# scientific reports



# OPEN Validation of self-report of uterine fibroid diagnosis using a transvaginal ultrasound scan

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Self-report of uterine fibroids (UF) has been used for epidemiologic research in different environments. Given the dearth of studies on the epidemiology of UF in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), it is valuable to evaluate its performance as a potential tool for much needed research on this common neoplasm in SSA women. We conducted a cross-sectional study of self-report of UF compared with transvaginal ultrasound diagnosis (TVUS) among 486 women who are members of the African Collaborative Center for Microbiome and Genomics Research (ACCME) Study Cohort in central Nigeria. We used log-binomial regression models to compute the classification, sensitivity, specificity, and predictive values of self-report compared to TVUS, adjusted for significant covariates. The prevalence of UF on TVUS was 45.1% (219/486) compared to 5.4% (26/486) based on self-report of abdominal ultrasound. scan and 7.2% (35/486) based on report of healthcare practitioner's diagnosis. Self-report correctly classified 39.5% of the women compared to TVUS in multivariable adjusted models. The multivariable adjusted sensitivity of self-report of healthcare worker diagnosis was 38.8%, specificity was 74.5%, positive predictive value (PPV) was 55.6%, and negative predictive value (NPV) was 59.8%. For selfreported abdominal ultrasound diagnosis, the multivariable adjusted sensitivity was 40.6%, specificity was 75.3%, PPV was 57.4%, and NPV was 60.6%. Self-report significantly underestimates the prevalence of UF and is not accurate enough for epidemiological research on UF. Future studies of UF should use population-based designs and more accurate diagnostic tools such as TVUS.

Uterine fibroid or uterine leiomyoma (UF) is the most common solid and symptomatic neoplasm in women globally and in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). There is a dearth of data on its prevalence, but studies from developed countries show that the cumulative incidence of UF by the age of 50 years is 70-80%. The incidence and prevalence of UF varies significantly by race, and all studies with race data report a higher incidence and prevalence in women of African ancestry. Though benign and frequently asymptomatic, UF is associated with significant morbidities, including menorrhagia and other menstrual abnormalities, anemia, pelvic pain, infertility, pregnancy complications, and occasional mortality. Globally, the total direct and indirect costs of UF after diagnosis or from surgical care ranged from USS11,717 to \$25,023 per patient per year.

There have been very few well-conducted studies of the epidemiology of UF in SSA. In a recent scoping review of several databases", we identified only nine epidemiologic studies of UF in SSA. In a recent scoping review of several databases", we identified only nine epidemiologic studies of UF in SSA. In a recent scoping nethods, swo were hospital-based case-control studies, while the others used different study populations, sampling methods, study designs, and methods of analyses". These studies mostly reported on women who were diagnosed at clinics, pathology, or ultrasound departments". However, data from developed countries estimate that UF is clinically apparent in only 25% of women of reproductive age and leads to clinical presentation in only 25% of these clinically apparent cases'. Hospital-based studies are therefore likely to significantly underestimate the burden of UF in the population and are subject to selection bias.

Self-report of clinical conditions is a commonly used tool in epidemiological research. Almost 90% of urbanized Nigerian women and 97% of those who have received at least 12 years of education receive antenatal care during which abdominal ultrasounds are typically performed. Report of being informed about the

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# **Validation Of Self Report Diagnosis**

**Sebastian Brünink** 

Validation Of Self Report Diagnosis:

# Decoding Validation Of Self Report Diagnosis: Revealing the Captivating Potential of Verbal Expression

In a time characterized by interconnectedness and an insatiable thirst for knowledge, the captivating potential of verbal expression has emerged as a formidable force. Its power to evoke sentiments, stimulate introspection, and incite profound transformations is genuinely awe-inspiring. Within the pages of "Validation Of Self Report Diagnosis," a mesmerizing literary creation penned by a celebrated wordsmith, readers attempt an enlightening odyssey, unraveling the intricate significance of language and its enduring affect our lives. In this appraisal, we shall explore the book is central themes, evaluate its distinctive writing style, and gauge its pervasive influence on the hearts and minds of its readership.

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