

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.

The paper addresses an important healthcare concern among a vulnerable population. The justification is appropriate, and objectives are outlined well. However, there are some areas which the authors can address.

1. Exclusion of people with mental impairments impeding their ability to provide consent may have led to exclusion of participants having another psychological comorbidity with depression and thus an under-estimation of the prevalence of depression.
2. Classification of obesity based on BMI has been explained twice. Repetition can be avoided by removing it from one place.
3. Kindly provide an appropriate reference for physical activity ascertainment.
4. People using any tobacco product were classified as tobacco smokers. However, they may have consumed a smokeless form of tobacco and thus it would be better to use the term tobacco users rather than smokers.
5. SES is a wider term, and income is a proxy for SES. Furthermore, often people are not comfortable reporting their true income, thus leading to bias & misclassification.
6. In results, please use the term 'socio-demographic' on page 8/23.
7. Kindly add relevant units for measures in all tables. Kindly format the tables; at places, the values do not match the sub-group of variables. This leads to confusion in identifying the reference category.
8. Please add footnotes for definitions of these risk factors for the tables to be self-explanatory.
9. Any specific reason for not using the same set of risk factors in each table, given that this paper explores factors associated with NCDs in PLHIV? Furthermore, family history has not been included as one of the factors.
10. In the discussion, para 1: These factors included tertiary education, obesity, WHO clinical stages 3 and 4 of HIV, and adherence to unhealthy dietary patterns. Were these common for all NCDs? This needs to be specified as the same set of risk factors were not assessed for all three conditions.
11. Was the sample representative of the population as it is mentioned that the hospital serves >85% of rural communities.
12. Although the sample size and assumptions have been provided, the study did not meet the required sample size of 296 respondents. Further, the sample size may not be adequate specifically for the sub-groups of risk factors, which is also evident by the wide confidence intervals.

