

# Review of: "Arthritis in East Africa: An Observational Study"

Johannes Nossent<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Western Australia

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

This is a nice paper describing the prevalence of MSK conditions across various communities in East Africa. The authors are to be commended for their effort in pursuing this research. The occurrence of MSK symptoms varied significantly across communities (8-50%) for reasons that remain unexplained. Based mainly on simple clinical findings the occurrence of degenerative and mechanical MSK conditions was (not unexpectedly) high with some type of inflammatory joint disease diagnosed in about 5%. The spectrum of IJD is not much different from what would be expected in wealthier countries. While illustrative, the paper is rather long and at times digressing in introduction and discussion from the actual data presented.