Reviewer’s report

Title: HIV-1 Drug Resistance-associated Mutations among HIV-1 infected Drug-naive Antenatal Clinic Attendees in Rural Kenya

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Reviewer: Maria Santoro

Reviewer's report:

This study is aimed at investigating the circulating HIV-1 subtypes and the potential resistance of HIV-1 to antiretroviral drugs among untreated pregnant women in Kenya. Even if the paper presents several limitations (mainly due to the lack of patients’ information), the findings described provide useful information for a better management of HIV infected women in Kenya. Indeed, so far little is known about the prevalence in resource limited settings as Kenya. Therefore, even if the analyses performed are very simple, I think the article worth to be considered for publication.

I recommend only some minor revisions to this manuscript.

The study highlighted that the prevalence of resistance found in antiretroviral-naïve pregnant women is low. It could be interesting provide subtype information of resistant viral strains. Indeed, it is well known that the presence of some resistance mutations is related to subtype. For example, in general the E138K mutation seems to be more common with subtypes A or D in comparison to subtype B.

There are several English mistakes that should be corrected:
- Abstract: Please correct the word “Standford” in “Stanford”.
- Background, page 1, please correct the following words: “There is need” (in “There is a need”; “in need ART” (in “need of ART”); “is hence fewer data” (in “is hence less data”).
- Results: Please correct the sentence “A major protease inhibitor-associated mutation was found at position M46L…”%. Indeed M46L is not a position but is the mutation at amino acid position 46.
- Discussion: Please correct the verb: “there appears” in “there appear”.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests