

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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This systematic review plan is quite intriguing. At a time when mental health problems are becoming more prevalent, particularly among teenagers, the author wishes to focus on a specific vulnerable group: teenagers with HIV.

I merely want to highlight it from a conceptual standpoint. According to what I've read, the exposure plan involves disclosing HIV status to adolescents, with no disclosure as the contrast. I believe it is critical to transmit the operational definition of "disclosure"—whether or not the teenager is suffering from HIV, and by whom. In this regard, if it is not disclosed later in assessing the article whether there is a disclosure of HIV status, will the article be removed?

Given that this systematic review is in the arena of HIV-related mental health, I believe it is extremely powerful or near to the path of feeling stigmatized as a result of HIV status, so kids are already aware of their position as HIV patients. It would be different if kids did not know they had HIV; therefore, can it be confirmed that their mental health issues are caused by their HIV status? This may require clarification.

Furthermore, in terms of mental health terminology, is it only limited to depression, anxiety, suicide plans, and stigma? Is it possible to explore well-being?

The manuscript also mentioned a secondary result. Could you explain what that means? Is it a common occurrence in systematic reviews? How will it be presented in the manuscript later?

These are some clarifications for this protocol.

Thank you.