Health service providers during political unrest: some reflections from Kashmir.

Editor comments:

The author explains that the research was exploratory in nature.

The study was exploratory in nature and purposive sampling method was utilised for the present reaseach.

The author should also make explicit what was the nature of the research – did it include observations and interviews (ethnographic) with providers and others in health systems? If so, how long did the researcher spend in the field, how many observations and interviews were done need to be made explicit. Even if there were only few due to the reasons mentioned, these need to be mentioned.

The methodology used for drawing the conclusions from obervations and interivews or only interviews – was it deductive or inductive or a combination of both need to be made explicit – by this I mean, the author needs to state the methods of analysis of these interviews/observations.

1. The study is on health service provision during political unrest. Very few professionals have dared to respond. In these circumstances,
2. The author needs to made clear whether this study was reviewed by an ethics review committee?
3. What are the efforts made to render annonymous the respondents to the study, in terms of their location (opthalmic hospital/orthopedic ward etc) and their individual identity?

This is extremely important in view of the author’s own comment:

„Due the highly political nature of the conflict there was less patcipation from the employs of government sponsored institutions (in this case doctors) to participate in research. Although attempts have been made by the medical faternity in the past to highlight the attrocities commited by the state. However many health care providers were approched to participate in the present study only a handful agreed.“

Editor’s comment:

The author may resubmit after addressing these issues.