

Review of: "Factors influencing women's decision choosing a public or private health facility for tuberculosis (TB) services: An analysis of Nepal demographic and health survey data 2016"

Habtam Milkias¹

¹ Jimma University (JU)

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Comments

Title and abstract

- The title and abstract sections are written very well. But, please address the following points.
- Indicate briefly the problems with using private facilities for TB services in the background section of the abstract
- Briefly indicate the sample size as well and the sampling method used during the DHS survey in the methods section of the abstract
- Include at the beginning the total number of women who used TB services first followed by the % of women who used public facilities for TB services in the results section of the abstract
- Keep the writing consistent. Write 95% before CI uniformly in the results section of the abstract.
- In the conclusion section,

Background

- The background section is well written, but I would like explanations or corrections on the following points.
- In the second paragraph (lines 9-10) of the background section, there is a sentence which says "A study conducted in Nepal showed that 77% of women with TB initially consulted at a public health facility for their treatment". So, what's the difference between your and this study? If they are similar why repeat an already studied topic?
- Try to include (if any) the pulling factors that make patients to seek care from private healthcare facilities? What makes it convenient/easy to look for TB care from private providers? Accessibility, cost, absence of bureaucracy,?...
- And also are there pushing factors from public facilities that discourage patients from seeking care there?

Methodology

- Most of the methodology sections were also written well
- Although the data was collected cross sectionally, it would be informative to indicate the period during which the data was collected.
- Please indicate about TB services in one paragraph, where, who and how the services are provided. Whether services

are free of charge and other important information relevant to your study. Or the second paragraph could be tailored to TB.

- In the data analysis section, describe which type of weight was used and how it was done.
- Did you check goodness of fit and how?
- Did you check multicollinearity? Describe briefly

Results

- In the first table, how are “a big problem” and “no big problem categories defined?
- Many variables have become independent predictors in the multivariate part. Sometimes in traditional single level regression and when sample sizes are large, standard errors are underestimated and coefficients show an exaggerated association when actually there is not strong association. How you tried to check whether a hierarchical model fits well compared to a single level?

Discussion and conclusion

- These sections are well written