

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

Nishanth Krishna Kodyalamoole¹

¹ Father Muller Medical College

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to review this protocol for a systematic review and meta-analysis by Joseph Kirabira, Christopher Brian Zandoni, Christine Atala Etoko et al.

The protocol is very well written and adheres to the PRISMA-P checklist. The research questions are well formulated and are important in the current era where children and adolescents living with HIV/AIDS are surviving into adulthood.

Materials and Methods: As the PRISMA 2020 checklist is available, while reporting the results of the study, the authors may consider the PRISMA 2020 checklist.

Study population: The authors could probably mention if they are only focusing on articles/studies on perinatally infected children/adolescents or all CLHIV irrespective of the source of infection.

Although the authors mention the reason for selecting children aged 8 years onwards, there is no mention of the cut-off of 17 years, as the WHO cut-off for adolescents is 19 years. Also, different countries have different cut-off values for child and adult treatment guidelines.

As the analysis is of a global scenario, the authors may consider articles written in other languages, but translation of which is available in English.

Exclusion criteria: Will any attempt be made to procure the full-text articles from the authors or any other means?

Search strategy: The 3rd paragraph has a typo error - suing (using). Will the search and assessment for eligibility of the articles be done independently by the different authors, or will it be done together?

The rest of the protocol is well written. Best wishes to the authors.