Reviewer's report

Title: Pattern and determinants of HIV research productivity in sub-Saharan Africa: bibliometric analysis of 1986 to 2005 PubMed papers

Version: 1 Date: 30 September 2009

Reviewer: Jose Manuel Ramos

Reviewer's report:

The total number of manuscript (or total products) must be adjusted for people living with HIV (ratio of the number of publications to the number of people living with HIV.

The reviewer ask to the authors if it possible to do a multivariate regression analyses associated with total products.

Minor essential revisions

Abstract:

Results:
- "HIV indexed in PubMed between 1986 and 2005 is better to move in data sources.
- The reviewer recommend to the authors to present of numbers about number of articles found.
- Write out GDP before using abbreviation

Methods
- The authors used the name of country in French as Co#te d'Ivoire and Ivory Coast for Co#te d'Ivoire?.
- Write out GDP before using abbreviation.

Results
- The table 1, 2 and 3 may be included in only one table.

Discussion

The reviewer think that the authors can include the reference Ramos JM, Gutiérrez F, Padilla S, Masiá M, Martín-Hidalgo A. Geography of medical publications. An overview of HIV/AIDS research in 2003.:AIDS. 2005 Jan 28;19(2):219-20; where Souht Africa was 12d position in number of publication about HIV. Moreover after normalised by GDP, the African countries such as Gambia, Malawi and Guinea-Bissau were the most productive countries. And in African countries as Malawi, Zambia, Rwanda, Uganda, Cote d'Ivore, Guinea, more than 15% of all publication were a HIV research.
References:
Should be check the references 4, 6, 7, and 8

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests'