

Review of: "Expanding Participatory Epidemiology to Explore Community Perceptions of Human and Livestock Diseases among Pastoralists in Turkana County, Kenya"

Tafadzwa Mindu¹

¹ University of KwaZulu-Natal

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The article is very interesting and well written. The concept of one health is quite significant in the context of the pastoral farmers. They spend their time in the pastures with animals and there is a perfect mix of animal, human and environment which allows for a clear demonstration of the onehealth concept. We also see the use of PE as a novel approach, the authors have chosen a very unique method and used it in a study area that has many limitations in terms of methodology. One often struggles to find the best methodology to combine the three onehealth concepts.

The element of epidemiology speaks mostly to disease prevalence and spatiological distribution: hence the PE method offered a good opportunity to combine these two. Perhaps the only limitation or shortfall that I recognised from this study is the failure to clearly articulate the issue of distribution. There is an attempt to mention areas and zones but not much detail is given by the authors. Maybe a map showing where these diseases were featuring would have helped to show the distribution.

Another shortfall which I am sure is not a serious flaw is the lack of quotations from the interviewees. It is common that when FGDs are used, we get some sections of the results reporting the findings verbatim. I appreciate the tables, but where the authors were giving descriptions, they could have added some quotes from selected FGDs, to show evidence of what was said.

Authors do acknowledge that this was a semi - qualitative study and they focused more on presenting the epidemiological data. It is however my small opinion that the results section would have benefitted more from the presentation of quotes to support data in addition to the tables.

Overall, this is a good publication and it presents good data and facts to support the one health approach.