Reviewer's report

Title: The HIV epidemic and prevention response in Tigrai, Ethiopia: A synthesis at sub-national level

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Reviewer: Kwasi Torpey

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Well written paper on HIV epidemic and prevention response in Tigrai: A synthesis at sub-national level. The study utilizes multiple data sources including DHS, routine ANC, HCT and PMTCT data. Inferences are drawn based on the data.

The paper highlights the importance of Knowing Your Epidemic as a result of heterogeneity associated with national level data. Aggregated data at the national level may not reflect the situation at the subnational level. Generating subnational level data is critical for informed decision making, programming and implementation strategies.

This paper attempts to tie all these important elements together with respect to Tigrai and will contribute significantly to the response in the region.

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 I have no competing interest.