

Review of: "Sero-prevalence of Viral Hepatitis B and C infection and associated factors among Pregnant Women in Southeast Ethiopia: Community-based crossectional study"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Nuruzelam Mohammed, Jeylan Kassim, Ahmednur Adem Aliyi, and Muhammed Jemal Abdurebi wrote a manuscript regarding the seroprevalence of viral hepatitis B and C among pregnant women in southeast Ethiopia. They were also evaluating the factors related to the infection.

The topic the Authors selected is important worldwide and becomes even more important for Ethiopia according to the Authors' statement that there has been no nationwide survey measuring the burden of viral hepatitis infection in different socioeconomic, geographic, and demographic subgroups in the last three decades, and the studies available in Ethiopia have been limited and outdated. The next argument for the study's importance is the possible effect of the five-year 2016-2021 national strategic plan for the prevention and control of viral hepatitis, which was developed to reduce morbidity and mortality attributable to viral hepatitis by promoting prevention.

The study population seemed small initially, but if I understand correctly the "community level" as "the people living in one locality" it became clearer.

I do not understand the assumptions for the study population size. On one hand, The Authors wrote that they had used a single proportion formula with an assumed proportion of 50%. On the other hand, there is provided information that the incidence of viral hepatitis in Africa varies from a few to several percent thus, I wonder if the assumed proportion should be set to about 10%. Taking a look at the results, HBV and/or HCV infection was found in 9.75 of the study subjects.

The rest of the article is clear, it is written in a very understandable manner, and the information regarding study sampling, randomizing, and laboratory testing is comprehensive. The result section is clear.