

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-55828

Title: Abortion Curettage Procedures by General Practitioners (A Review of Ethical, Legal, and Justice Aspects),

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision

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

Reviewer Name: Dr Abdul Haseeb Mir

Detailed Reviewer's Report

The article examines an important and sensitive issue at the intersection of medical practice, law, ethics, and public health, namely the performance of curettage procedures by general practitioners in abortion-related contexts. The topic is highly relevant, particularly in healthcare systems where specialist availability is uneven and general practitioners are often placed at the frontline of emergency obstetric care. By addressing ethical principles, legal regulations, and the concept of justice simultaneously, the article contributes meaningfully to discussions in health law and medical ethics, especially within the Indonesian legal framework.

Conceptually, the article is grounded in well-established ethical principles of medical practice, including beneficence, non-maleficence, patient autonomy, and justice. The discussion appropriately highlights the ethical tension that arises when curettage is linked to abortion, particularly in contexts involving unwanted pregnancies, rape, or medical emergencies. The author successfully conveys that ethical dilemmas in such cases do not stem merely from professional misconduct, but from competing moral claims involving the rights of the mother, the fetus, and the obligations of medical professionals. This balanced ethical framing strengthens the normative value of the study.

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From a legal perspective, the article demonstrates a solid understanding of the Indonesian regulatory framework governing abortion and reproductive health. The analysis of Law Number 17 of 2023, Government Regulation Number 61 of 2014, and relevant ministerial decrees is detailed and accurate. The author carefully explains the legal limits placed on abortion and curettage procedures, the conditions under which exceptions are permitted, and the requirement that such procedures be performed by trained and authorised personnel in designated facilities. The discussion is particularly effective in highlighting the legal ambiguity faced by general practitioners when specialists are unavailable, especially in Type D hospitals and geographically remote areas. This focus adds practical relevance to the article and situates legal analysis within real healthcare challenges.

The methodological approach, described as normative juridical research with a statute, case, and conceptual approach, is appropriate for the objectives of the study. The use of primary, secondary, and tertiary legal sources is clearly explained, and the reliance on legislation, legal doctrine, and ethical literature aligns well with the normative nature of the research. While the article does not seek empirical validation, its descriptive and systematic legal analysis is consistent with accepted methods in legal scholarship.

The section on the principle of justice is one of the article's strongest contributions. By linking justice to equitable access to healthcare services, fair distribution of risks and benefits, and non-discrimination, the author moves beyond a purely procedural understanding of law. The discussion acknowledges that justice in healthcare cannot be achieved solely through strict adherence to professional boundaries when structural inequalities, such as unequal distribution of specialists and facilities, persist. The article convincingly argues that general practitioners often face moral and legal vulnerability when acting in emergency situations, and that the state has a responsibility to address these systemic gaps through clearer regulations and institutional support.

Despite these strengths, the article would benefit from several minor revisions. There is some repetition in the explanation of ethical principles and legal provisions, which could be streamlined to improve coherence and readability. Additionally, while the legal analysis is thorough, the argumentative flow could be strengthened by more explicit transitions between ethics, law, and justice, thereby reinforcing the integrative nature of the study. The conclusion effectively summarises the findings but could be enhanced by briefly restating the broader implications for health policy and legal reform. From an

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editorial standpoint, minor language corrections, formatting consistency, and clarification of certain legal references would further improve the overall presentation.

Recommendation

Overall, the article offers a well-structured, normatively sound, and contextually relevant analysis of curettage procedures performed by general practitioners, with particular strength in its ethical and legal reasoning. The issues identified are minor and primarily related to clarity, coherence, and editorial refinement, rather than substantive shortcomings.

I therefore recommend the article for publication with minor revisions.