Reviewer's report

Title: Efficacy evaluation and assessment of knowledge, attitude, and practice among barbers on proper sterilization and disinfection of sharp equipments regarding HIV transmission in Gondar and Bahir Dar towns, Northwest, Ethiopia

Version: 3 Date: 14 March 2012

Reviewer: Kabiru Salami

Reviewer's report:

This study is appropriate and should be published especially due to its epidemiological parlance, which is a step further considering microbiological data in the contribution of barber towards transmission of HIV/AIDS. However, there are some clarifications needed from the authors.

1. Major Compulsory Revisions: The authors need to expand discussion on methodology especially the study design and scope. There is also need to provide more detail information about the 2 study locations. This will help other future studies that are interested in culture-specific. It was stated on page 5 that only male shops were sampled - there is need to justify this position. Experience has shown that both sex operate barbering as business and for both male and female, young and adult. This should be checked along with the result on page 7 line 3.

2. Minor Essential Revisions: Authors should crosscheck for omission of words which can hamper the meaning of key points in the study.

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