

Review Form 3

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| Journal Name: | Asian Journal of Pediatric Research |
| Manuscript Number: | Ms_AJPR_126302 |
| Title of the Manuscript: | Epidemiological, clinical and biological aspects of childhood HIV in Libreville |
| Type of the Article | |

Review Form 3

PART 1: Review Comments

| Compulsory REVISION comments | Reviewer's comment | Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i> |
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| <p>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p> | <p>The article is relevant in the current dispensation of HIV epidemic worldwide. Its relevance is accentuated especially as it's in the area of paediatric and adolescent HIV. Since the inception of the prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) a lot of African countries have tried to assess the effects of this strategy on vertical transmission and the quality of life of exposed children whose mothers did not access the interventions.</p> | |
| <p>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p> | <p>For clarity I feel the title will read better as: Epidemiological, Clinical and Biological Aspects of Childhood HIV in Libreville; (A Multi Center Retrospective Study between Jan 2015 –Dec 2022)</p> | |
| <p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p> | <p>Although the abstract has captured the main aspects of the manuscript there are a few minor issues that I noted and if incorporated will improve readability. These are stated below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Line 3: Substitute the phrase; "estimated 4.1% for approximately.." with .. "estimated 4.1% with approximately...." 2) Under Material and Methods; Line 1; Replace "concerned" with "involved" 3) Line 6: Clarify the sex ratio.... is it Male to female or Female to Male? | |
| <p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p> | <p>Although the subsections and structure are largely appropriate, there are a few issues noted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) All proper nouns in the manuscript must be capitalized. 2) Since there is no abbreviation key, every abbreviation should be written out in full at initial mention. Eg VL, CTA, CHUMEFJE, HIABO etc 3) The study objectives are not clearly defined. 4) Under Materials and Methods, line 3-4 would read better as " Through the analysis of medical records..." instead of " Thanks to the analysis of medical records.." 5) Under RESULTS, line 12-13 , replace " Fever was the most frequent discovery circumstance.." with "Fever was the main sign/symptom documented.." 6) Under RESULTS, Line 15; Replace "Tuberculosis of any location" with "Extra pulmonary tuberculosis.." 7) Line 17: Statement not clear! Please state clearly the role of ART in increasing the weight of children affected. 8) From Line 20-27: The sentences are not too clear, the percentages do not add up. Please check and confirm the figures and percentages, 9) Under DISCUSSIONS: Line 26-27 .Please rephrase and clarify. "He is provider of orphans....." ?? 10) Line 55: Would read better as " TB is the most documented opportunistic infection in HIV " instead of "the most represented co-infection" | |
| <p>Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p> | <p>Although this is a good manuscript there are a few issues to be considered by the author. A thorough proof-read is necessary to improve readability. Attention should be paid to structure, grammar and abbreviations written out in full at initial mention. Under Results and Discussions the figures and percentages used must be cross checked as some do not seem to add up.</p> | |
| <p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p> | <p>References are sufficient and recent. However Number 16 should be amended with at least 6 names of authors before the "et al".</p> | |

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| Minor REVISION comments Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | Quality of manuscript is generally fine for scholarly communications. However the suggestions listed above would greatly improve readability. | |
| Optional/General comments | Area of study is very appropriate and necessary since HIV/AIDS is still of great public health concern for most nations. There may be paucity of research in paediatric and adolescent children living with HIV and its complications and as such this study is timely. | |

PART 2:

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| | Reviewer's comment | Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here) |
| Are there ethical issues in this manuscript? | <i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i> | |

Reviewer Details:

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|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name: | Kate Coleman-Sarfo |
| Department, University & Country | University of Ghana, University of Health and Allied Sciences (UHAS), Ghana |