Reviewer’s report

Title: Sero-prevalence and trend of human immunodeficiency virus among blood donors in Ethiopia: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

Version: 1 Date: 10 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Ngu Abanda

Reviewer's report:

This review summarises the pool sero-prevalence and trend of HIV among blood donors in Ethiopia. The authors impressively explained their methodology and provided adequate analysis. However, there are several issues that need to be clarified prior to publication.

1) It is unclear as to what research question the authors are trying to address or what this systematic review helps address.

The pooled sero-prevalence of 2.69 % (95% CI 1.79% - 3.58%) HIV among blood donors in Ethiopia is similar to that reported in the studies included in this review. This similarity in sero-prevalence lessens the claim of the authors stated in line 93 page 4. It will be great if the authors could further substantiate the need for a systematic review.

In Fig 6, the authors showed a decreasing trend of HIV sero-prevalence and in line 225 to 226 on page 10, the authors, attributed this decreasing trend to public awareness and effective control measures. It will be great if the authors could provide more details on these control measures and strategies.

2. Line 112 and 113 page 5. Master's thesis and dissertations were included into this review. How were these obtained?


4. The authors provide contradictory opinion

Line 215. The authors suggested that the high prevalence of HIV in blood donor was due to low public awareness regarding HIV. However, in line 225, the authors suggested an increase in public awareness regarding HIV as the reason for a declining trend of HIV sero-prevalence among blood donors.

5. Please provide references

Line 92 -93 please reference source
Line 232 - 234 please reference source
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.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
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