

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.

Comments to the Authors:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the manuscript titled "Mental Health Challenges Among Children and Adolescents Associated With HIV Status Disclosure: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocol."

The authors want to conduct a meta-analysis and systematic review to assess the probability of mental health issues, together with associated determinants, in children and teenagers living with HIV. The authors are requesting permission to carry out the study, which follows a procedure. The results hold significance for the field of public health as they will illuminate the extent of mental health difficulties encountered by children and adolescents following the disclosure of their HIV status. Please find my specific remarks below.

1. Disclosure may differ from nation to nation. For instance, in some countries, it can start at 6 years. How can authors arrange for this discrepancy?
2. How can we define mental health challenges for this research purpose?
3. Please review your topic and objectives. The topic is better when it is self-explanatory.
4. How can we argue the following: children 0–18 years old or adolescents 12–18 years old, and which will be inclusive, and why only up to 17 years old?
5. Why will authors start in 2000? And really, was ART started in a similar fashion throughout the world?
6. Background lines 2 and 3 need rewriting to be better understood by the reader.
7. Why use the word "several" studies but only cite two references?
8. Some word redundancy, for example, globally, key...
9. It is better to add supplementary files or an appendix like a screening tool form, a pilot study sample, a critical appraisal tool, and other necessities.