

Review of: "“Healing is having faith in Allah, the healer, and the medicine”: An exploratory qualitative study of Islamic-based healing practices in Northern Ghana"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this impressive article. It is well-written and very interesting. I, however, have noted a few issues I wish to bring to the authors' attention. 1) In the introduction, the authors have noted that clients using the services of these Islamic healers are stigmatized and victimized. It would enrich the article to give more details on this—how so and why? 2) Again, there's a contraction that needs the authors' attention in the introduction.

“Ritual forms of healing are culturally widespread in Ghana and influenced by the cultures, worldviews, and belief systems of individuals and the society they come from (Peprah et al., 2018; Yidana, 2014). This claim suggests how culture impacts people's worldviews on illness and disease and emphasizes that religion and faith perform crucial roles in the health outcomes of people.” AND “Research shows that faith-based healers and traditional medical practitioners are often the primary sources of healing in Ghana due to the inability of conventional medicine to treat certain illnesses or because of limited access to orthodox medicine and healthcare services owing to the high cost of treatment (Arozullah et al., 2020; Peprah et al., 2018).” I suggest the authors clarify if these are two things that attract people to use these healers because the two statements seem to contradict each other. Last but not least, considering that the six participants are laypeople, does the article's title accurately portray healing in Islam, given that neither an Islamic professional body nor an Islamic scholar was contacted for an interview? This is merely an idea for the writers to ponder.

Overall, an interesting and well-written article.

Thank you.