Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence and risk factors of major depressive disorder in HIV/AIDS as seen in semi-urban Entebbe district, Uganda

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Reviewer: Kee-Lee Chou

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
This paper examines the correlates of major depressive disorder (MDD) in people with HIV/AIDS in Uganda. The authors have addressed an important public health issue given the popularity of HIV/AIDS in that region. However, I have found several concerns as follows:
1. Exclusion criteria for respondents are not clear. Specifically, it is not clear who decided that potential respondents were too sick to participate in the study.
2. The follow-up assessment is irrelevant to the current paper.
3. The measurement of life events is confusing. It is unclear why only life events related to social relationship were included.
4. The measurement of life events and stress must be highly correlated with each other so the authors might check the multi-collinearity of them in multivariate data analyses.
5. Although the authors admitted that some scales have not been validated in local context at the end of this paper, they might state that in methodology section as well.
6. As authors mentioned that the stress-vulnerability model was used in the study, I anticipate that moderating effect will be tested in the paper. Specifically, the moderating role of social support or coping in the link between stress and MDD.
7. In Discussion section, authors proposed that gender difference of MDD may be due to the differential exposure to life events. Ad hoc analysis could be performed to test this speculation using the current data.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.