

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

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ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	Systematic scoping review of the epidemiology of Uterine Fibroid in Black African women
AUTHORS	Morhason-Bello, Imran; Adebamowo, Clement

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Somigliana, Edgardo Fondazione Ca' Granda Ospedale Maggiore policlinico, Department of Women's and Children's Health
REVIEW RETURNED	27-Jun-2021

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>In this review, Morhason-Bello and Adebamowo aim at investigating more in-depth the well-known association between black ethnicity and uterine fibroids. They deal with this argument in an original and neglected way, i.e., by reviewing studies on risk factors for fibroids exclusively performed in Sub-Saharan Africa. In my opinion, this is a very important issue because it may provide new information on this yet enigmatic condition. It cannot be excluded, for instance, that the importance given to ethnicity for decades could actually be due to confounders (vitamin D exposure, parity). Results of their effort could open a new vision on this epidemiologically devastating disease.</p> <p>Overall, the authors failed to identify sufficient evidence on this argument. They therefore plea for more studies on this aspect. I fully agree on this conclusion.</p> <p>The authors should be commended for their effort also for the quality of the paper. It is extremely well-written, concise and clear, methodology is faultless and evidence is wisely interpreted. I do not have any suggestion to improve this remarkable paper.</p>
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REVIEWER	Fakokunde, Abiodun North Middlesex University Hospital, Obstetrics and Gynaecology
REVIEW RETURNED	17-Aug-2021

GENERAL COMMENTS	Very well structured paper with focus on the objectives. Conclusions well drawn out and identify a path to improved information on the subject
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REVIEWER	Bharati, Premananda Indian Statistical Institute
REVIEW RETURNED	09-Nov-2021

GENERAL COMMENTS	The present manuscript deals with important issues on Uterine Fibroid in Black African women. The manuscript is well organized. However, some suggestions are-
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	<p>1. The study is based on PRISMA guidelines, therefore author may change the title to "Systematic review"</p> <p>2. Put references in table 1 in a separate column or elsewhere.</p>
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VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

B. REVIEWERS COMMENTS

Reviewer: 1: Dr. Edgardo Somigliana, Fondazione Ca' Granda Ospedale Maggiore policlinico

1. In this review, Morhason-Bello and Adebamowo aim at investigating more in-depth the well-known association between black ethnicity and uterine fibroids. They deal with this argument in an original and neglected way, i.e., by reviewing studies on risk factors for fibroids exclusively performed in Sub-Saharan Africa. In my opinion, this is a very important issue because it may provide new information on this yet enigmatic condition. It cannot be excluded, for instance, that the importance given to ethnicity for decades could actually be due to confounders (vitamin D exposure, parity). Results of their effort could open a new vision on this epidemiologically devastating disease. Overall, the authors failed to identify sufficient evidence on this argument. They therefore plea for more studies on this aspect. I fully agree on this conclusion. The authors should be commended for their effort also for the quality of the paper. It is extremely well-written, concise and clear, methodology is faultless and evidence is wisely interpreted. I do not have any suggestion to improve this remarkable paper.

Response: Thank you for the accolades.

Reviewer: 2 (Dr. Abiodun Fakokunde, North Middlesex University Hospital)

1. Very well-structured paper with focus on the objectives. Conclusions well drawn out and identify a path to improved information on the subject

Response: Thank you for the complement.

Reviewer: 3 (Dr. Premananda Bharati, Indian Statistical Institute)

1. The present manuscript deals with important issues on Uterine Fibroid in Black African women. The manuscript is well organized.

Response: Thank you for the complement.

2.The study is based on PRISMA guidelines; therefore, author may change the title to "Systematic review"

Response: We have revised the title as “systematic review of the epidemiology of Uterine Fibroid in African women”.

2. Put references in table 1 in a separate column or elsewhere.

Response: We added a separate column in table 1 to reflect the references as suggested.

END