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: 05 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Michael Musker

Reviewer’s report:

This is an important piece of work and I think it should be published, but I think they need some support with translation to English. I have provided some brief recommendations for alterations below, but further work is likely to be required. The work is important though, so with some work it would be a good publication. I would encourage the authors to persist.

23 QOL acronym requires abbreviation to be identified - Quality of Life.

37 heath used instead of health

43 usage situation - try situation of use

60 cosmin acronym requires abbreviation identified - Consensus-based Standards for the selection of health status Measurement Instruments

64 say a little more about how the exclusion criterion was determined? It just states by the doctors and nurses - what exclusion criterion did they use? Needs a little more explanation (clinical judgement?)

65 - what do you mean by provided a ‘written document’ - do you mean Participant Information Sheet and Consent forms?

68 - how many responses did you receive within this time period out of the n=104?

71 - what do mean by 'original item' - needs more explanation

74, 100, 107 and 126 why are these headings written here - numbering system is confusing? Are they headings - it is unclear, so either change numbering of this, or use a different numbering system for your items below and maybe bold them and possibly use a different font 1) MHSQ and scale development procedure of the Japanese version of the MHSQ (MHSQ-J) - then (1) Scales related to Self-management behavior

80 It is usual to state the Cronbach's α and the test-retest reliability of the tool if making reference to it, rather than just say its satisfactory
96, 112 & 112 Not sure if this is meant to use American English or Australian English spellings? Use of s or z

Check individual referencing - some - inconsistent line 286 and 318 for example

HIV AIDS

Abstract - change to: mental health impacts

Change to: HIV/AIDS can be a serious psychological trauma and can predispose a person to different mental disorders

Change to - co-occurring

Change 'factors of the common mental disorder among' to factors of common mental disorders

'It strengthens the quality of care' ? what does

4 change problem to health

7 change to 'and patients' quality of life'

9 change to co-occurring

12 change to 'treatment outcomes and adherence'.

16 remove 'the' and change 'the common mental disorder' to 'common mental disorders'

25 change to 'standardised questionnaire'

Background

18 change influence on sexual behaviour 'influencing sexual behaviour'

25 need to elaborate acronym when first stated STI

28 change sign to signs

40 change to However, these studies

Methods:

12 change 'to eastern direction' to 'to the direction of the east'.
17 write in full acronym: Antiretroviral Therapy (ART)
18 change to 'who were 18 years or older'

Sampling technique
Change to HIV services
14 What is the Large N and small n mean in Diagram 1? Might need a brief explanation below flowchart.
20 You mention a standardised questionnaire, but to this point you haven't stated what it is? It may be worth putting a sentence here about what the questionnaire is, and why you selected it.
30 graduate nurses rather than 'degree nurses': 3 graduate nurses and all of them were given one-days training prior to the data collection period
31 Did you have ethical approval, and were the clients provided with information about the study, and with a consent form? You have stated this at the end of the article, but may be worth mentioning here, and a little more of how you informed participants prior to the study

Data Processing and analysis
3 change to After checking for completeness

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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.

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 recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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