

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-53399

Date: 19-08-2025

Title: Family Medicine Residents Knowledge and Confidence in Doing Minor Surgical Procedures in Tabuk City, Saudi Arabia

Recommendation:

Accept as it isYES.....

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 Aamina

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

General Assessment:

The manuscript presents an important study that addresses the knowledge, confidence, training, and perceived barriers of family medicine residents in performing minor surgical procedures (MSPs). It provides valuable insights into residency training within the context of Saudi Arabia, with a focus on Tabuk City. The research is highly relevant for medical education, health systems strengthening, and the delivery of primary health care.

Originality and Relevance:

The paper makes a timely contribution to the limited body of research on MSP training among family medicine residents in Saudi Arabia. By investigating both knowledge and confidence levels, as well as training experiences and systemic barriers, the study offers a multidimensional understanding of how residency programs prepare physicians for essential procedural skills in primary care. This relevance extends to residency program directors, policy makers, and educators seeking to optimize training.

Clarity and Structure:

The abstract is comprehensive, outlining the background, objectives, methods, results, and

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conclusions in a clear and structured manner. The introduction contextualizes the research well by linking global health system reforms with the growing importance of MSPs in primary health care. The progression from problem identification to study objectives is logical and well-articulated.

Methodology:

The study employs a cross-sectional design using a validated, self-administered questionnaire adapted from prior research, ensuring methodological reliability. The categorization of knowledge and confidence levels based on thresholds provides clarity for interpretation. The use of SPSS for statistical analysis and the reporting of significant and non-significant associations demonstrate scientific rigor.

Findings:

The results highlight key strengths and gaps in MSP training among family medicine residents. Strong knowledge and confidence were evident in basic procedures such as wound suturing and local anesthesia, while advanced or specialty-related procedures (e.g., biopsies, gynecological interventions) reflected lower exposure and confidence. The identification of barriers, including lack of facilities and practical opportunities, underscores systemic challenges within residency training. Importantly, residents expressed strong motivation to improve, signaling a positive outlook for educational interventions.

Contribution to Knowledge:

The manuscript contributes substantially to the literature on residency education and procedural competencies in primary care. It highlights the practical realities of family medicine residency training in Saudi Arabia, offering a context-specific understanding while also adding to global conversations on how to better equip family physicians with procedural skills.

Language and Presentation:

The writing is clear, concise, and academic in tone. Terminology is appropriate for the medical and educational context, and the structure of the manuscript supports readability and comprehension.

Conclusion:

The study provides meaningful insights into the current state of MSP training among family

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

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medicine residents in Tabuk City. By documenting both strengths and gaps, the manuscript underscores the importance of structured educational approaches to ensure competency in a wide range of procedures, thereby strengthening the role of family medicine in primary health care delivery.
