Review of: "Prevalence and Factors Associated With Non-communicable Diseases Among People Living With HIV at Kalisizo Hospital in Kyotera District, Uganda: A Cross-Sectional Study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I appreciate the efforts of the authors to perform and publish this study. It is an important, necessary, and well-written study. In this cross-sectional study from Uganda, the authors investigated the prevalence of selected chronic diseases and some factors related to them among People Living with HIV (PLHIV). They found that depression has the highest prevalence among PLHIV patients, while diabetes mellitus had the lowest prevalence among the selected chronic diseases. Moreover, they found that some factors such as educational level, stage of HIV, and obesity are related to the prevalence of these diseases.

- I think it is a well-written project that could be accepted with some minor changes. My comments are as follows:
- **Title:**

  - Could be shorter and clearer.

- **Abstract:**

  - Introduction section has been started with the word "rural Uganda". If it is correct, it should be explained in the method section as well.
  - Authors did not write about the chronic diseases in the results section. It would be informative if they were added.

- **Introduction:**

  - This section has been written rationally and very well. However, I think it is very long. It would be better if the authors mixed paragraphs 5 and 6 into one paragraph.

- **Materials and methods:**

  - This section has been written rationally and very well. However, I think it is very long. It would be better if the authors mixed paragraphs 5 and 6 into one paragraph.

- **Results:**

  - Since the CIs are wide in some cases, it would be more informative if the number of participants in each

subcategory was added.

- **Data collection:**

  - It was told that a professional team had collected the data. I think it needs to be explained who they are and how and in which field they are professionals. Also, if they are trained for this project, it would be nice if it were explained.
  - It was mentioned that some data has been extracted from the patients' journals. Which data and to what extent?
  - BMI classification has been mentioned in the method section and here. It would be better if there was no repetition.

- **Discussion:**

  - In the second paragraph, it is written that "The elevated NCD prevalence in our study could be attributed, in part, to the adverse socio-economic and psychological impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly impacting PLHIV." Where did this discussion come from? What is the clue on that?
  - The results have been compared with similar results, but we have no idea how different the results are from the population without HIV. In fact, adding a paragraph to compare the results of this study with the prevalence of the comorbidities in the population without HIV shows the magnitude of HIV-associated with the diseases under study.
  - The authors have reported the prevalence of selected chronic diseases individually in their study and discussed them. However, it is not clear to me what will add to our information when they discuss this group of diseases as one group. If they can show the benefit of the paragraph which discusses the prevalence of some specific chronic disease generally, then they can keep it; otherwise, I suggest deleting the paragraph.