Reviewer's report

**Title:** Time to Presentation, Pattern and Immediate Health Effects of Alleged Child Sexual Abuse at Two Tertiary Hospitals in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 24 October 2013

**Reviewer:** Catherine Mbagaya

**Reviewer's report:**

**Major Revisions**

1. There is a fair attempt to define the problem. It is however important for the authors to provide a good background with regard to child physical abuse and sexual abuse and associated health outcomes.

2. The methods are ok, they show what the sample was and how data was derived. There is however vagueness on the data analysis technique why was the Fisher’s test used for analysis. Did the author use chi square and then the fisher’s test as a confirmatory for the significant findings? This must be clarified. It looks, like chi square was used and should therefore be reported as indicated in the comments made in the reviewed paper. Also it is important that the table shows observed and expected frequencies, then with that, the Chi square is be easily interpreted.

3. The discussions should be improved to show how the present study results fit in the overall literature and not just stating that they agree or disagree with previous studies. The discussions should indicate why the results were the way they were. The conclusion should be as close as possible to the results (even in the use of terms that show effects). The discussion is generally weak.

4. The writing style is below average. There are errors of grammar, poor sentence construction among others. There is need to have the work edited for correctness of language and grammar.

5. The title conveys what has been found but the abstract lacks key issues such as the health effects of the abuse. The statistical analysis techniques are also missing. To say SPSS was used is not sufficient.

**Minor Essential Revisions**

1. Limitations can be improved to communicate that the retrospective nature involved getting information and data from the hospital records and not recall of information from the victims.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare I have no competing interests