

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.

First and foremost, I would like to express my gratitude for the invitation to review this article.

I hold a favorable opinion. Hepatitis B, despite being preventable by immunization, remains a virus that continually surprises with its high prevalence rates, owing to the complexity of its transmission abilities, linked to the sociocultural characteristics of various communities. Its findings are comparable to our observation in the indigenous population of the Amazonía.

I have a few comments that need to be addressed, as attention to detail is crucial in any publication. Discrepancies exist between the information provided in the abstract and the main body of the article regarding the volume of the sample used. Similarly, the term 'HBsAgn' needs to be corrected to 'HBsAg' in various sections of the article.

It is essential to highlight that the presence of Anti-HCV does not necessarily indicate an active HCV infection but rather suggests prior exposure to the virus. Therefore, positive patients should undergo confirmation through quantitative RT-PCR to accurately estimate the prevalence of HCV infection.

Lastly, it would be inaccurate to assert in the conclusion of the abstract that "History of dental extraction, hospital admission, household contact, tattooing, and sexually transmitted diseases, blood transfusion plays a great role in the transmission of viral hepatitis." Although these associations have been extensively studied in communities with similar sociocultural characteristics, the findings in this study represent statistical associations. Hence, it is more appropriate to express, as stated in the conclusions, that the mentioned history "was significantly associated with" the transmission of viral hepatitis.