|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | |
| Journal Name: | [**Asian Journal of Research in Nursing and Health**](https://journalajrnh.com/index.php/AJRNH) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_AJRNH\_141926** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **FACTORS INFLUENCING BURDEN OF PALLIATIVE AND END OF LIFE CARE AMONG INFORMAL CAREGIVERS OF PEOPLE WITH CANCER IN A TERTIARY HOSPITAL, PORT HARCOURT, NIGERIA** |
| Type of the Article |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 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) |
| **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.** | This manuscript makes a valuable contribution by highlighting the often-overlooked burden experienced by informal caregivers of cancer patients during palliative and end-of-life care. By focusing on a tertiary hospital in Port Harcourt, it adds important contextual relevance for health policy and caregiving practices in resource-limited settings. The topic is timely and important, and the manuscript has the potential to inform interventions that support caregiver well-being alongside patient-centered care. | Thank you |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | The title is appropriate. However, a slightly shorter version could also be suitable: Alternatively, the following shorter version could be considered: "Burden of Palliative and End-of-Life Care Among Informal Caregivers of Cancer Patients in a Nigerian Tertiary Hospital." | We’ll retain the title as advised by my supervosor |
| 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. | The abstract is comprehensive. I suggest revising the keywords as follows: informal caregivers, caregiver burden, determinants of burden, palliative care, end-of-life care. | It has been improved |
| Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here. | The manuscript is scientifically structured and presents valid data using an appropriate cross-sectional descriptive design. However, several methodological, structural, and reporting issues should be addressed to enhance clarity, focus, and interpretive depth:   1. Participant Response Format: It is unclear whether participants were allowed to provide their own answers or if they had to choose from predefined options. While a semi-structured questionnaire is mentioned, this point requires clarification. If open-ended responses were not possible, please explicitly state this in the "Limitations of the Study." 2. Results: It would be interesting to see some basic analytical insights — for example, what do the findings regarding gender distribution, age, and education suggest? How might these demographic characteristics relate to caregiver burden? 3. Discussion Section: Consider reorganizing the discussion to move beyond restating the results. This section should critically interpret the findings, explore potential explanations, and explicitly relate the results to previous studies. For example, differences in perceived burden types across studies might stem from variations in family support structures or cultural expectations — such insights would be more appropriately discussed here than in the literature review. 4. A clearly labeled "Limitations of the Study" section should be added. | Improved |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.** | Yes |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | The manuscript would benefit from careful language editing. At present, some grammatical errors, occasional awkward phrasing, and inconsistent terminology affect the overall readability. Also, please ensure that all abbreviations (e.g., PEOL, ICG, PWC) are defined at first use and then applied consistently. | Improved |
| Optional/General comments | There is a discrepancy in the number of participants aged 18–28 — the text states 101, while Table 1 lists 110. This appears to be a typographical error; please correct it.  Literature Review: The literature review would benefit from being more concise and focused. Currently, it covers areas (e.g., spiritual impacts, institutional wait times) that fall outside the scope of this study. A more targeted review centered on the four main variables investigated — social support, care dependency, financial stress, and self-efficacy — would improve coherence. Additionally, speculative statements and subjective interpretations should be reserved for the discussion section rather than included in the review. |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **PART 2:** | | |
|  | **Reviewer’s comment** | **Author’s Feedback** (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)* |  |