Reviewer's report

Title: Weight and height Z-scores improve after initiating ART among HIV-infected children in rural Zambia: a cohort study

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Reviewer: Raffaele Badolato

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Sutcliff et al. describe the effect of antiretroviral therapy on growth of HIV-infected with severe malnutrition. The study demonstrates a significant effect of the therapy on both height and weight which is more evident in younger children and in females. However, the study fails to address the contribution of diet and the role of immunodeficiency in the growth after starting ART. These points should be at least discussed in more detail.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

No conflict of interest to declare