



### REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 50740

Date: 20/03/2025

**Title: "Use of Paperless Partograph in Management of Labour"**

#### Recommendation:

- ✓ Accept as it is .....
- Accept after minor revision.....
- Accept after major revision .....
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance		✓		

Reviewer Name: Dr. S. K. Nath

Date: 21/03/2025

#### Reviewer's Comment for Publication:

The Paperless Partograph proves to be a time-efficient, user-friendly alternative to the Modified WHO Partograph, particularly in resource-constrained, high-patient-load settings. It significantly reduces the number of per vaginal examinations, thereby minimizing infection risks, and streamlines labor monitoring without compromising the quality of care. However, further multi-center studies are needed to evaluate its effectiveness in rural and peripheral health settings, assess long-term maternal and neonatal outcomes, and explore its integration into standard obstetric protocols.

### *Reviewer's Comment / Report*

#### Strengths:

**1. Relevance and Innovation:** The study addresses a significant issue in obstetric care—monitoring labor progression in low-resource settings. The introduction of the Paperless Partograph provides an innovative solution for settings where the Modified WHO Partograph may be impractical due to time and resource constraints.

**2. Robust Study Design:** A comparative prospective study with a large sample size of 1040 women enhances the reliability of the findings. The inclusion and exclusion criteria are well-defined, ensuring a focused and applicable study population.

**3. Efficient Data Collection and Analysis:** The study effectively compares the two partographs based on critical parameters like time taken for cervical dilation, number of per vaginal (PV) examinations, and time efficiency in data recording. The results show a statistically significant reduction in the number of PV examinations required in the Paperless Partograph group, minimizing infection risks.

**4. Practicality and Feasibility:** The Paperless Partograph is simple to use, requiring basic time calculations rather than graphical plotting. This makes it highly applicable in primary healthcare centers (PHCs), community health centers (CHCs), and high patient-load settings.

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### Weaknesses:

- Limited Generalizability:** The study was conducted in a single tertiary care hospital, limiting its applicability to peripheral health centers where conditions may differ significantly. The study does not account for logistical challenges in PHCs and CHCs, such as staff resistance or training gaps.
- Lack of Long-Term Outcome Data:** The study primarily focuses on efficiency metrics like time taken for data recording and PV examinations. There is no follow-up data on maternal and neonatal outcomes (e.g., postpartum complications, neonatal morbidity, and mortality).
- Potential for Bias:** The study relies on a newly developed Paperless Partograph, which may introduce observer bias. The authors could have blinded the assessment to reduce bias and strengthen the findings.
- Need for Policy Integration:** While the study demonstrates feasibility, it does not discuss implementation strategies, such as training programs, integration into national guidelines, or cost-effectiveness studies.