Review of: "A Systematic Review of Antibiotic Use in Humans in Nigeria and Its Potential Contribution to Rising Antimicrobial Resistance"

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Thank you for providing me an opportunity to participate in this review. The manuscript elucidates a pertinent topic of antibiotic use and resistance in Nigeria. With highlighting such a crucial topic, the manuscript needs to improve and address some of the methodological errors to enhance its quality and impact.

Abstract

The authors in the abstract use various terminologies to address antibiotics. For instance, "we conducted a systematic review of medicine use behavior by patients and prescription behavior by health workers, which were searched for in articles published in English from 2000 to 2017." It is advised to choose one terminology and keep it consistent throughout. In this case, it would be appropriate to use antibiotics rather than using medicines or antimicrobials.

What AMR denotes should be indicated once.

Introduction

There are repetitions, and a more solid rationale is needed to highlight the issue of antibiotic resistance in developing countries. For this, you may refer to the following articles for citation to provide a clearer perspective on antibiotic resistance in developing countries (This is optional and should only be taken as a suggestion for the improvement of the manuscript).

1. DOI: 10.3390/antibiotics10080906
2. DOI: 10.2147/IDR.S268574

The authors discuss antibiotic consumption in animals, while the focus, as reflected by the research objective and title of the manuscript, is focused on humans in general. This should be reconsidered.

The research gap in Nigeria needs to be highlighted to establish the novelty in your study objectives.

Methodology

Why did the authors choose not to include any theses or dissertations in their review?

How do the authors expect the timeline of the review to extrapolate to today's scenario of antibiotic resistance, as there might have been policy changes which mitigated the statistics provided in the articles?

The inclusion/exclusion criteria with respect to the animal population, healthcare facilities, type of study designs, and type of antibiotics should be made clear.

Please provide the search strategy in the appendix or mention the keywords used to develop the search strategy for this systematic review.

Figure 1 should be highlighted within the text.

Why did the authors exclude the 3 articles with no primary data? Does this systematic review only include secondary literature?

Results

In tables, the authors have added a column of exclusion criteria which appears unnecessary. Instead, the authors should include the targeted population only in the extracted articles.

Figure 2 can be indicated in the form of a bar graph.

Discussion

The discussion section should be improved and include comparisons with the updated literature from other developing countries. (This is optional and should only be taken as a suggestion for the improvement of the manuscript).

1. DOI: 10.3390/antibiotics10101204

More emphasis should be made on the discussion of antibiotic stewardship practices in Nigeria and how these findings can reflect implications for future policy, practice, and research.

The strengths and limitations should be made part of the study.

Please use updated references throughout.