Reviewer’s report

Title: Determination of Hematological and Immunological parameters among HIV positive patients taking HAART and HAART naive in the ART clinic of Gondar University Hospital, Gondar, Northwest Ethiopia: a comparative cross-sectional study

Version: 3 Date: 13 January 2014

Reviewer: Ivan Gentile

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have improved the manuscript significantly, but some points still needs to be improved according to my previous comments. Herein I list the issues that still remain open.

Major Compulsory Revisions still needed

1) Concerning the point one of the previous review, the authors gave a complete answer to me, but they should include this answer in the method and in the abstract of the manuscript.

2) Concerning the point 2 (statistical analysis) the authors did not improve in a satisfactory way the manuscript. In fact, nevertheless comparisons on qualitative variables (%) are present in the manuscript, it is not reported the statistical test used to perform such comparisons. Finally, logistic regression analysis must be performed in order to find the independent predictors of hematological abnormalities.

3) Concerning the point 3, the authors included a table (table 1) with demographic data. However they did not perform a separate analysis for AZT- and non-AZT-based HAART as I suggested. At-least they should give details on which drug is used in HAART in table 1.

Minor essential revision

1) Concerning the point 5 of previous minor essential revision, the authors included only some of the references indicated. All of them should be included and their content should be discussed thoroughly

Discretional

Statistical analysis details are usually not reported in the abstract

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: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests