

Review of: "Strengthening Healthcare in Bangladesh: Challenges and Pathways to Equity and Quality"

Olivia Oturai¹

¹ Copenhagen University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Overall

- The manuscript is an interesting read and provides the reader with an important insight into the main challenges of the health care system in Bangladesh.
- Generally, it would benefit from direct citations and supporting literature throughout.
- It would benefit from more elaborate descriptions of the route from a 'challenge' to how and in what ways it becomes a challenge for strengthening the health system.

Introduction

- The introduction could benefit from stating how this article relates to previously published literature as well as how/what gap in current research it fills.
- More details about the health system in terms of key numbers related to the health system and disease burden, as well as a more detailed description of the organization of health networks/health services, are needed.

'Challenges'

- Generally, it could benefit from direct quotations and more references.
- Elaborate statements. For example, this one: *"Moreover, the current shared public and private healthcare systems, and non-governmental organisations are predominantly partial against rural demographics; therefore, providing unequal treatment between socioeconomic classes"* → how is the organization of the health care system 'against rural demographics'? What does it imply, and in what ways does it affect treatment inequalities (disparate access barriers, geographic locations, cultural factors, etc.)?
- A suggestion could be to structure the challenge section according to a framework, which would streamline and clarify the arguments made. E.g., organizing the section according to structural factors, organizational factors, health professional-related factors, and population-related factors.

'Solutions'

- The solution section is a good input in the manuscript.
- The arguments need supporting literature and perhaps a prioritization of the solutions, e.g., in terms of feasibility, costs, and potential impact.

Conclusion

- The conclusion summarizes the arguments well.