

NOTE FROM THE SENIOR MANAGING EDITOR

Addressing post-publication discussion on Reiki study

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The *African Journal of Reproductive Health* is committed to maintaining the highest standards of scientific rigor, transparency, and balanced discourse in reproductive health scholarship. Central to this commitment is our responsibility to provide a platform where research findings, particularly those that generate significant debate can be examined from multiple perspectives in a constructive and evidence-based manner.

In our **July, 2024 issue**, we published the article “*The Impact of Reiki Practice on Episiotomy Recovery and Perineal Pain: A Randomized Controlled Study.*” (Aydemir *et al.*, *Afr J Reprod Health*. 2024 Jul 31;28(7):35-46). Reiki, a complementary therapy involving energy healing, has gained global attention in recent years. However, its scientific validity and clinical utility remain subjects of considerable discussion within the medical and academic communities.

Following publication of the study, concerns were raised by readers and members of the scholarly community regarding the scientific foundation of Reiki, the robustness of the study’s methodology, and the interpretation of its findings. In line with our mission to ensure integrity and foster scholarly dialogue, the editorial team initiated a post-publication review process to address these concerns transparently.

As part of this process, we invited an independent expert in the field to prepare a

commentary examining the study’s theoretical basis, methodological design, potential biases, and the validity of its conclusions. The aim was to provide readers with an informed, objective perspective and to situate the discussion within the broader body of evidence on Reiki and maternal health outcomes.

In this August 2025 issue, we present both the original query highlighting the concerns raised and the response of the invited expert commentary. These contributions, taken together, represent an important step in promoting critical engagement, encouraging methodological scrutiny, and advancing evidence-based dialogue in reproductive health research.

We encourage our readers, whether researchers, clinicians, policymakers, or students to approach this discussion with open minds and critical thinking, recognizing that robust debate is a cornerstone of scientific progress. By facilitating such exchanges, the *African Journal of Reproductive Health* reaffirms its dedication to promoting high-quality scholarship that informs practice, policy, and further research in reproductive health.

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