

# Review of: "Auditing the Cost of Treating Hypertension in a Tertiary Health Facility in Yobe State, North-Eastern Nigeria"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## General Comments:

### Clarity and Structure:

- The introduction provides a good overview of the hypertension scenario in Nigeria and the objectives of the study.
- The methodology section is clear, detailing the study period, location, sample size, and the inclusion/exclusion criteria.
- The results are well-presented with tables to enhance understanding.

### Data Presentation:

- The use of tables (Table 1, Table 2, etc.) is beneficial for organizing information.
- Figures 1 and 2 are clear and enhance the understanding of medication distribution.

## Specific Comments:

### Introduction:

- Clarify the source of the data used in the systematic review mentioned in the introduction.
- Specify whether the estimated prevalence of hypertension is for the adult population.

### Methodology:

- Clarify why a minimum of three clinic visits was chosen as an inclusion criterion.
- Explain the rationale behind excluding patients with diabetes mellitus or those presenting as medical emergencies.

### Results:

- Consider providing a brief interpretation or discussion alongside each result presented in the tables to guide the reader.

### Table 1:

- Consider using a consistent format for presenting percentages in the table (some are in parentheses, and some are not).

**Table 2:**

- Clarify if the percentages represent the proportion of patients who underwent each investigation at either the first or subsequent visits.

**Table 3:**

- Provide units for the costs (e.g., ₦ for Naira) in the table header for clarity.

**Table 4:**

- Clarify whether the costs are for each clinic visit.

**Table 5:**

- Include a brief explanation of why data for employed respondents are presented separately.

**Cost Calculation:**

- Ensure transparency in the calculation of the average monthly cost per patient. Break down the components and show the calculations.

**Discussion:**

- Discuss the implications of the findings, especially the financial burden on patients. Consider relating this to the socio-economic context of Nigeria.
- Suggest avenues for potential government intervention or support for patients.

**Conclusion:**

- The conclusion is concise. Consider reiterating the main findings and their implications.

**Limitations:**

- Explicitly state the limitations of the study, such as potential biases or factors not considered.

**Overall Impression:**

The article provides valuable insights into the cost of hypertension treatment in Nigeria. Enhancing clarity in presentation and addressing specific points in the discussion and conclusion would strengthen the paper.