Author’s response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of Anemia and its associated factors in Human Immuno Deficiency Virus infected adult individuals in Ethiopia. A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

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Author’s response to reviews:

Date 17 Sep 2018

To: BMC Hematology Editorial
From: AyenewNegesse
Subject:A letter Accompanying second revision in response to reviewers comments

Dear Editors

Thank you for your acceptance of our original article to be published at BMC hematology. I am happy to resubmit the second revised version of “Prevalence of Anemia and its associated factors in Human Immuno Deficiency Virus infected adult individuals in Ethiopia. A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis” for publication in BMC Hematology Journal. The comments of the Editors and the reviewers were still highly insightful and enabled us to greatly improve the quality of our manuscript once again. In the following pages, we have addressed all the comments raised from reviewers and we already send the revised manuscript without any track changes.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.
With regards

AyenewNegesse

On the behalf of other authors

Reviewer 1 comments and authors justifications

1. Line 98 need to be revised as “may be attributed”

• Thank you for your comment: we already revised at the manuscript.

Reviewer 2 comments and authors justifications

1. I am not really satisfied about a couple of things. It seems to me that studies with no accessible full text were excluded. Maybe you could explain what are "all the PRISMA-P searching strategies."

• Thank you for your suggestion for the betterment of this manuscript. For better understanding the manuscript we revised it like as the following:

   Based on the eligibility criteria, we read their titles and abstracts. If studies are relevant for our review, we examined the full texts. Those papers which didn’t fully accessed at the time of our search process were excluded from this review after contact was attempted with the principal investigator through email at least two times. After reading the abstracts, if the studies are relevant to our review, we examined the full texts. The reason for the exclusion of these articles is that we are unable to assess the quality of each article in the absence of their full texts. Studies which didn’t report specific outcomes for anemia and associated factors quantitatively were also excluded from this systematic review and meta-analysis. Moreover, studies with poor quality as per settled criteria and review articles were also excluded from the review (refer line 172-180).

2. You are saying that "we used websites which may access full text papers freely." However, many of the mentioned search engines (such as PUBMED) do not provide full text papers freely.
Thank you for this question. As you mentioned there all of the electronic data bases don’t provide the full text articles. We also share your idea. However there are some electronic data bases for searching of full text articles which may access it freely in developing countries. For example we used Hinari WHO data base center for full paper access. Articles which can not be freely accessed on the other data bases may also be accessed in this particular WHO data base center.

3. Finally, I am suggesting explaining how you would strength the system and procedures for the early diagnosis of opportunistic infection and screening of underlying problems like under nutrition."

• Thank you for your concern, we tried to revise in the manuscript.

• The system is strengthened if it is focused on technical update training on opportunistic infection diagnosis and treatment guidelines, on nutritional assessment, counseling and support (NACs), on strengthening of laboratory facilities which can detect opportunistic infections early in infection. Moreover linkage of case managers, mother groups and HIV/AIDS union with ART clinic can also strengthen the system and procedures for early diagnosis of opportunistic infection and screening of undernutrition (refer line 361-366).

Editor comments!

Thank you for your question: we already sent the final and cleaned version of the manuscript without any track changes.