

Journal Name:	<a href="#">International Journal of Research and Reports in Gynaecology</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJRRGY_131321
Title of the Manuscript:	Prevalence, clinical presentation and management options of uterine fibroids in a Nigerian tertiary institution.
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

<b>PART 1: Comments</b>		
	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's Feedback</b> (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
	<b>Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.</b>	
<b>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</b>	The manuscript provides valuable insights into the prevalence, clinical presentation, and surgical management of uterine fibroids in a Nigerian tertiary institution. The findings are particularly relevant to gynecologists, reproductive health specialists, and public health policymakers. The study also shows the limitations of available treatment modalities in resource-limited settings, therefore the need for training in minimally invasive surgical techniques. In all, it contributes to the growing body of literature on fibroid epidemiology in sub-Saharan Africa.	
<b>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</b>	The title should be slightly refined for clarity and impact.  Suggested alternative:  Prevalence, Clinical Presentation, and Surgical Management of Uterine Fibroids in a Nigerian Tertiary Hospital: A Five-Year Retrospective Study.	

<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 is comprehensive but could be improved by clearly stating the study design as a retrospective descriptive study in the Methods section. Also the key statistical findings in the Results section could be summarised for better clarity. There is need to also mention study limitations here for a balanced overview.</p>	
<p><b>Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.</b></p>	<p>The manuscript is scientifically sound, with appropriate methodology and statistical analysis. In addition, the authors should discuss potential confounders influencing the observed prevalence rates and compare findings with more recent global studies to enhance the manuscript's relevance in the Discussion.</p>	
<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>The references are generally sufficient but could be updated with more recent studies on the surgical management of fibroids, particularly on minimally invasive techniques.</p> <p>Suggested additional references:</p> <p>Donnez, J., &amp; Dolmans, M. M. (2016). Uterine fibroid management: from the present to the future. <i>Human reproduction update</i>, 22(6), 665–686. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1093/humupd/dmw023">https://doi.org/10.1093/humupd/dmw023</a></p> <p>Eze, C.C., Ajugwo, G.C., et al. (2021). <i>Prevalence and Burden of Symptomatic Uterine Leiomyomata Among Women in Imo State, Nigeria</i>. <i>GSC Biological and Pharmaceutical Sciences</i>. Vol. 16, Issue 2, pp. 32-37.</p> <p>Eze, C.C., Okemadu, O.C., et al. (2021). <i>Relating Age at Menarche and Pelvic Pain with Occurrence of Uterine Leiomyomata in Southeastern Nigeria</i>. <i>International Journal of Advanced Research in Biological Sciences</i>. Vol. 8, Issue 7, pp. 23-28.</p> <p>Suggestions of placement</p> <p><b>Introduction Section</b></p> <p>(Eze CC et al., 2021, <i>GSC Biological and Pharmaceutical Sciences</i>) could be referenced when discussing the prevalence of uterine fibroids in Nigeria to provide a broader regional context.</p> <p>Suggested placement: “Studies have reported varying prevalence rates of uterine</p>	

	<p>fibroids across different regions in Nigeria. Eze et al. (2021) documented the burden of symptomatic uterine leiomyomata among women in South-Eastern Nigeria, emphasizing its significant public health impact.”</p> <p><b>Risk Factors Discussion</b></p> <p>(Eze CC et al., 2021, International Journal of Advanced Research in Biological Sciences) should be cited when discussing age at menarche and pelvic pain as potential risk factors for fibroid development.</p> <p>Suggested placement: “Early menarche and pelvic pain have been associated with an increased likelihood of developing uterine fibroids, as reported in a study by Eze et al. (2021), which examined their correlation among women in South-Eastern Nigeria.”</p> <p><b>Discussion Section – Comparison of Prevalence</b></p> <p>Since the study discusses prevalence variations (e.g., 27.8% in Rivers State), your work could be referenced to compare findings from a different Nigerian region.</p> <p>Suggested placement: “While our study found a prevalence of 27.8% for uterine fibroids in Rivers State, similar studies in South-Eastern Nigeria have reported comparable rates (Eze et al., 2021), highlighting the widespread nature of the condition across different regions.”</p>	
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<p><b>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b></p>	<p>The language is mostly clear, but there are grammatical inconsistencies and minor typographical errors. A professional language edit would enhance readability.</p>	
<p><b><u>Optional/General</u> comments</b></p>	<p>Here are some grammatical inconsistencies and minor typographical errors I identified in the manuscript:</p> <p>1. Abstract</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Original: "The aim of the study was to determine the prevalence of uterine fibroids. It also determined the clinical presentation and surgical management options for uterine fibroids with emphasis on myomectomies at the Rivers State University Teaching Hospital (RSUTH)."</li> <li>- Correction: "This study aimed to determine the prevalence of uterine fibroids, as well as their clinical presentation and surgical management options, with an emphasis on myomectomies at the Rivers State University Teaching Hospital (RSUTH)."</li> <li>- Issue: The second sentence lacks flow and should be combined for better readability.</li> </ul> <p>2. Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Original: "Uterine fibroids (UFs) also called fibromyomas or leiomyomas, are tumors of the smooth muscle and the connective tissue of the uterus."</li> <li>- Correction: "Uterine fibroids (UFs), also called fibromyomas or leiomyomas, are tumors of the smooth muscle and connective tissue of the uterus."</li> <li>- Issue: Missing comma after "UFs"; "the" before "connective tissue" is unnecessary.</li> </ul> <p>Original: "Several risk factors associated with uterine fibroids include Afro-American descent, nulliparity, long periods of secondary infertility, obesity, polycystic ovary syndrome, diabetes mellitus, hypertension, hormonal and genetic influences, pelvic infections."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Correction: "Several risk factors associated with uterine fibroids include African-American descent, nulliparity, prolonged</li> </ul>	

	<p>secondary infertility, obesity, polycystic ovary syndrome, diabetes mellitus, hypertension, hormonal and genetic influences, and pelvic infections.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Issue: “Afro-American” should be “African-American”; “long periods of secondary infertility” is awkward—“prolonged secondary infertility” is better; missing “and” before the last item in the list.</li></ul> <p>3. Methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Original: “Data was entered and analyzed using the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) IBM version 25.0 (Armonk, NY).”</li><li>- Correction: “Data were entered and analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS), IBM version 25.0 (Armonk, NY).”</li><li>- Issue: “Data” is plural, so it should be “were” instead of “was”; SPSS should be fully capitalized, and “Statistical Package for Social Sciences” should include “the” for proper naming.</li></ul> <p>4. Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Original: “Most were married, aged 30-35 years, nulliparous and had tertiary level of education.”</li><li>- Correction: “Most participants were married, aged 30-35 years, nulliparous, and had a tertiary level of education.”</li><li>- Issue: The sentence needs “participants” for clarity; missing “a” before “tertiary level of education”; missing comma before “and” in a list.</li></ul> <p>5. Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Original: “The explanation for this could be attributed to the non-wide spread use of newer modalities for non-surgical management of uterine fibroids in Nigeria.”</li><li>- Correction: “This could be attributed to the limited adoption of newer modalities for the non-surgical management of uterine fibroids in Nigeria.”</li><li>- Issue: “Non-wide spread” should be</li></ul>	
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	<p>“limited adoption” for conciseness; “use of” is unnecessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Original: “This may be attributed to the reduced use of obstetric services and the patronization of traditional health practitioners in these centres.”</li><li>- Correction: “This may be attributed to the reduced utilization of obstetric services and the preference for traditional health practitioners in these centers.”</li><li>- Issue: “Patronization” is not commonly used in this context—“preference for” is more appropriate; “centres” should be “centers” (unless using UK spelling consistently).</li></ul> <p>6. Conclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Original: “Management options should be individualized and the patient’s future fertility should be considered.”</li><li>- Correction: “Management options should be individualized, with careful consideration of the patient’s future fertility.”</li><li>- Issue: The sentence structure is awkward and can be made smoother with restructuring.- Original: “There should be awareness program to educate the women on the symptoms and the need for early presentation.”</li><li>- Correction: “Awareness programs should be implemented to educate women on the symptoms and the importance of early presentation.”</li><li>- Issue: “Awareness program” should be plural for broader application; “educate the women” should be “educate women”; “need for early presentation” is better as “importance of early presentation.”</li></ul>	
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**PART 2:**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> <i>(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)</i>
<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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