Author’s response to reviews

Title: Clinical and immunological failure among HIV positive adults taking first line Antiretroviral therapy in Dire Dawa, Eastern Ethiopia

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Version: 2 Date: 11 May 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

Editor comment

1 - In the sample, you describe 15 years old as adults – please align this to a global standards for age groups.

Response: The study included those patients greater than or equal to 15 years and hence this includes adolescents and adults. So as per the comment, this age groups are mentioned as “adolescents and adults” in the sample.

2 - There are grammar and punctuation errors as well as typos such as the use of capital letters in the middle of a sentence. This is observed throughout the document – my recommendation was to seek language editing before you submit your revised manuscript – this was not done. Provide proof of language editing when you submit the revised manuscript.

Response: The comment is well accepted and as per the recommendation, we managed to get professional English language editing service from American Journal Experts (AJE). As a proof of language editing, the editorial certificate provided from the AJE is attached with this revised manuscript.

3 - Follow the journal’s format for in text citation and reference list
Response: All the citations and reference lists are carefully reviewed and corrected as recommended. The journal recommends the use of Vancouver referencing style and hence, the style is used throughout.

Reviewer Comment

1 - Include full form of abbreviations at their first mention. E.g. SSA

Response: The comment is well taken and all relevant editions are made including language edition. E.g. SSA on page 3

2 - Your response to the comment is appreciated, but still the way you responded (the English) is less informative for some of the comments. E.g. page 4 line 32-34 (a single study found in the review in Ethiopia …) is this to mean it is a review article?? Or your search of studies conducted in Ethiopia?

Response: This time, the whole document is edited by a language professional, the AJE. I believe most of the language issues are addressed

3 - Please include citation of the source documents for your data extraction tool

Response: Citation is included, reference #16