Review of: "An Analysis of Pharmaceutical Inventory Management at a Leading Teaching and Referral Hospital in Kenya"

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This is a very nice article. Here are my comments

you could take out cost effective from the first sentence

it is not clear from the study design and Study site and eligibility exactly where the data was collected? I think it is the use of "drug stores" that is confusing as that could mean community chemists. The data collection section is more clear "Consumption data from bin cards at the main pharmacy stores and the dispensing area was collected" but it is good to have all three of these sections in harmony regarding the design of the study. Please clarify.

I also read the Kenya Essential Medicines List of 2019 and did not see the following definition of vital - "In this classification, a drug is considered vital if it saves lives and has major withdrawal effects." It seems odd that a medication needs to save lives AND have major withdrawal effects in order to be vital. Should the AND be replaced with an OR?

In Table 1, I see that both the 250mg and 500mg of Flucloxacillin was listed. I would recommended you keep the sentence about the 250 mg capsules but add what the percent is when you also include the 500mg.

Table 2 - I recommend taking out this sentence "53(18.9%), 56(19.9%), and 56(19.9%) drugs were classified in class A in 2018, 2019, and 2020, respectively. Table 2." and replacing with an introductory sentence for Table 2. For example "A summary of the medications classified as A, B, or C for years 2018, 2019, and 2020 is included in Table 2. As can be seen from this table, around 19% of medications were classifed as Class A during this time. Furthermore, these Class A medications consumed more than 70% of the budget during these years."

Figure 4. I would recommended you add the percent of expendtures for the different classifications to the graph. Otherwise, the reader is continually going back and forth between the graph and the text to understand what is being conveyed. What is the year for the data in the current figure 4?

Table 4. it would be good to add to that table the percent of the categories. otherwise again the reader is going back and forth. then the text can be more summary and include descriptive text like "the percent remained relatively unchanged or increased, etc...."

Discussion: I think this paragraph in your discussion really is your take home message "According to the ABC-VEN matrix

analysis, many of the medicines purchased (67.2%) had the potential to save lives and were critical in healthcare service delivery. These took up 82.1% of the TPE. Moreover, the quantities of category III drugs for minor illnesses were the lowest and took up the smallest percentage of the budget. Category II (21.4% of all drugs) took up 12.9% of TPE. Therefore, it could be argued that a deliberate decision was made to prioritize high-therapeutic benefit drugs, those with great public health impact, and low cost." this should really be in your abstract and it ties togehter alot of your data.