



REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57864

Title: EVALUATION OF ANTIBIOTIC PRESCRIPTION PATTERNS IN ENDODONTICS -A CROSS-SECTIONAL SURVEY.

Recommendation:

Accept after major revision

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

Reviewer's ID: JPR-198

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This manuscript addresses an important public health issue by evaluating antibiotic prescribing practices among dental practitioners involved in endodontic treatment. The topic is highly relevant given the growing concern regarding antimicrobial resistance and the increasing emphasis on antimicrobial stewardship in dentistry.

The study has a reasonable sample size (n=270), includes different categories of dental practitioners, and evaluates both prescribing behavior and awareness of AMS/AWaRe concepts. The findings provide useful insight into current prescribing trends.

However, several concerns should be addressed:

- The study population is heavily skewed toward practitioners with less than 5 years of experience (73.7%), which may limit generalizability.
- The sampling method (social media distribution) introduces selection bias and may not accurately represent the wider dental community.
- Many results are presented only as percentages without detailed statistical comparisons between practitioner groups, despite the stated objective of comparing endodontists and other dentists.
- The conclusion states there is "significant over-prescription," but the study did not objectively assess appropriateness of every prescription against clinical guidelines. This statement should be softened.

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- Some questions in the survey appear ambiguous. For example, prescribing antibiotics for patients with diabetes, hypertension, or cardiac disease does not necessarily indicate inappropriate prescribing.
- The Discussion is unnecessarily long and repetitive in several sections.
- The AWaRe classification table appears simplified and may require verification against the latest WHO classification.
- No information is provided regarding questionnaire validation, reliability testing, or pilot testing after modification from previous studies.
- The graphical representations are not legible and needs to be presented as high resolution images.

Overall, the study provides useful baseline data but requires stronger statistical analysis and more cautious interpretation of findings.