

Review of: "Establishing a Multi-disciplinary Adult Oncology Unit at Muhimbili National Hospital: Lessons Learned, Challenges, and Opportunities Amidst Tanzania's Growing Cancer Burden"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for the well-written paper on the needs assessment for a cancer unit in your locality. However, there are some questions and thoughts in mind, specifically:

- 1. What is the nation's latest data on screening, assessment, and treatment for people with cancer?
- 2. What is the current manpower or number of healthcare workers that caters to cancer patients?
- 3. Funding is an important aspect of a holistic unit. Maybe you can input how the financing is in your unit.
- 4. Other than personnel capacity, institutional or structural health indicators are important parts of assessing whether a health facility is doing what it is supposed to do. You may want to indicate the other indicators you have in your unit.
- 5. MDs and nurses are not the only healthcare workers for patients with cancer. Multiple pieces of evidence show that prerehab and post-rehab before cancer treatment improved the quality of life and level of physical activity among patients with cancer. Please consider other healthcare workers like physiotherapists, midwives, hospice workers, etc., because your title states multidisciplinary.
- 6. What was the time frame and play-by-play in establishing an oncology unit?
- 7. What were the pertinent barriers and facilitators that were observed during the establishment of the unit?
- 8. Will you be discussing post-discharge procedures for the patients, or once you've discharged them, they only need to see a GP for their follow-up? What is your procedure in your unit for patient follow-up? Additionally, what is your protocol or procedure for patients that were lost to follow-up during treatment?

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