Title: Views and experiences of health care professionals towards the use of African traditional, complementary and alternative medicines among patients with HIV infection: the case of eThekwini health district, South Africa.

Authors:

Manimbulu Nlooto (Nlooto@ukzn.ac.za)

Version: 3
Date: 16 January 2015

Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Following reviewers’ comments I have simplified the article. Therefore I have taken out a lot of information on adverse drug reporting by health care workers. Another publication should contain that part of information; however I kept relevant data for reporting toward the use of traditional, complementary and alternative medicines.

with regard to the associate editor’s comments I have provided for every percent the relevant standard error and relative error as well. Issues raised by one the reviewers on the selection of the sites and participants are clearly described under methods. The provincial list contained 16 accredited public antiretroviral clinics in the eThekwini, but ten gave us the permission to enter their premises.

This study enrolled health care workers, no patients were included. Information reported here refers to health care workers. Triangulation as suggested by one of the reviewers was not among our objectives at the time of conception, no contact was made with patients.

Observed cases or real-life experiences refer to cases where respondents had experiences in patients who used both antiretroviral therapy and traditional, complementary and alternative medicines.

The introduction, results, discussion and conclusion sections have been improved to include missing substantial information.