

Review of: "The Plight of Rare Diseases in Southern Africa: Health and Social Services Policy Recommendations"

Bagher Larijani¹

¹ Tehran University of Medical Sciences

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I read the manuscript on the plight of rare diseases in southern africa.

The authors including professionals in human genetic and other groups and foundations with interest in rare diseases, have developed a position statement regarding how to handle rare diseases. The policy recommendations are noteworthy.

The definition of rare disease (1 in 2000) as mentioned by the authors in the background and finally adopted in their recommendations, is far different from what described for South Africa (1 in 15). The authors have tried to relate it to the more developed tracking system. However a better explanation is required since tracking systems are more developed in developed countries, yet the definition and prevalence in 1/2000.

I think an estimation of the required budgets and costs required for this recommendations to be put in action will provide a better schema.