

## REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-52181

Date: 12-06-2025

**Title: Fear of Childbirth Among Antenatal Women Attending Government and Private Hospitals in East Sikkim: A Comparative Descriptive Study**

### Recommendation:

**Accept as it is.....YES.....**

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision .....

Do not accept (*Reasons below*) .....

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

**Reviewer's Name:** Dr Aamina

**Reviewer's Decision about Paper:** **Recommended for Publication.**

**Comments** (*Use additional pages, if required*)

### Reviewer's Comment / Report

#### Abstract Review:

The abstract provides a comprehensive summary of the study, detailing the purpose, methodology, sample size, tools used for data collection, and the key statistical findings. The focus on comparing antenatal women from government and private hospitals in East Sikkim with regard to their levels of childbirth fear is clearly stated. The use of the standardized Wijma Delivery Expectancy/Experience Questionnaire (W-DEQ) strengthens the validity of the findings. The abstract presents well-structured and relevant results, including significant differences in fear levels based on hospital type, gravida status, and trimester-specific

# International Journal of Advanced Research

**Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP**

*www.journalijar.com*

---

## **REVIEWER'S REPORT**

observations. The conclusion succinctly emphasizes the necessity for mental health care during pregnancy, aligning well with the study's objective.

---

### **Introduction Review:**

The introduction effectively establishes the importance of childbirth as a significant life event and transition, while simultaneously introducing the emotional and psychological complexities experienced during pregnancy. The narrative discusses the typical fears associated with pregnancy and childbirth, making it clear that while some fear is normal, excessive fear—tokophobia—can have negative psychological and obstetric consequences. The introduction is supported by relevant citations and provides a logical rationale for the research focus. The discussion on psychological impacts and the distinction between normal apprehension and clinically significant fear is particularly valuable in contextualizing the study.

---

### **Methodology Review:**

The study adopts a descriptive comparative design, which is appropriate for the research aim. The sample of 320 antenatal women, stratified across private and government hospitals, provides a robust base for comparison. The inclusion criteria—singleton pregnancy, second and third trimester, and planned vaginal delivery—are clearly specified. The use of a validated tool (W-DEQ) and appropriate statistical methods (independent t-test, chi-square) enhances the credibility of the findings. The methodological clarity ensures that the study can be replicated or used as a reference for further research.

---

### **Results and Analysis Review:**

The results are clearly presented and provide important insights into the fear of childbirth among antenatal women in different hospital settings. The higher fear scores among women attending private hospitals compared to government hospitals are statistically significant. The additional stratification by gravida status and trimester yields nuanced insights into the population studied. The finding that primigravida women experience more fear than multigravida women aligns with existing psychological literature on childbirth fears. The statistical

# International Journal of Advanced Research

**Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP**

*www.journalijar.com*

---

## **REVIEWER'S REPORT**

significance of various correlates is explicitly stated, and the results are well-organized and informative.

---

### **Discussion and Conclusion Review:**

The conclusion ties back to the findings, reiterating the need for enhanced psychiatric and psychological support during antenatal care. The emphasis on integrating mental health interventions into routine antenatal care, based on the observed prevalence and intensity of fear, is logically derived from the data. The conclusion is clear, concise, and action-oriented, emphasizing the importance of identifying and supporting vulnerable antenatal populations.

---

### **Language and Presentation Review:**

The paper is written in clear, formal academic language. The technical terminology is appropriately used and accessible to readers familiar with public health, obstetrics, or psychology. The structure—from abstract to conclusion—is logical and coherent.

---

### **Evaluation Summary:**

This study makes a significant contribution to the understanding of childbirth-related fears among antenatal women in East Sikkim. The comparative approach between government and private healthcare settings adds value by revealing contextual differences. The research is well-designed, the data is methodically analyzed, and the conclusions are well-supported. It provides both scientific insight and practical implications for healthcare providers and policymakers.

---