Author’s response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of behavioral disorders and Attention deficit Hyperactive disorder among school going children in Southwestern Uganda

Authors:

Apollo Kivumbi (apoku@live.com)
William Byansi (byansiw@wustl.edu)
Christopher Damulira (ddamchrist1@gmail.com)
James Mugisha (jmmugi77@hotmail.com)
Phionah Namatovu (namatovuphionah7@gmail.com)
Ozge Bahar (ozge.sensoybahar@wustl.edu)
Mary Mckay (mary.mckay@wustl.edu)
Kimberly Hoagwood (kimberly.hoagwood@nyumc.org)
Fred Ssewamala (fms1@wustl.edu)

Version: 1 Date: 23 Aug 2018

Author’s response to reviews:

Reviewer 1.

Comment 1: (Abstract page 2, line 7)
The paper has been formatted to have straight lines on both ends of the vertical margins.

Comment 2: (Introduction Page 3, line 9)
ADHD has been removed as a disruptive disorder.

Comment 3: (Methods, page 4, line 43)
The questionnaire were in Luganda, the local language. The study team pre tested the questions with back and forth translations, using qualified translators, to ensure meaning is retained. The team also conducted cognitive interviews to ensure meaning across different cultural context.

Comment 4: (Methods, page 4, line 47)
.
was changed to ..

Comment 5: (Results, page 5, line 48)
Out of all the participants meeting the inclusion criteria, only participants refused to participate and it because the guardian couldn’t committee to the time requirements of the research project. The guardian was a migratory laborer.

Primary school especially the lower grades have more females enrolled and these drop out as they grow older, therefore since recruitment occurred in these lower grades, the study population ended up with more females.

Comment 6: (Discussion, Page 6, line 36)
Prior psychiatric disorders were not assessed but rather self-reported by the study participants after being asked by research assistants trained in CITI certificates and Good clinical practices.

Comment 7: (Discussion, Page 6, line 53)
The wording has been revised to reflect the high rate (25%) of impairment to be attributed to poverty, parental death, violence e.t.c.

Comment 8: (Discussion, Page 6, line 56)
The location of the study, Uganda, has been added to the statement.

Comment 9: (Discussion, Page 7, line 40)
This has been harmonized throughout the manuscript to show grade 2 through 7.
Comment 10: (Discussion, Page 7, line 47)

Yes the study collected data from caregivers only and the study team considers that as a limitation because data from teachers might have given different rates and it would have been in the study team’s interest to compare and report from both sources.

Comment 11. (Conclusion, page 8, line 7)

The possible explanations have been included as the reason why the team observed high prevalence rates in the region.

Comment 12: (Declaration, Page 8, Line 19)

We have replaced guardians with caregivers in the whole manuscript for purposes of consistency.

Comment 13: (Declaration, page 8, line 25)

A statement about consent to publish has been added to the manuscript

Reviewer 2. The were general comments.

Comment 1

While we presented differences in mean age of sexes, this manuscript seeks to answer the question of overall occurrence of DBDs. Therefore, while the authors agree with the reviewer, the authors feel that the reviewer’s suggestion could be addressed in a manuscript of its own

Comment 2

No we did not check the distribution of the sample because all our analysis was based on finding out absolute counts hence prevalence. The manuscript for inferences will be prepared at a later time after collection of more data.
Comment 3

The authors have added 3 more references to the list.