

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	International STD Research & Reviews
Manuscript Number:	Ms_I-SRR_123651
Title of the Manuscript:	Uptake of HIV Testing Services Among Refugee Men in Kiryandongo Refugee Settlement Camp, Mid-Western Uganda.
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

General guidelines for the Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guidelines for the Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

Compulsory REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<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 manuscript addresses a crucial issue in the fight against HIV in refugee contexts, where significant barriers to accessing healthcare services, including HIV testing, often exist. The study provides valuable insights into the factors associated with low uptake of HIV testing among refugee men in a specific settlement in Uganda. The analysis of sociocultural and demographic barriers can help develop targeted strategies to increase testing and, consequently, improve HIV care. The study is relevant as it addresses vulnerable populations and provides information that can be used for public health policies</p>	
<p>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p>	<p>Yes, the title clearly and objectively reflects the content and main focus of the study: the uptake of HIV testing services among refugee men in the Kiryandongo settlement, Uganda. However, it could be slightly modified to be more concise and appealing, such as: "Uptake of HIV Testing Services Among Refugee Men in the Kiryandongo Settlement, Uganda."</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>The abstract covers the main points of the study, including the objectives, methodology, results, and conclusions. However, it could be improved by explicitly presenting the key factors associated with low uptake, such as social stigma and lack of awareness. It would also be helpful to include a brief recommendation for health policies based on the findings.</p>	
<p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p>	<p>Yes, the manuscript is well-organized, with clear subsections that facilitate the reading and understanding of the data. The structure follows an appropriate format for research articles, with a well-defined introduction, methodology, results, discussion, and conclusions.</p>	
<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>The manuscript is scientifically sound and technically well-executed. The sampling methods and data analysis are appropriate for the type of study. The results are presented, with well-explained statistical associations and the use of odds ratios (AORs) that help interpret the factors associated with the uptake of HIV testing. The study contributes to the existing literature on HIV and testing among refugee populations, being robust in scientific terms.</p>	
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p>	<p>Yes, the references are adequate, with a good mix of recent and relevant studies supporting the discussion of the results. However, it would be interesting to add more up-to-date references on successful interventions in HIV testing uptake among vulnerable populations, including studies from 2022 or 2023 that could contribute to the discussion.</p>	
<p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>The quality of the language is reasonable, but there are some areas that require grammatical and stylistic revision. I suggest that the manuscript undergo an academic language review to improve the fluency and accuracy of the writing.</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<p>There is no indication of conflicts of interest in the manuscript, and the authors should formally declare that they have no conflicts of interest.</p>	

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PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(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)</i>
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

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