Reviewer's report

Title: Which health care facilities do adult Malawian antiretroviral therapy patients utilize during intercurrent illness? A cross sectional study

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Reviewer: Sam Phiri

Reviewer's report:

1. Generally the authors address a very important topic looking at where patients on ART go with their inter current illnesses in Blantyre, Malawi. This is a cross sectional study and the authors have clearly described the study methodology. The results have been clearly articulated and the discussion and conclusion have been well balanced supported by valid data.

The authors have clearly acknowledged the limitations of the study eg the fact that the characteristics of patients who were interviewed at the ART clinic may be different with the ones who did not come back to the clinic.

Despite this study being cross sectional by design, the lessons learnt can lead to effective management of patients at an ART clinic including comprehensive patient education for services offered at the ART Clinic.

2. A minor point of accuracy is that the authors state that years if primary school in Malawi is 7. I think the authors should review this as this is generally 8 years. It is only a few private schools that have 6 or 7.

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 that I have no competing interests