Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluations of uptake and attitude to Voluntary Counseling and Testing among health care professional's students' in Kilimanjaro region, Tanzania.

Version: 6 Date: 24 March 2009

Reviewer: Zubairu Iliyasu

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript has improved and the authors have incorporated most of the reviewer’s comments. However, there are other concerns about the manuscript.

MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS

TITLE

The title should read exactly as “Evaluation of uptake and attitude to Voluntary Counseling and Testing among Health Care Professional students in Kilimanjaro region, Tanzania”?

ABSTRACT

Background: Voluntary counseling and testing is the cornerstone for successful implementation of prevention, care and support services among HIV negative and positive individuals. VCT is also perceived to be effective in risk reduction among sexually active young people. This study aimed to assess the acceptability of VCT and its actual uptake among young health care professional students at KCM college of Tumaini University and Allied health schools.

Methodology: ….who were enrolled in degree, diploma and certificate courses at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College and all other Allied health schools.

Delete the last part of the sentence “at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical center campus to assess their acceptance of VCT services.

Results: Remove the redundant fullstops after the first sentence.

All respondents were aware of the benefits of VCT.

Remove “..and on the other hand that most important benefits remained unknown”

Only 107(34.6%) of the students have had VCt done previously.

More results should be presented in the abstract.

BACKGROUND

Indicate at the end, the usefulness of the information that will be generated from this study for policy, curriculum development and provision of youth friendly services
METHODOLOGY
Replace “Class sections with “class sessions”. The statement “the questionnaire was administered to the study participants for validation purposes is not right. Questionnaires are initially administered to similar respondents in a non-participating institution for validation.

Data management
Descriptive statistics were obtained for different quantitative variables. Frequencies and percentages were used to present categorical variables. Furthermore cross tabulations were done……

RISK ASSESSMENT
A higher proportion….compared to 190(96.4%) females. Second sentence: …..reported to have contracted sexually transmitted infections previously. A lower proportion of male students 46(40.4%)…. A higher proportion of females 98(67.1%) reported sexual exposure under the influence of alcohol……

There was no difference in the mean age at sexual debut between the two sexes. The characteristics of sexually active participants is shown in…

However, students who perceived to have low risk of contracting….

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

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