

# Review of: "What is the impact of COVID-19 era on annual tuberculosis notifications in India? A comparative study (2017-2022)"

Diana Pholo<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Tshwane University of Technology

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## Article Summary

India has set a goal to eliminate TB by 2025. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted TB diagnosis and treatment, getting in the way of this goal. This study investigates the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on TB notifications in India. The results show that the incidence rate of newly detected TB cases per lakh population increased during the pre-COVID-19 era then decreased abruptly during the first COVID-19 year of 2020 by 25% compared to the previous year.

This study is very interesting as it can really help different stakeholders to make the right decisions when it comes to fighting TB. However, the article needs professional editing and major revisions.

## Suggestions

1. The abstract is too long. Here is a link to writing a good abstract:<https://writingcenter.gmu.edu/writing-resources/different-genres/writing-an-abstract>.
2. Is the use of "bold" font throughout the paper intentional?
3. The article needs to undergo thorough editing.

## A few examples of editing issues

\* The emergence of COVID-19 pandemic ~~situations~~ on the already overburdened health care system of India may have affected new TB cases notification as well as treatment, setting back the previous achievements made to eliminate TB by 2025.

\* ~~The COVID-19 have~~ COVID-19 has affected several routine healthcare services deliveries even in well to do countries with advanced technologies and ample human resource [3].

\* The sentence below is a bit long.

**Worldwide, TB incidence is reducing at the rate of 2%**per year and **between 2015 and 2020** the total decrease was

**11% only** which was only **half way** to achieve the goal to eliminate TB Strategy milestone by achieving 20% reduction between 2015 and 2020 [1].

- The most obvious impact of COVID-19 was a large global reduction in the reported number of newly diagnosed **TB cases**, which fell from 7.1 million in 2019, to 5.8 million in 2020 (–18%) and India is among the three countries which accounted for most of the reduction in 2020 besides Indonesia and the Philippines (67% of the global total) [4].

\* This sentence repeats information already present in the table rather than summarising it.

The total **annual** newly detected tuberculosis cases notifications (including public and private healthcare facilities) in India including all 36 participants from beginning of year **1<sup>st</sup> January till 31<sup>st</sup> December during a year** were **1525045, 1997873, 2391703, 1810834, 2145678, 2419047, for years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 respectively, see table-1 and 2.**