Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of anemia before and after initiation of antiretroviral therapy among HIV infected patients at Black Lion Specialized Hospital, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: a cross sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 30 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Alauldeen Zubair

Reviewer's report:

Dear author,

The paper is well written and the data is well presented. However, I am afraid that there is a major flaw in the study design because no age and sex matched healthy controls were recruited. You have to compare the hematological parameters of your study group to that of healthy volunteers before saying there are certain abnormalities. Especially that you stated there are no regional studies of normal values in your country and you depended on WHO normal values. This makes a control group even more fundamental. You cannot make conclusions without it.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes
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If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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