Author’s response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of sexually transmitted infections and associated factors among the University of Gondar students, northwest Ethiopia. A cross-sectional study

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Author’s response to reviews:

We confirm that we have read the instructions for reviewers and attached the respond on a point-by-point basis.

Reviewer 3

1. If you did pre-test, what was the modification?

Response: Yes, reducing error to acceptable levels requires the pre-testing of data collection instruments before the actual data collection. We have done a pre-test and did necessary modification on the questionnaire such as check for glitches in wording of questions, lack of clarity of instructions (understandable), adding necessary responses, some questions didn’t contain more than one answer options then modified them after pre-test, and ordering of questions were the modifications we have done after pre-test.

Some example: on the reasons for not using condom consistently – cost related reason (being Expensive) incorporated after pre-test, and also for the question asking the place of treatment for their previous STI (if had) – we included Pharmacy as one place of treatment after pre-test.

2. In order to assess Knowledge of STIs, you used STI related items and used mean as a cut-off point. Did you check the normality of the data?

Response: To assess the knowledge of the students on STIs we have used different questions. For those questions, we checked the normal distribution of data. The data was normally distributed so we have used the mean value as a cut-off point
3. Line 19-24 is not clear, "Students were asked about their experience of non-sexual risky behaviours to assess the level of exposure for substances and pornography."

Response: We have now revised and amended these sections to be cleared.

4. Major comments * The authors' answered the comments and questions point by point, but some of the comments and questions are not addressed in the manuscript part * The comments on discussion part is not addressed at all

Response: We have tried to revise the manuscript and incorporate the comments. On the discussion part we have received the comments and tried to add, discussed and explain the result and possible reasons for the findings of the study.