Reviewer’s report

Title: C - reactive protein and interleukin - 6 levels among human immunodeficiency virus -infected patients with dysglycemia in Tanzania

Version: 1 Date: 22 May 2019

Reviewer: Akinobu Nakamura

Reviewer's report:

In this cross-sectional study, authors investigated the levels of CRP and IL-6 on a cohort of PLHIV and its associations with dysglycemia in Tanzania. This study showed that the prevalence of dysglycemia among their sampled PLHIV population on ART was 32%, and that high CRP or being on a stavudine based regimen were significantly associated with having dysglycemia. These results are interesting in essence. There are, however, some points which should be addressed for publication in this journal.

Specific comments

Criticism 1: (Methods) Were participants taking antidiabetic or antihypertensive agents included in this study?

Criticism 2: (Methods) Diagnosis with dysglycemia: Was there the presence of IFG+IGT in this study?

Criticism 3: (Methods) Diagnosis with dysglycemia: "diabetes mellitus (DM), defined as a fasting blood glucose of ≥7.0mol/L and a glucose level ≥11.1mol/l 2 hours after a 75g oral glucose load" In this case, which is true, "and" or "or"?

Criticism 4: (Discussion) "According to Lufti et al, immune inflammatory response may be the result of a change in metabolism by initiating insulin resistance in order to reduce energy consumption for body activities other than host defence." How about insulin resistance in these participants? Did authors check their serum insulin levels?

Criticism 5: (Discussion) "because the male gender is associated with excessive IL-6 expression (p-value 0.008) [39]." Please show the data of IL-6 levels separated by gender.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

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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