

Review of: "Decolonisation of Health in East Africa: Opinion Piece"

Diane Woei Quan Chong

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I am grateful for the opportunity to review this insightful opinion piece on the decolonisation of health in East Africa. The authors have commendably enhanced this work by integrating strategies and recommendations aimed at mitigating the enduring impact of colonial legacies. These additions not only enrich the discourse but also provide actionable paths forward in addressing the complexities of decolonisation in healthcare. Here are some suggestions to refine it further:

- To enhance the clarity and impact of the piece, I recommend refining the section headings to more accurately reflect their content. Descriptive and focused titles can significantly aid in conveying the essence of each section.
- The politics section discusses various political decisions and their impacts, but the direct connection to healthcare access and delivery needs to be more clearly articulated. For example, emphasise how political decisions have specifically influenced healthcare in Africa.
- Additionally, it is good to provide constructive solutions and future directions while providing critiques on current policies. For example, the suggestions that organisations like the BMA and the BBC need to change their approaches – It is good to be more specific about what these changes could entail and how they would impact healthcare in Africa; propose recommendations for considerations for the BMA to support healthcare in former colonies.
- In the context of decolonisation, consider discussing how the educational and clinical initiatives undertaken to address changing health priorities in Tanzania contribute to broader goals of health equity and how they can be a model for countries within the region facing similar challenges. I also suggest to consider including interdisciplinary approach in the curriculum and clinical practices, integrating important aspects of social determinants of health, which are crucial in addressing non-communicable diseases.

This piece serves as an important reminder of the ongoing need for thoughtful, inclusive, and contextually sensitive approaches to health care and academic research, particularly in regions impacted by the legacy of colonialism.