Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 0 Date: 29 Aug 2018

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS: To view the full report from the academic peer reviewer, please see the attached file.

REVIEWER COMMENTS FROM REPORT: This is an interesting study. I appreciate the methodological rigor. I also appreciate the use of the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols and the Joanna Briggs Institute Meta-Analysis of Statistical Assessment and Review Instrument.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

This review considers articles published in English only. However, given the focus of the study (i.e., Ethiopia), I wonder why articles published in the languages of Ethiopia were excluded. I mean, this is not a review of articles published throughout the world. Studies with no accessible full text were excluded. This is not a good reason. There are other ways to get the articles (e.g., contacting the authors). Grey literature (e.g., health authorities reports) was not mentioned. This is a flaw. It is important to remember that, according to PRISMA-P, the inclusion or not of literature in multiple languages and unpublished data can influence the effect estimates in meta-analyses.

Why were only studies conducted in rural households of Ethiopia considered?

In subgroup analysis and meta regression, the sampling method, sample size, and mean age should be taken into account. In addition, gender distribution was not considered among the characteristics of included studies, as well as subgroup analysis and meta regression.

The study found that 1/3 of HIV infected adult individuals were anemic. This is not a surprising result and is similar to previous studies in developing countries. The theoretical and practical implications of the study findings need to be discussed more deeply. For instance, what is the exact meaning of strengthening the system and procedures for the early diagnosis of opportunistic infection and screening of underlying problems like undernutrition?
ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:

There are some typos that need to be corrected.

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

No

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?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
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