Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence and correlates of depressive symptoms among adults living with HIV in rural Kilifi, Kenya

Version: 0 Date: 08 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses a testable research question(s) (brief or other article types: is there a clear objective)?

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

No - there are minor issues

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

No - there are minor issues

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

Yes - appropriate statistical analyses have been used in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

No - there are minor issues

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Is the current version of this work technically sound? If not, can revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

Probably - with minor revisions
PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: This is an interesting and well performed study. Authors have been successful in selecting samples, data collection and analysis. Discussion should be improved by explaining the clinical application of findings.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

I expect to see the specific rational for performing this study in a regional center in Kenya. What is different in this region about HIV?

How the 450 samples were selected from all eligible samples? Were samples selected randomly or not? More description of medical and cognitive exclusion criteria is required. What was study power? How the collinearity was tested? Why they kept BMI in final model? Did they check departure from linearity in continuous variables? Please report AUC for final model.

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.

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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