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: 2 Date: 19 Dec 2017

Reviewer: Alauldeen Zubair

Reviewer's report:
Dear author,

Although your study involved the same patient group and hematological parameters were compared before (baseline) and after treatment, however age and sex matched controls are necessary not only to compare results but also to establish a normal range for healthy population in study region. This becomes even more essential because there are no previous studies to establish a normal reference range for your population. How can you label patients as anemic without a local reference range? The lack of a healthy control group is a critical flaw in this study and must be mentioned as a limitation in the discussion. Otherwise the paper cannot be accepted as such.

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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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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