Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 2 Date: 01 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Douglas MacInnes

Reviewer's report:

Dear Authors,

Thank you to the authors for responding to my comments. The following clarifications were made in relation to some of the comments made.

1. "For this particular study, we did not examine HIV prevalence rate and poverty. The results described in this study are derived from the baseline screening measures which focused on understanding the prevalence of behavioral disorders among school going children. Further our assessment batteries did not capture information on HIV status and income of participants. As a result, it is difficult to assess its impact on the prevalence of behavioral disorders".

2. "For this paper we did not look at caregiver characteristics. These will be reported in papers that will focus on the longitudinal data".

3. "The present study is part of a bigger study that involves children participating in an intervention entitled "Happy Families". In addition, subsequent study assessments will include children. Therefore, we needed parents/caregivers' consent for their children to participate in future assessments and the intervention".

1. These are very helpful in allowing readers to get a broader overview of the content of the research. For this reason, I think it would be helpful for readers if you could briefly detail this information in the main text.

I still have some comments relating to the statistics reported and the findings that are presented. You note in the text that Table 1 reports the median age of the participants. However, the table notes that the figures in parentheses relate to standard deviation and that t-tests were used to examine differences between the ages of the male and female participants. Both of these can only be combined with mean scores. Have you reported the average age rather than median age?
Tables 2, 3, and 4 report the number of participants and percentages of those who scored positively (and negatively) on the following: from the Disruptive Behavior Rating scale (total score, ODD and CD sub-scales), Iowa Connors Scale (total score, ADHD and ODD sub-scales), and Impairment Rating scale (4 items or more concerns expressed). You have noted the composition of the scales but there is no information for readers to identify the criteria for a participant being categorised as scoring positively on these scales (and also sub-scales). It would be helpful to address this.

I note you have included the degrees of freedom for the chi-square statistic. I also think it would be helpful to state the exact p values calculated from the statistical tests conducted or give the reasons for why these are not able to be reported.

**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.

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**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable
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