Reviewer's report

Title: Preventive health care among HIV-positive women in a Utah HIV/AIDS clinic: A retrospective cohort study

Version: 1 Date: 16 January 2014

Reviewer: Lisa Wigfall

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions: None

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. In my experience, papilloma virus is one word. The authors should verify and revise if need be.

2. Both "HIV positive" and "HIV-positive" are used. This should be consistent throughout the text and ideally match the description of seronegative counterparts, which from what I recall were consistently referred to as "HIV negative" (i.e. not hyphenated).

Discretionary Revisions:

1. This is a very well written manuscript. The relationship between aging and increased risk for both of these chronic conditions combined with the fact that almost half (48.5%) of the sample is 40+ years old further underscores the author's focus on the need for more preventive health among persons living with HIV/AIDS. However, the disproportionate burden of HIV/AIDS among black females and Latinas raises a few concerns for this reviewer. These include the following:

   a. The majority of the women in this study appear to be white (68.2%) and quite a few are Non-English or Spanish speaking (21.9%). These sample characteristics raises concerns for me, especially without some description of the context of HIV/AIDS in Utah.

   b. I also believe that it is important to convey to the reader the potential role that the use of certain drugs (e.g. protease inhibitors) play with regards to comorbid conditions such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes. My concern is raised even more given the disproportionate burden of both of these chronic conditions among blacks and Hispanics, which this sample of women is largely white (68.2%) and non-Hispanic (21.3%).

2. Although patient-provider communication barriers are introduced, there is no literature to support what some of these barriers may include. This should be added.

3. On page 6, the term "comorbidities" should be clarified. While I could presume that the authors are referring to CVD and diabetes, I still think that this warrants
further clarification.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**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