions were studied and found to be mostly comparable.

5. Authors have emphasised the role of good communication.

6. The questionnaire is taken from the patients viewpoint which is largely ignored in most scientific studies.

The authors may revise the article and submit again.

The further studies are necessary since patient satisfaction is not the only method to assess the results of therapy.

Overall a decent study, but could have been still better.