

Review of: "Mental Health Challenges Among Children and Adolescents Associated With HIV Status Disclosure: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocol"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Review of Article -Qeios Journal

Article title: Mental Health Challenges Among Children and Adolescents Associated with HIV Status Disclosure: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocol (ID: 2TM3KB)

The authors intend to apply a systematic review and meta-analysis to describe the prevalence of mental health challenges and associated factors among children and adolescents living with HIV. It is a study protocol, and the authors are seeking approval to undertake the study. The findings will be important for public health as they will shed light on the burden of mental health challenges faced by children and adolescents after HIV status disclosure.

Find below my specific comments.

Title and abstract

The title of this manuscript is appropriate, but I will suggest it should be rephrased as 'Mental Health Challenges Associated with HIV Status Disclosure Among Children and Adolescents: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocol'. The abstract is in line with the main aspect of the work.

Introduction

The introduction has provided detailed background information relevant to the study. There are no issues of concern with the background of the study.

Methods

The methods are clear and replicable. A few minor corrections are suggested as below:

Exclusion criteria: The word 'as' used at the end of the sentence describing the exclusion criteria should be removed or deleted.

Under search question: Searches will be performed suing Medical Sub-Headings (MeSH) term and keywords to increase specificity and sensitivity; free texts will also be used as indicated below. Here the underlined word 'using' was wrongly

spelt. Also, there should be a full stop after the word sensitivity so that the next sentence will begin with 'Free texts will also...

Under sample of search term, Grey literature was wrongly spelt.

Discussion

The implications of the findings discussed are in line with the objective of the study.