

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Medicine and Health
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJMAH_128493
Title of the Manuscript:	Determinants of Non-Adherence to Antiretroviral Therapy Among HIV Positive Adolescents in a Tertiary Hospital in North Central Nigeria
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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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: 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>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This manuscript significantly contributes to the scientific community by addressing the pressing issue of non-adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART) among HIV-positive adolescents in a high-prevalence region. It identifies a strikingly high prevalence of non-adherence (77.7%) and explores key determinants, including stigma, age, and socio-demographic factors, providing critical insights into barriers to effective treatment. The findings emphasize the need for tailored interventions to improve adherence, which is essential for viral suppression and the prevention of drug resistance. This research also highlights the importance of understanding adolescent-specific challenges in managing HIV, paving the way for more effective healthcare strategies in similar settings.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	The title is suitable.	

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<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 of the article is comprehensive in providing key details about the study's aim, methodology, findings, and conclusions. It outlines the high prevalence of non-adherence to antiretroviral therapy (ART) among HIV-positive adolescents, identifies significant determinants, and proposes strategies to address the issue. However, there are a few areas where it could be enhanced for clarity and completeness:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Explicit Objectives: The abstract does mention the aim but could better emphasize the study's specific objectives, such as identifying socio-demographic and psychological factors influencing adherence. Methodological Details: While the study design and tools used (e.g., the Morisky Medication Adherence Scale) are mentioned, including details like sampling technique and statistical methods adds credibility without overwhelming the abstract. Key Findings: The prevalence of non-adherence (77.7%) and its associations (e.g., stigmatization, education) are well-reported. However, highlighting the most critical determinants in order of their significance could make the findings more impactful. Actionable Recommendations: The conclusion recommends enhanced counseling and targeted interventions, but adding a brief mention of specific actions (e.g., addressing stigma or improving support systems) would make the abstract more compelling. 	
<p>Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</p>	<p>Many references are dated within the past decade, which is acceptable for health research. Some critical references, such as the UNAIDS global HIV statistics (2019) and systematic reviews (2015–2019), are fairly recent, ensuring the article aligns with current trends and findings. However, a few older references (e.g., Mills et al., 2006; Kambale, 2013) might not reflect the latest evidence or advancements in ART adherence research. Including more recent sources from 2020 onwards could enhance the study's relevance.</p> <p>Recommendations for Improvement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add recent studies (2020–2024) on adolescent ART adherence and innovative adherence strategies. Consider adding global or multi-country studies for comparative analysis, especially if similar determinants of non-adherence are highlighted. 	
<p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>Yes. But I observed that the author mixed up past-tense with present tense, in some Parts of the work. For eg the study design, study population, which were reported in present tense.</p>	
<p><u>Optional/General</u> comments</p>		

PART 2:

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

Reviewer Details:

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