

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-53349

Date: 17/08/2025

Title: Knowledge about Autism Spectrum Disorder among Final Year Medical Students in Bangladesh – A Cross-Sectional Study

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: Sakshi Jaju

Date: 17/08/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

This study assessed autism knowledge among 300 final year MBBS students from seven medical colleges in Bangladesh. Using the KCAHW questionnaire, the average knowledge score was 12.9 out of 19. Students showed good understanding of social interaction and communication problems but had gaps in recognizing behavioral patterns and comorbidities. Many students mistakenly thought autism was childhood schizophrenia. Most information came from TV, newspapers, and the internet.

Strengths:

1. Large sample size with students from both government and private colleges.
2. Used a standardized and validated tool .
3. Clear data presentation with domain-wise scores.
4. Highlights important misconceptions in medical education.

Weaknesses:

1. Based on self-reported questionnaire only.
2. No practical clinical assessment or skill evaluation.
3. Limited to Dhaka University medical colleges.
4. Cultural and educational differences may affect generalization.

Overall Assessment:

A well-conducted study showing that Bangladeshi medical students have fair knowledge about autism but significant gaps remain in behavioral and comorbidity aspects. It stresses the need for improved curriculum and training.

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

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Manuscript accepted for the publication.