Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence and associated factors of common mental disorders among adult patients attending HIV follow up service in Harar town, Eastern Ethiopia: A cross-sectional study

Version: 0 Date: 21 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Haruo Fujino

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript titled "Mental health impact of HIV/AIDS among adult patients undergoing HIV service in Harar town, Eastern Ethiopia: A cross-sectional study" attempts to investigate prevalence and factors associated with mental health issues in adults with HIV/AIDS. This study may be good initial attempt to estimate the prevalence of mental health issues in adults with HIV/AIDS in Eastern Ethiopia; however, this manuscript have insufficiency in its current form. Followings are some of my comments and suggestions:

-Background section is too short in comparison to broad aim of this study. Summarize what the previous studies have shown about mental health issues in adults with HIV/AIDS, what was shown in studies in sub-Saharan Africa (or developing countries), and which factors were reported to be associated with mental disorders or mental health problems in those studies. Additionally, please support each statement in the first paragraph (I to V) with references.

-Generally, more concrete information is needed in Methods section. One of those issues is limited information about main outcome variable (i.e., SRQ-20). What is SRQ-20? Who developed the original measure? Why the authors were able to determine patients have mental disorders only based on the scores? Why the standardized questionnaire was used in interview-form instead of self-report? More clear description and information about Methods are needed.

-Define the abbreviated words (e.g., STI, ART, and SRQ) in its first appearance.

-English editing is recommended.

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.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Unable to assess

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

**Declaration of competing interests**
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license ([http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.
I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal