

Review of: "Decolonisation of Health in East Africa: Opinion Piece"

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The authors presented an opinion piece with a more modest ambitions, hence I would not expect an in depth analysis and presentation of results. The paper tried address a relevant and complex issue—decolonization in healthcare—specifically in the context of East Africa, a topic of significant contemporary importance. I believe the authors experience is mainly in Tanzania, even if it is located in East Africa, Tanzania is not representative of the East African region hence the title can be further modified.

The abstract mainly focuses on the history of the NHS, which seems misaligned with the paper's main topic and content. It should instead highlight the paper's key findings and decisions to provide a more relevant and concise overview.

The structure of the paper seems somewhat disorganized. It would be more effective to begin with an introduction that outlines healthcare issues in the region and systematically defines colonization and decolonization within healthcare. This is then can be followed by the text about different issues as stated in the paper like workforce, politics, clinical priorities, and academic challenges. While the paper worthily attempts to connect historical colonialism with present-day healthcare disparities and challenges, its readability could be significantly improved by initially clarifying key terms and the current state of healthcare in the region.

The paper provides some statistics and examples, such as the reliance of the NHS on international medical graduates and overseas nurses, and the impact of UK's political decisions on African healthcare. These examples substantiate the arguments effectively. I would hope that the paper can be further expanded to equivalent issues happening in the US, Canada, EU and Australia.

The writing is clear and articulate, making complex issues accessible. However, there it lacks coherence: Figures are not referenced and captions are not included. It sometimes mixes ideas in paragraphs.

Suggestions for Improvement

- While the paper does a commendable job in highlighting issues, incorporating perspectives directly from other East African healthcare professionals could enhance its impact.
- The paper could benefit from a more detailed exploration of practical, actionable solutions and strategies for decolonization in healthcare.
- Suggesting specific areas for future research would be valuable, especially in terms of practical implementation of decolonization strategies in healthcare systems.

Finally, I appreciate the effort of the authors for this insightful and informative, contributing to the discourse on healthcare decolonization in East Africa. It raises crucial points and provides a foundation for further discussion and action in this vital



area.