

Review of: "Establishing a Multi-disciplinary Adult Oncology Unit at Muhimbili National Hospital: Lessons Learned, Challenges, and Opportunities Amidst Tanzania's Growing Cancer Burden"

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The article relates to the implementation of an oncology ward for adults in a University Hospital in Daressalam, Tanzania, since 2016. The capacities rose from treating four patients a day to fifty-five patients per day. This is a great achievement, and the authors, all contributors, and the institution are to be congratulated. There is already a very thorough and complete review by Kushagra Patel of this article, so that there is nearly no further criticism to be added. Like another reviewer, Robert A. Hyatt, reading the text, one gets more the impression of an administrative report than of a research paper, but reporting the circumstances of the planning and the realization of this unit is potentially more the focus of this paper than responding to a research question. The authors show that they have succeeded in creating a ward for adult oncology patients where state-of-the-art therapy is delivered. We get no details on how this is achieved: from where do patients come and how? Referred by their primary care physician, or from other wards at the MNH? Dar es Salaam only, or from the surrounding areas? Do they get their therapies as inpatients or outpatients? How is supportive care organized? Are there local services for supportive and/or palliative care? What kind of radiotherapy is given? There is a paragraph on the training of nurses and a mention of the training of pharmacists. What about the training of the physicians? As the hospital is a University Hospital, does the oncologic unit participate in teaching students and training medical staff? How exactly is the cooperation with ORCI organized on patient treatment and research? Congratulations on the achievements and further success!