Reviewer’s report

Title: When to start antiretroviral therapy in resource-limited settings: a human rights analysis

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Reviewer: Herman Meulemans

Reviewer’s report:

The article has exceptional merits. The approach is a multidisciplinary one and combines in a very readable way bioethical, medical and human rights insights into the early initiation of ART. In some sense the authors apply economic science too, since the scarcity of drugs and human resources is a focal point of interest.

There are more qualities in this exquisite piece of research and discussion. I’m sure that the audience will have the feeling that not only the wisdom, collected from the long list of relevant references, is important, but also the field experience of the authors. This is illustrated by the many small interludia (f.i. pre-ART defaulting, human rights principles, the issue of stigma, task-shifting).

Super!

Level of interest: An exceptional article

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