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| Journal Name: | [**Asian Journal of Medicine and Health**](https://journalajmah.com/index.php/AJMAH) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_AJMAH\_138586** |
| Title of the Manuscript:  | **Demographic and Histopathological Spectrum of Gastrointestinal Cancers Excluding Hepatobiliary System: A 10-Year Review from Makurdi, North Central Nigeria** |
| Type of the Article |  |

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| PART 1: Comments |
|  | Reviewer’s comment**Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | **Author’s Feedback** (It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)No AI tools were used for this study  |
| **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.** | The lack of epidemiological data in low- and middle-income countries is routinely a barrier for public health policies development. The effort from a single hospital to report data is important. It should reach other hospitals and local/national authorities to create a national cancer database. |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?****(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | **Yes, it is suitable**  |  |
| 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. | On page 1, abstract section, line 10. Please separate colorectal from anal cancer data. These tumor sites have different histologies and risk factors. If anal cancers have low numbers, focus more on colorectal cancers in the abstract. |  |
| Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here. | Introduction* On page 2, paragraph 3, line 8. Change the expression ill-equipped for under-equipped, it is more suitable for the context of the sentence.
* Please add some comment on the introduction section about the reality of upper endoscopy and colonoscopy in Nigeria. As example there is the following paper: <http://dx.doi.org/10.14218/JTG.2024.00010>

Methods* It is written: “Malignancies of the liver, gallbladder, or bile ducts, inadequate or
* incomplete histological records, and metastatic tumours to the GI tract from extra-abdominal primary sites were excluded from the study”. Please state that pancreatic adenocarcinoma was also excluded from the analysis.
* Please explain the inclusion of mesenteric/mesenchymal tumours in the analysis. (GIST and Small Round Blue Cell Tumor). These group of malignancies are generally reported separately from epithelial tumours in most gastrointestinal oncology publications. They are more associated to specific single driver mutations.

Discussion* According to table 1 there were 22 anal cancers reported, however on table 3 there are only 2 squamous cell carcinoma cases and 1 adeno-squamous carcinoma case. It is interesting that in Makurdi region there are more rare subtypes of anal cancer, taking into account that > 80% of anal cancers worldwide have squamous histology.
* On page 14 please cite a reference about health education of awareness of gastrointestinal malignancies in Nigeria. Example in the following paper: <https://doi.org/10.9734/ijtdh/2025/v46i51652>
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| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.** | The references are sufficient and focused on local (Nigeria) and regional (African countries) reports.On the review sections there are suggestions to include references  |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | Yes, the English is suitable  |  |
| Optional/General comments |  |  |

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| **PART 2:**  |
|  | **Reviewer’s comment** | **Author’s comment** *(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)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?**  | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)* | There were no ethical issues.  |

**Reviewer details:**

**Marcelo Porfirio Sunagua Aruquipa, Brasil**