

# Review of: "Histopathological Patterns of Cervical Cancer Among Females Presenting to Makerere University Pathology Core Reference Laboratory. A 5-Year Review"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear authors,

I would like to thank you for submitting your manuscript for review. Overall, the manuscript provides useful information on the histopathological patterns of cervical cancer among females in Uganda, however, there are several areas for improvement, including the inclusion of more specific information on the methods used, summary statistics.

The authors should remove the words "chapter 1 - 6", as they are not deemed necessary.

Total Population Sampling: Clarification is needed in regards to the data collection process.

The authors provide additional information and details to enhance understanding.

Research Methods:

Data analysis:

The data analysis section mentions that SPSS version 18 was used for data analysis, but it is not clear what specific statistical tests were performed. It would be helpful to provide more details on the statistical analysis performed. For such an important study, the authors should consider using more sophisticated statistical models to analyze their data, such as a univariate and multivariate logistic regression models, also show crude odds ratios and adjusted odds ratios and their 95% confidence interval. The use of logistic regression models in this study can provide valuable insights into the relationships between sociodemographic factors, presenting complaints, and cervical cancer. This information can be used to develop more effective screening and prevention programs, and to identify high-risk populations who may benefit from targeted interventions.

Ethical Considerations:

Please indicate the ethics approval number obtained for this study.

Results section:

In the text, it is stated that the mean age of the patients was 47.5 years, but this information is not reflected in table 1.

Please add this information to the table.

Discussion section:

The discussion section could provide a comparison of the findings of this study to previous studies on cervical cancer patterns in Uganda or other African countries, as well as a comparison to the global cervical cancer patterns. This will give a clearer picture of the current state of cervical cancer in Uganda and help to contextualize the study's findings within a larger framework. It would also be valuable to provide practical implications for the findings of this study, such as the impact on screening, diagnosis, and treatment of cervical cancer in Uganda. This can be achieved by discussing the implications of the most prevalent pattern of cervical cancer being squamous cell carcinoma, and how this may inform treatment decisions and improve outcomes for patients.

The conclusion section could be strengthened by linking the study's findings to the current treatment and management practices for cervical cancer in Uganda. For example, what are the current screening programs in place and how do the study's findings impact these programs? The recommendations section could be made more actionable by including specific details regarding the implementation of the recommendations, such as who should implement the routine screening of HIV positive women and women aged 35 years and above, what screening methods should be used, and what resources are required for the implementation.

I hope these suggestions are helpful in improving the manuscript. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask.