Reviewer’s report

Title: Social and Clinical Attributes of Patients who restart Antiretroviral Therapy in Central and Copperbelt Provinces of Zambia

Version: 4 Date: 25 November 2015

Reviewer: Edward Mills

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for responding to each recommendation in the review. Overall, the paper has improved, but there are still some challenges with how the results are presented. In particular, recommendation #4 to reorganize the way the findings are displayed has not been adequately addressed. Unfortunately there are still some concerns about how the results are presented in Table 2.

1. The title of the table mentions results at 6, 12, 18 and 24 months, but only 6 months and 24 month results are shown.
2. It seems like the age group 35-44 is missing in the table.
3. If not all variables are significantly associated with the outcome at the bivariable level, why were they included in the multivariable model?
4. It is not clear how CD4 count at the start at the time of restart is related. Please check this as the values presented in the table don’t make sense.
5. Please name the facilities, as opposed to calling them Facility 1, Facility 2 – your reader does not know what this means.
6. It is not necessary to present both Confidence Intervals AND p-values. You can use p-values to identify variables significant at the bivariable level, but you should present only confidence intervals for your final, parsimonious multivariable model. They convey more information and it will make the table tidier.
7. Multivariable and multivariate are not interchangeable words. This should be corrected throughout the paper. Here is a reference that explains.
   http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=%22Multivariate+or+Multivariable+Regression%3F%22+hidalgo
8. There are superscripts in the table that I assume refer to a legend, but this is not present. Does AC mean adjusted coefficient?

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests