Reviewer’s report

Title: Challenges in the delivery of public HIV testing and counselling (HTC) services in Douala, Cameroon: Provider perspectives and implications on quality of HTC services

Version: 0 Date: 20 Dec 2016

Reviewer: Tamara Loutfi

Reviewer’s report:

1. Introduction:

"In a recent retrospective analysis of HTC records of the six district hospitals of Douala, study (January, 1st 2009 to December, 31st 2014), we found an overall FTR rate of 14.3% [8]."
Comment: FTR was not defined earlier (use full spelling)

2. Methods:

Study Design:

2.1: "Seim-structured interviews" and "non-participant observation" : the authors do not explain why they used these methods. They should elaborate and clarify why they chose these and not other (structured interviews, focus groups ... )

2.2: Two components of the model were assessed: the staff (HR) and the equipment. The process was not assessed;

The patients' preferences and perspectives were not assessed. It is important to take the values and preferences of the patients as they are the ones receiving the services. Patients are part of every step of the model.

3. Results:

3.1: is using the terminology "clients" instead of participants or patients or care seekers the best?

4. Discussion:

No comment

5. Conclusion:

No comment
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.

Yes

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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