

# Review of: "Factors influencing women's decision choosing a public or private health facility for tuberculosis (TB) services: An analysis of Nepal demographic and health survey data 2016"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

I want to acknowledge the effort and dedication the authors have put into this research. It is evident that they have invested considerable time and thoughts into the work. However, after a thorough review, I regret to comment that the article requires major revisions.

There are several specific concerns that I would like to highlight:

**Research data source:** The authors utilized the 2016 NDHS dataset, and it's worth noting that much recent NDHS report of 2022 has become publicly accessible. This potentially renders the study findings somewhat outdated.

**Introduction:** In the introduction section, I encountered contrasting arguments while attempting to connect it with the study's topic. The initial impression led me to believe that the study would focus on identifying the factors influencing women's choices between public and private health facilities for TB services. However, upon further examination, it became apparent that the authors displayed a certain inclination toward promoting public facilities while adopting a more critical stance towards the private ones.

**Methodology Clarity:** The methodology section lacks clarity. Providing more detailed explanations particularly the study measurements. A more detailed description of NDHS would be helpful to its introduction to the international audience.

**Literature Review and Contextualization:** The article's literature review could be strengthened by incorporating recent and relevant research in the field. A more comprehensive review would help position the study within the broader scholarly conversation and highlight its contribution.

**Data Interpretation:** The data interpretation needs further elaboration and contextualization. Clarifying the link between the data presented and the key findings would assist readers in grasping the significance of your results. For example, from this statement in Page 14 "Muslim culture is rigid regarding women interacting with male service providers. Moreover, the privacy in public health facilities are poorly maintained so that Muslim women may have preferred private health facilities." The arguments regarding the limited accessibility of public facilities for Muslim women could have been presented in a more compelling manner. While discussing the study's findings on the preference of Muslim women to choose more private facilities, the reasoning statements lacked persuasive force. Furthermore, these reasoning

arguments were not substantiated with any referenced sources. Likewise, there are various such issues where the arguments need clarity.