Reviewer's report

Title: Fertility desire and associated factors among patients on highly active antiretroviral treatment at Finoteselam hospital Northwest Ethiopia. A Cross sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 20 May 2015

Reviewer: Roselline Achola

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions

3. Are the data sound and well controlled?
The data in this study is well controlled and is a representation of the findings. However, under results, the authors needed to show more triangulation for better interpretation of the results since they did in depth study as well. The presentation of the result should be significantly strengthened for better publication.

5. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
Yes, the authors tried to adhere to the relevant standards of reporting. However, they ought to be consistent with the use of words and also ensure proper grammar use in sentence construction in order to give meaning to their study findings. The presentation of the findings was not very appealing due to the style of writing they chose.

6. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
From the statistics shown in the study, it is evident that some participants have the desire for children that may require quick policy, guidelines and protocol reviews/formulation. Thus, the discussions and conclusions that are supported by the available data needed to be more explicit and well triangulated.

8. Is the writing acceptable?
The writing style used may be acceptable but the authors needed to make it more appealing. Secondly, there is also need for improvement in the consistency of use of words like patients vs clients that were used interchangeably across the entire document especially in the abstract section. The grammer also should be significantly improved. The authors also need to appreciate that the study participants who enrolled for HAART may not be patients passé, but are clients more especially if their well being have been improved by ART. In general, the presentation of the manuscript is good but in the abstract section, it requires review to see a much more appealing writing style with appropriate ways of data presentation and good packaging of words to give proper understanding of the
meaning.

Discretionary Revisions

1. Is the question posed by the authors new and well defined?
According to this manuscript, the research questions or hypothesis/objectives posed for this study was well articulated, clear and well defined. My opinion is that this study is relevant.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described, and are sufficient details provided to replicate the work?
The methodology was appropriate as described by the authors in the methods section. I commend them for giving sufficient information for better understanding and possible replication. However, in the second paragraph under methods in the manuscript, the authors need to clarify on the age of consent by Ethiopian law.

4. Do the figures appear to be genuine, i.e. without evidence of manipulation?
Since this is a study, where participants were interviewed for their opinions on fertility desires and assessing factors associated to it, I believe that this is true findings of the study. Secondly, the computation of the proportions were accurate basing on the total sample size.

7. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
Yes. There is significant correlation between the title and the findings of the study as presented in the manuscript but as I already said above, the hypothesis is very important.

Given my assessment, my views do concur with the study and its contribution on improving the policies on the HAART that if well attended to, will go a long way to help the country’s family planning and HIV programming.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.