

# Review of: "Tenders versus Consignment"

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

## Summary of the Paper:

The paper, "Tenders versus Consignment," by Shaheed Ganiwalla, Aabid Abdulmajid Ahmed, and Varsha Bangalee, presents an investigation into the impacts of tenders and consignment on pharmaceutical purchase prices and liquidity. The study reveals that consignment leads to increased prices but also significant cash savings. The introduction of a hybrid model of tenders-for-consignment results in decreased prices. The research suggests that this hybrid model could offer a cost-effective solution for hospitals and could potentially be applied to other procurement areas beyond pharmaceuticals.

## Comments and Suggestions:

The paper provides valuable insights into three procurement systems, namely, a competitive tendering process, inventory consignment, and tenders-for-consignment, as adopted by Bomu Hospital. However, I have several comments and suggestions for improvement:

**1.Title:** The current title does not adequately reflect the focus of the paper on the three procurement systems at Bomu Hospital. I recommend revising the title to something like "Tenders, Consignment, and the Hybrid Model: A Case Study on Pharmaceutical Procurement at Bomu Hospital."

**2.Introduction:** The introduction provides a clear explanation of the two-step process of re-introducing tenders for pharmaceuticals at Bomu Hospital. However, a figure illustrating this process could enhance understanding for readers.

**3.Data Management:** There appears to be a typographical error in the formula for the Inflation-Adjusted Price. I believe it should be  $(1 + a)^n \cdot \text{baseprice}$  rather than  $(1 + a)^n \times \text{base price}$ .

**4.Results:** The paper mentions that all products except three displayed a price reduction when tenders-for-consignment was introduced. This seems to refer to a decrease from consignment in 2020 to tenders-for-consignment in 2022. It might be more informative to compare the difference between 2022 tenders-for-consignment and the tenders only in 2019.

**5.Discussion:** The paper mentions that "Interestingly, 29 products exhibited a price reduction with inventory consignment. In Kenya, the pharmaceutical supply chain is shown in Figure 2." But I can not find Figure 2 in the paper.

**6.References:** The ninth reference does not adhere to the standard APA citation format. I recommend a thorough review of the references to ensure they are in the correct format.

Overall, the paper provides a valuable contribution to the literature on pharmaceutical procurement. With some revisions, it could offer even more significant insights into this important area.