

# Review of: "Exploring Clinicians' Experiences of Accessing Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis Drug Susceptibility Testing Services from Health Centers in Blantyre"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper has several challenges that need to be addressed.

1. It is not well edited, and there is much redundancy - the entire introduction describes the problem of TB, including DR-TB. In the final paragraph of the introduction, the objective is laid out, but the factors impacting access are not described and discussed, nor why it is important to look at the problem of access to DR-TB testing (the typical purpose of an introduction). Further examples of redundancy include the presentation of data on the marital status of study participants.
2. Some quantitative information about the scale of the problem would have been helpful - examining the laboratory registers to determine what proportion of results were not received could potentially serve to focus the discussion. The consequence is that the paper becomes directionless and seems to lack a clear purpose.
3. Precision of editing is problematic - sometimes there is reference to CHISU, and at other times, there is reference to CHSU (Community Health Sciences Unit). Another instance is where in the same paragraph there is reference to cartilage and subsequently cartridges (with reference to the GeneXpert cartridges).
4. The overall lack of precision - not laying out a strong problem statement, the absence of data that at least attempts to describe the scale of the problem, whether the sample size of participants reflects a representative sample of those involved in TB control activities in selected facilities, and the poor editing compromises the quality of the submission.