

Reviewer's report

Title: Malignant Tumours in Urban Ghana: Evidence from the City of Kumasi

Version: 1 **Date:** 14 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Frances Drummond

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed some but not all of the issues raised in the initial review, so more work is required in my opinion. The methods section has been improved

The authors did not address the first issue I raised regarding how representative the population they have captured is (see paragraph 1 of my initial comments. Their discussion about the coverage they achieved has been improved with comparisons to neighbouring African countries, but while their rates are much lower than in those other countries, they then insist that it is not due to just poor coverage. They need to substantiate their claims further.

Which version of the ICD did they use?

In the discussion on prostate cancer, it should be stated that there may be an underestimate of prostate cancers captured by the PBCR. Also in stating that screening is required for prostate cancer, some reference as to the effectiveness of screening in the African population should be made. Also, why not suggest screening and vaccination programmes for cervical cancer?

In limitations - are prayer camps and herbal medicine practitioners appropriate source of cancer incidence data for a PBCR?

The writing needs more attention - typo in abstract - Conclusion, there has been...

Background - needs to be organised into paragraphs. Keep all the information on viruses together. HPV virus needs to be abbreviated on line 8 of background and abbreviation continued through the manuscript. Sentence 7-9 in background does not make any sense. The authors abbreviate IARC in the third line of the background, and again in two other places. Same with PBCR, and ASR either use the abbreviations or don't, but do not mix it through the manuscript

Suggest more work needed prior to publication

Are the methods appropriate and well described?

If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?

If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?

If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?

If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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