

**Review Form 3**

Journal Name:	<a href="#">South Asian Journal of Social Studies and Economics</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_SAJSSSE_125102
Title of the Manuscript:	<b>Awareness of Family Planning Services Among Pregnant Women in Arumeru District, Tanzania: Implications for Public Health Interventions</b>
Type of the Article	

## Review Form 3

### PART 1: Review Comments

Compulsory REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<p><b>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</b></p>	<p>This manuscript addresses a critical gap in the understanding of family planning awareness among pregnant women in developing regions, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Its findings highlight the significant barriers that still exist despite a high level of awareness, indicating that mere knowledge of services is not enough; understanding and accessibility are equally crucial. The study's recommendations for targeted awareness programs and the inclusion of men in family planning education are essential steps toward improving reproductive health outcomes. I appreciate this manuscript for its thorough analysis and practical suggestions, as it underscores the complexity of health literacy and the need for tailored interventions to enhance reproductive health in underserved populations.</p>	
<p><b>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</b></p>	<p>Yes, the title "Awareness of Family Planning Services Among Pregnant Women in Arumeru District, Tanzania: Implications for Public Health Interventions" is suitable for the manuscript. It clearly indicates the focus of the study—awareness of family planning services—while also highlighting the specific population (pregnant women) and geographical location (Arumeru District, Tanzania). Additionally, by including "Implications for Public Health Interventions," the title suggests that the findings will contribute to practical recommendations, aligning well with the manuscript's content. Overall, it effectively captures the essence of the research and its relevance to public health.</p>	
<p><b>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</b></p>	<p>The abstract provides a solid overview of the study, including the context, methodology, key findings, and recommendations. However, a few enhancements could improve its comprehensiveness:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Objectives Statement: Include a brief statement of the study's objectives at the beginning to clarify what the research aimed to achieve. For example, "This study aims to assess the level of awareness and understanding of family planning services among pregnant women in Arumeru District."</li> <li>2. Methodology Details: While the sample size and data collection methods are mentioned, a brief mention of the analysis techniques used would add depth. For instance, "Data was analyzed using [specific statistical methods or software]."</li> <li>3. Key Findings: While it mentions the percentage of awareness, adding specific insights about the variations in understanding based on demographics or notable misconceptions would enrich the findings.</li> <li>4. Broader Implications: It may be beneficial to briefly mention how improving awareness could impact maternal and child health outcomes, connecting the findings to broader public health goals.</li> <li>5. Concluding Sentence: A concluding statement that encapsulates the overall significance of the study in the context of public health might strengthen the closing of the abstract.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</b></p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p><b>Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</b></p>	<p>The manuscript demonstrates scientific robustness and technical soundness through its well-defined methodology and systematic approach to data collection and analysis. The use of a clearly articulated sampling method, including both probability and non-probability techniques, ensures that the study captures a representative sample of the target population. The application of appropriate statistical tools, such as the Yamane formula for sample size determination and SPSS for data analysis, further reinforces the credibility of the findings.</p> <p>Additionally, the manuscript presents a thorough examination of demographic characteristics, allowing for nuanced insights into how factors like age, education, and occupation influence awareness of family planning services. The qualitative insights from interviews with key informants, such as the Reproductive and Child Health officer, complement the quantitative data and provide a deeper understanding of the barriers faced by specific populations. Overall, the manuscript effectively combines quantitative and qualitative methods, making it a comprehensive and scientifically sound</p>	

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	contribution to the field of public health research.	
<p><b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</b></p> <p>=</p>	<p>The references cited in the manuscript provide a solid foundation for the study, covering various aspects of family planning awareness and practices, particularly in the context of sub-Saharan Africa. However, while the references are generally relevant, some could be considered slightly dated, especially those from 2016 and earlier. The inclusion of more recent studies would enhance the manuscript's relevance and provide a more up-to-date context for the findings.</p> <p>Suggestions for Additional References:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recent Guidelines or Reports on Family Planning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o World Health Organization. (2021). <i>Family planning: A global handbook for providers</i>. Retrieved from <a href="#">WHO</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Current Research on Family Planning Awareness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Bankole, A., &amp; Singh, S. (2023). "Family planning in sub-Saharan Africa: A current perspective on access and use." <i>Reproductive Health</i>, 20(1), 25. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1186/s12978-023-00558-x">https://doi.org/10.1186/s12978-023-00558-x</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Health Literacy Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Zarcadoolas, C., Pleasant, A., &amp; Greer, D. (2020). "Health literacy and health disparities: A systematic review." <i>Health Literacy Research and Practice</i>, 4(1), e1–e10. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3928/24748307-20200107-01">https://doi.org/10.3928/24748307-20200107-01</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Public Health Interventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Dyer, S. J., et al. (2022). "Increasing awareness of family planning in underserved populations: A systematic review of interventions." <i>Public Health</i>, 202, 58–65. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.puhe.2022.06.002">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.puhe.2022.06.002</a></li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>These additional references would provide contemporary insights and strengthen the manuscript's arguments regarding family planning awareness and public health interventions.</p>	
<p><u>Minor</u> REVISION comments</p> <p><b>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b></p>	<p><b>Clarity and Precision:</b> Some sentences are lengthy and could benefit from being more concise. Simplifying complex phrases can enhance readability.</p> <p><b>Grammar and Syntax:</b> There are occasional grammatical errors and awkward phrasings. Proofreading and editing for grammatical correctness would improve the overall quality.</p> <p><b>Terminology Consistency:</b> Consistent use of terminology (e.g., "family planning services" vs. "family planning methods") is essential to avoid confusion.</p> <p><b>Academic Tone:</b> While the manuscript maintains a formal tone, some sections could be more objective and less conversational.</p>	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		

**PART 2:**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b>	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

**Reviewer Details:**

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