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| Book Name: | [**Disease and Health: Research Developments**](https://www.bookpi.org/bookstore/product/disease-and-health-research-developments-vol-1/) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_BPR\_4402** |
| Title of the Manuscript:  | **Community Based Non Communicable Disease Services as a Predictor of Improved Quality of Life of People Living with HIV in Uganda: A Randomized Controlled Trial** |
| Type of the Article | **Book Chapter** |

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| PART 1: 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)* |
| **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 contributes valuable insights to the growing body of research on integrating non-communicable disease (NCD) services with HIV care in resource-limited settings. By demonstrating the effectiveness of community-based NCD services in improving the quality of life (QoL) of people living with HIV, it provides compelling evidence for the scalability and sustainability of such interventions. The findings emphasize the importance of addressing both HIV and NCD comorbidities, particularly as populations with HIV continue to age and face an increasing burden of chronic diseases. This study offers a critical framework for future policy development and program implementation aimed at improving comprehensive care for people living with HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa and beyond. |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?****(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | Impact of Community-Based Non-Communicable Disease Services on the Quality of Life of People Living with HIV in Uganda: A Randomized Controlled Trial |  |
| 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. | **Implications for practice:**It would be helpful to highlight how these findings could inform policy or practice in Uganda or other similar settings, providing a more direct implication of how the intervention might be implemented or scaled. |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.**  |  **Study Design and Methods:*** The use of a randomized controlled trial (RCT) design is appropriate for testing the effectiveness of the intervention (community-based NCD services) and comparing it to the control group (standard HIV services).
* Paired and independent t-tests were applied to compare QoL scores, which is suitable for assessing changes within and between groups. The choice of statistical analysis is appropriate for this type of data.

 **Intervention and Control:*** The description of the intervention is clear: weekly and monthly intervention sessions at community ARV distribution points, with a focus on NCDs and their integration with HIV services. This approach aligns with current strategies for integrated care, which has been shown to improve outcomes in chronic conditions.
* The control group receiving standard HIV services is a typical comparator for evaluating the additional benefits of the NCD intervention.

 **Results Interpretation:*** The reported results show statistically significant improvements in QoL for the intervention group across all domains (physical, environmental, and social). The p-value of 0.000 is strong evidence for the effectiveness of the community-based NCD services in improving QoL.
* However, the manuscript could provide more detailed information on the specific measures of QoL (such as WHOQoL instruments) and the specific components of the NCD services to further clarify the intervention's impact.

 **Context and Relevance:*** The manuscript adequately discusses the growing burden of both HIV and NCDs in Sub-Saharan Africa, specifically Uganda. The dual burden of these conditions is well-documented, and the study's focus on integrating NCD care into HIV services is scientifically relevant.
* The manuscript touches on key issues like the aging population of people living with HIV (PLHIV) and the increasing prevalence of hypertension and diabetes among these individuals. This contextualization supports the need for the intervention.

 **Limitations:*** While the manuscript acknowledges some limitations (e.g., the study being based on participant perception of QoL rather than biomedical measures), it could elaborate on other potential limitations such as generalizability beyond Uganda or the lack of longer-term follow-up data to assess sustainability.
* The study does not mention whether there were any confounding factors (such as sociodemographic variables) that might have influenced the outcomes.

 **Implications for Policy and Practice:*** The findings are presented as having significant implications for the integration of NCD services into community-level HIV care. The recommendation to adopt these services in national HIV management guidelines by the Ministry of Health (MOH) is scientifically sound, as it reflects the importance of integrated care for improving overall health outcomes.
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| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.****-** | **fine** |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | fine |  |
| Optional/General comments |  |  |

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| **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)*** |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?**  | ***(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)*** |  |

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| **Reviewer Details:** |
| **Name:** | **Abhishek Lachyan** |
| **Department, University & Country** | **AIIMS, India** |