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Prevalence of malnutrition and associated factors among adult patients on Antiretroviral Therapy follow up care in Jimma Medical Center, Southwest Ethiopia. --Manuscript Draft--

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| Short Title: | Prevalence of malnutrition and associated factors among adult patients |
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| Keywords: | Antiretroviral Therapy; Follow-up care; HIV/AIDS; Malnutrition |
| Abstract: | <p>Abstract</p> <p>Background: Malnutrition especially under nutrition is the main problem that is seen over people living with HIV/AIDS and can occur at any age. Multiple factors contributed to malnutrition of HIV/AIDS patients and it need immediate identification and prompt action. The objective of this study was to assess the nutritional status of patients and identify factors associated with malnutrition among HIV/AIDS patients on follow-up care in Jimma medical center, Southwest Ethiopia.</p> <p>Methods: A cross-sectional study design was conducted from March-April, 2016. Data was collected retrospectively from clinical records of HIV/AIDS patients enrolled for follow up care in ART clinic from June 2010 to January 2016. Binary and multiple variable logistic regression was done to identify independent predictor of malnutrition.</p> <p>Results: Data of 971 patients were included in the study. The prevalence of under nutrition (BMI<18.5) was (36.8%) (95% CI: 33.8%-39.8%) and out of which severe malnutrition accounts 9.7%. Overweight and obese was 8.6%. Malnutrition was more likely among widowed patients (AOR=1.7, 95% CI, 1.034-2.798), patients in the WHO clinical AIDS staging of three (AOR=2.3, 95% CI, 1.392-3.693) and four (AOR=3.2, 95% CI, 1.667-5.943), patients with CD4 cell count of <200 cells/mm³ (AOR=2.0, 95% CI, 1.463-2.837) and patients with a functional status of bedridden (AOR=4.677, 95% CI, 1.761-12.419) and ambulatory (AOR=2.763, 95% CI, 1.833-4.165).</p> <p>Conclusion: Both under nutrition and overweight are prevalent among HIV/AIDS patients in Jimma Medical Center, Ethiopia. Malnutrition was significantly associated with clinical outcome of patients. Hence, nutritional assessment, care and support should be strengthened. Critical identification of malnourished patients and prompt interventions should be undertaken.</p> |
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1 **Title:**

2 Prevalence of malnutrition and associated factors among adult patients
3 on Antiretroviral Therapy follow up care in Jimma Medical Center,
4 Southwest Ethiopia.

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19

20 Abstract

21 **Background:** Malnutrition especially under nutrition is the main problem that is seen over
22 people living with HIV/AIDS and can occur at any age. Multiple factors contributed to
23 malnutrition of HIV/AIDS patients and it need immediate identification and prompt action. The
24 objective of this study was to assess the nutritional status of patients and identify factors
25 associated with malnutrition among HIV/AIDS patients on follow-up care in Jimma medical
26 center, Southwest Ethiopia.

27 **Methods:** A cross-sectional study design was conducted from March-April, 2016. Data was
28 collected retrospectively from clinical records of HIV/AIDS patients enrolled for follow up care
29 in ART clinic from June 2010 to January 2016. Binary and multiple variable logistic regression
30 was done to identify independent predictor of malnutrition.

31 **Results:** Data of 971 patients were included in the study. The prevalence of under nutrition
32 (BMI<18.5) was (36.8%) (95% CI: 33.8%-39.8%) and out of which severe malnutrition accounts
33 9.7%. Overweight and obese was 8.6%. Malnutrition was more likely among widowed patients
34 (AOR=1.7, 95% CI, 1.034-2.798), patients in the WHO clinical AIDS staging of three
35 (AOR=2.3, 95% CI, 1.392-3.693) and four (AOR=3.2, 95% CI, 1.667-5.943), patients with CD4
36 cell count of <200 cells/mm³ (AOR=2.0, 95% CI, 1.463-2.837) and patients with a functional
37 status of bedridden (AOR=4.677, 95% CI, 1.761-12.419) and ambulatory (AOR=2.763, 95% CI,
38 1.833-4.165).

39 **Conclusion:** Both under nutrition and overweight are prevalent among HIV/AIDS patients
40 in Jimma Medical Center, Ethiopia. Malnutrition was significantly associated with clinical

41 outcome of patients. Hence, nutritional assessment, care and support should be strengthened.
42 Critical identification of malnourished patients and prompt interventions should be undertaken.

43 **Introduction**

44 Human immune deficiency virus (HIV) and malnutrition has multifaceted and multidirectional
45 relationships. Both are related each other in causing progressive damage to the immune system.
46 HIV compromises nutritional status and poor nutrition further weakness the immune system of
47 individuals, increasing susceptibility to opportunistic infections. HIV can cause or worsen
48 malnutrition by causing reduced food uptake, increased energy requirements and poor nutrient
49 absorptions(1–3).

50 Poor nutritional status is one of the major complications of HIV and a significant factor in a full-
51 blown AIDS. In many resource limited settings, many people who become infected with HIV
52 may already be undernourished due to factors such as unemployment and difficulty to procure
53 food. Food insecurity remains the major challenge in the progresses made to avert morbidity and
54 mortality attributed to HIV/AIDS. Food insecurity and malnutrition increase high risk sexual
55 behaviors, inconsistent condom use and multiple partnership. On the other hand, malnutrition
56 leads to ART non-adherence among HIV/AIDS patients (4,5).

57 In Sub-Saharan Africa region, malnutrition (both under nutrition and overweight) is prevalent
58 among HIV/AIDS patients enrolled in care (6–8). The prevalence of adult under nutrition is 19%
59 in Tanzania(6), 10% in Zimbabwe(7) and 19% in Senegal(9). The prevalence of malnutrition is
60 also high in Ethiopia; 25.2% in Butajira hospital(10) and 12.3% in Dilla university hospital(11).
61 The main determinants of malnutrition ranges from individual level factors to underlying factors.
62 Prevalence of malnutrition is determined by wealth index and educational attainment, where

63 malnutrition decreased with increase in wealth index and educational attainment(12). A lower
64 CD4 cell count, sex, age, advanced HIV diseases, presence of opportunistic infections, adherence
65 concern, inability to access food and having social support were also significantly associated
66 with malnutrition (6,7,9,13). Malnutrition is less likely in Females and older ages (35-44 years
67 and ≥ 45 years) compared to 15-24 years. Having social support and informal care giving had
68 also reduced the odds of under nutrition(13). On the contrary, malnutrition is more likely in those
69 who had advanced HIV disease(6,7,9).

70 The high prevalence of HIV/AIDS(14) compounded by high rates of malnutrition remains the
71 main challenge of health systems in SSA region. Currently, beyond under nutrition, overweight
72 is also the main problem among HIV/AIDS patients. Despite improvement in treatment coverage
73 over time(14), treatment effectiveness remains low due to factors such as non-adherence, quality
74 and nutritional status of patients (15,16). The probability of mortality is highest among patients
75 with poor nutritional status, as malnutrition is the cause for damage in the immune system and
76 subsequent susceptibility to illnesses(17).

77 With encouraging effort from government and partners, Ethiopia has achieved encouraging
78 results by reducing HIV/AIDS morbidity and mortality. Between 2000 and 2017, new HIV
79 infections reduced by 90% and AIDS related mortality among adults reduced by more than 50%.
80 While, HIV treatment coverage was reached to 71% in 2017(18). Though, the prevalence of
81 HIV/AIDS remains high (0.9%) (19) and in 2017 there were an estimated 613,000 people living
82 with HIV/AIDS, out of which 29% lacked access to treatments. Ethiopia remained one among
83 the 25 countries with the highest number of new HIV infections worldwide. Out of the 25
84 countries, 17 were located in Africa region(18).

85 HIV infection and poor nutritional status are interlinked and strengthening nutritional
86 assessment, care and support is essential to improve the effectiveness of HIV treatments. This
87 requires generating evidences on the prevalence of malnutrition and factors affecting it. Hence,
88 this study was aimed to estimate the prevalence of malnutrition (under nutrition) among adult
89 HIV/AIDS patients enrolled in HIV/AIDS care in the period between 2010 and 2016 at Jimma
90 Medical Center, a tertiary hospital in Ethiopia with an established HIV/AIDS treatment program.

91 **Materials and Methods**

92 **Study setting**

93 Jimma Medical Center, formerly known as Jimma University Specialized Hospital, was one of
94 the teaching hospitals in Ethiopia located in Jimma city administration, 355km Southwest
95 direction of the capital city, Addis Ababa. It is a government hospital which is an affiliate of
96 Jimma University providing trainings for health science students in a range of disciples. The
97 hospital also provides a higher level of clinical care for around 15 million catchment population
98 located in Southwest part of Ethiopia. The hospital has 36 departments, of which ART clinic was
99 one among them. Since 2005, the hospital has been providing highly active antiretroviral therapy
100 (HAART) for people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). During the study period (July 2010 to
101 January 2016), about a total of 5554 patients were on HAART.

102 **Study design**

103 A cross-sectional study design was conducted. Data was collected retrospectively from clinical
104 records of HIV/AIDS patients enrolled for follow up care in ART clinic from July 2010 to
105 January 2016. Data was retrieved from Pre-ART and ART log books of adults (>15 years). Data
106 was extracted from March to April 2016.

107 **Study participants selection**

108 The study participants were cohort of HIV/AIDS patients on follow-up care who are eligible for
109 this study. The study participants were selected by using a systematic sampling strategy; where
110 the clinical records of ART clients from July 2010 to January 2016 was used as a sampling
111 frame. First, a sequential numbers starting from 1001 was provided to each records. **The first**
112 **record of patient was selected using lottery method and every Kth** records was identified for data
113 abstraction. HIV/AIDS patients who have a follow-up care on the same facility and that have key
114 baseline information's such as demographic characteristics (age, ethnicity, and marital status)
115 and clinical information (such as CD4 count, viral load, WHO clinical stage, weight, height, and
116 hemoglobin level) were eligible for this study.

117 The sample size was computed using OpenEpi Version 3 sample size calculator for proportions
118 by using assumptions of a 95% CI, the outcome factor in the population of 46.8%(20) and
119 **confidence limit of 3%**. The calculated sample size yields 1062.

120 **Measurement**

121 A data abstraction tool, having the same structure with ART register and patient cards, was used
122 to collect data. The tool comprised of components such as patient back ground information,
123 immunologic status, clinical and laboratory examinations (CD4 count, viral load, WHO clinical
124 stage, weight, height) and antiretroviral regimen and opportunistic infection prophylaxis. Three
125 clinicians who had also trained on ART service provision were recruited for data collection.
126 Another clinician also supervised the overall data collection processes.

127 **Statistical analysis**

128 Data was cleaned for inconsistency and incompleteness. Then it was entered to epidata version
129 3.1 and imported to SPSS version 21. Descriptive statistics was conducted and variables were
130 presented using mean, frequencies and proportion. Body Mass Index (BMI) was calculated as
131 weight in kilograms divided by the squares of height in meters (kg/m^2). For the initial analysis,
132 BMI was stratified into the WHO criteria: <18.5 (under nutrition), >18.5 to 25 (normal nutrition)
133 and $>25 \text{ kg}/\text{m}^2$ (overweight and obese). In this study under nutrition or BMI ($<18.5 \text{ kg}/\text{m}^2$) was
134 estimated (3). Independent predictors of **adult malnutrition**, such as socio-demographic and
135 clinical characteristics, were determined using **binary and multiple** variable logistic regression.
136 Covariates for the multiple variable analysis were selected using Backward LR method. While,
137 the model fitness (goodness) was assessed by using Wald test for individual variables and
138 maximum likelihood ratio test for overall model.

139 **Ethical consideration**

140 Research protocol was submitted to Institute of Health of Jimma university and get ethical
141 approval (Ref no. RPGC/26/2016; March, 2016). Research permission was obtained from Jimma
142 Medical Center. Confidentiality of patient information was maintained though use of codes,
143 where name and personal identifiers of patients was not recorded. Paper based data was kept in a
144 locked cabinet and computer based data was secured with passwords. Except the research team
145 member, any one couldn't access patient data.

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149 **Results**

150 **Participation**

151 A total of 971 complete ART registrations and client records which incorporated basic
152 information's were included in the analysis, making a document completion rate of 91%.

153 **Socio-demographic characteristics**

154 Table 1 shows the socio-demographic characteristics of patients on HIV/AIDS follow care. Most
155 of the study participants were Female (60%) and in the age group of <30 years (41%). Nearly
156 half (48.2%) of them were married and over half were followers of orthodox religion (58%).
157 While, 89% were unemployed and slightly over 4 in 10 (43.5%) of them had attended primary
158 education (**Table 1**).

159 **Clinical Characteristics**

160 Table 2 shows the clinical characteristics, HIV/AIDS disclosure status, access to spiritual care
161 giver and HIV support group, counseling and health education on HIV, and adherence concern of
162 patients on HIV/AIDS follow care. Majority of patients disclosed their status (87%) and slightly
163 over 3/4th of them had attended HIV related health education sessions (76.5%). Nearly a third
164 (29%) of them were in the WHO clinical stage of II and another 33% were at WHO stage of III
165 at start of ART. Moreover, slightly over half (55.8%) have CD4 count <200 and over 3/4th
166 (77.6%) of them had a working functional status at start of ART (**Table 2**).

167 **Prevalence of Malnutrition**

168 Table 3 shows the prevalence of malnutrition among the socio-demographic and clinical
169 characteristics of patients. The prevalence of malnutrition (under nutrition) in the study area was
170 357(36.8%) (95% CI: 33.8%-39.8%). Out of which, severe malnutrition accounts 94(9.7%) and
171 moderate malnutrition accounts of 263(27.1%). While, the prevalence of overweight and obese
172 was 8.6%.

173 Under nutrition was more prevalent in female (57.5%), <30 years age group (41.7%), married
174 (44.2%), orthodox religious follower (54.6%), primary education status (44%) and unemployed
175 patients (90.4%) (**Table 3**).

176 **Socio-demographic and clinical factors associated with malnutrition**

177 Table 4 and 5 shows binary and multiple variable analysis of different independent variables
178 associated with malnutrition, respectively. In the binary logistic regression, only marital status
179 was identified as a socio-demographic candidate variable for multiple variable logistic regression
180 analysis. The remaining variables didn't show any statistically significant association. The
181 remaining were clinical variables including WHO clinical AIDS staging, CD4 cell count,
182 functional status, diagnosed for active TB and patient attended HIV related health education
183 sessions previously. In the multiple variable logistic regression, marital status, WHO clinical
184 AIDS staging, CD4 cell count and patient functional status were identified as independent
185 predictors of malnutrition.

186 With regard to marital status, a greater number of malnourished patients were found in the group
187 of the widowed (45.7%) followed by the single or never married ones (40.2%). Being a widow
188 was significantly associated with malnutrition (AOR=1.7, 95% CI, 1.034-2.798).

189 HIV/AIDS patients in the WHO clinical AIDS staging three (47.8%) and four (59.8%) were
190 more malnourished compared to patients in stage one and two. Being in the WHO clinical AIDS
191 stage of three (AOR=2.3, 95% CI, 1.392-3.693) and four (AOR=3.2, 95% CI, 1.667-5.943) were
192 significantly associated with malnutrition among adult HIV/AIDS patients in the study area.

193 Likewise, a greater number of malnourished patients had a CD4 cell count of <200cells/ μ L (45%
194 versus 26%) and were bedridden (70%) and ambulatory (61%) in their functional status. There is
195 a statistical significant association between patients CD4 cell count (AOR=2.0, 95% CI, 1.463-
196 2.837) and their functional status with malnutrition. Being bedridden (AOR=4.677, 95% CI,
197 1.761-12.419) and ambulatory (AOR=2.763, 95% CI, 1.833-4.165) were significantly associated
198 with malnutrition among adult HIV/AIDS patients in the study area.

199 In the binary logistic regression analysis, HIV AIDS disclosure status, being diagnosed for active
200 TB and attended HIV related health education sessions were significantly associated with
201 malnutrition. However, the association of these variables was not maintained after adjusting for
202 all independent variables (**Table 4 and 5**).

203 **Discussion**

204 This study was intended to estimate the prevalence of malnutrition and its determinants among
205 adult HIV/AIDS patients who were enrolled on care or who were on ART treatments. The study
206 had indicated that the overall prevalence of malnutrition (under nutrition) in the study area was
207 36.8% and out of which, severe malnutrition (<16 kg/m²) accounts of 9.7%. We found that,
208 patient marital status, WHO clinical **AIDS** staging, CD4 cell count and patient functional status
209 were significantly associated with malnutrition.

210 The prevalence of malnutrition was higher than a study conducted in different parts of Ethiopia;
211 12.3% in Dilla university hospital (11) , 25.2% in Butajira hospital (10), 18.2% in Arba Minch
212 area public health facilities (21), 30% in East Hararghe zone hospitals(22) and 27% in Nekemte
213 referral hospital (23). Likewise, the prevalence is also much higher compared to studies done in
214 different parts of the world; 19.5% in Tanzania(6), 10% in Zimbabwe(7) and 19.2% in
215 Senegal(9). The difference in prevalence of malnutrition might be due to difference in socio-
216 economic and other factors that may predispose the community to problem, such as food habit
217 and culture. However, the prevalence of severe malnutrition ($BMI < 16 \text{ kg/m}^2$) was comparable to
218 studies done at Tanzania (9%)(6) and Butajira hospital(9%)(10).

219 In our study under nutrition was more prevalent among female patients than male. This is
220 comparable with other studies done in different parts of Ethiopia; Southern (11)and Eastern
221 Ethiopia(22). Yet different from studies done in SSA countries (6,7) and slightly higher among
222 male patients in study done in Butajira hospital, Southern Ethiopia(10). This implies that under
223 nutrition is more common among females and this might be related to the socio-economic status
224 of women, access to information and other predisposing factors that may affect food intake of
225 women in the community. On the other hand, most women are already undernourished than men
226 in the general population. In Ethiopia, only 51% of female attended school compared to 65% of
227 men. Employment status was much higher among men than women. Likewise, most women
228 were not accessed to mass media and internet compared to men. In Ethiopia, 24% of women
229 aged 15-49 years were anemic and 22% were thin ($BMI < 18.5 \text{ kg/m}^2$) (19).

230 Our study also indicated that, malnutrition is more prevalent in younger, married, primary
231 education level and unemployed patients compared to their counter parts. As the age of patient's
232 increased, the prevalence of malnutrition was decreased in the study area. This is comparable

233 with studies done in different parts of the world (6,7) and Ethiopia(10,22), where under nutrition
234 is more prevalent among the younger adults and overweight is more prevalent among older
235 patients. Additionally, studies also supports the higher prevalence of malnutrition among
236 unemployed patients and patients in the lower educational status(11,24,25). While studies done
237 in Northern and Southern Ethiopia indicated contradicting finding in which under nutrition was
238 associated with greater age(11,26). Malnutrition was also much prevalent in patients on WHO
239 clinical stage three and four, CD4 cell count less than 200 and in patients with a past
240 opportunistic infections. This indicates interlink between HIV infection and poor nutritional
241 status. HIV compromises the nutritional status and poor nutrition further weakens the immune
242 system of individuals, increasing susceptibility to opportunistic infections(2).

243 In the multivariable logistic regression, patient marital status, WHO clinical AIDS staging, CD4
244 cell count and functional status were statistically associated with under nutrition in the study
245 area. In the binary logistic regression variables such as diagnosis of active TB, attending HIV
246 related health education sessions and disclosing HIV status were significantly associated with
247 malnutrition. Though, these variables didn't show a statistical significant associations while
248 adjusted for other variables.

249 Our study revealed that, being a widow was significantly associated with malnutrition.
250 HIV/AIDS patients who were in the WHO clinical stage of three and four were two times and
251 three times more likely malnourished than those in the WHO clinical stage of one, respectively.
252 In addition, malnutrition was also more likely among patients with CD4 cell count of <200 and
253 patients with functional status of bedridden and ambulatory. Malnutrition was nearly five times
254 and three times more likely among bedridden and ambulatory patients compared to patients who

255 have a working functional status, respectively. Our finding was supported by other studies done
256 in other areas else(6,7,10,11,13,21,22,24–26).

257 Malnutrition is the major factor in ensuring treatment effectiveness and thus, nutritional
258 assessments, care and support for HIV/AIDS patients should be strengthened. Poor adherence is
259 caused by lack of access to food or food insecurity. On the other hand, poor treatment adherence
260 leads to infections and suppressed immunity of patients(9). Mortality is more likely among
261 immune compromised HIV/AIDS patients and supplementation of therapeutic food can improve
262 the nutritional status of patients(17).

263 Our study had assessed the prevalence of malnutrition on patients enrolled in care in the five
264 successive periods (2010 and 2016). Moreover, adequate sample size was used to estimate
265 malnutrition prevalence. Yet, our study has the following limitations. The study was based on
266 secondary data (chart review) and thus may not address all of the variables that may affect
267 malnutrition and may be subject to incomplete data bias.

268 **Conclusions**

269 This finding indicated that the prevalence of malnutrition (both under nutrition and overweight)
270 was high compared to other settings in Ethiopia. It was also indicated that WHO clinical AIDS
271 staging three and four, CD4 cell count <200, functional status and marital status were
272 significantly associated with malnutrition among adult HIV/AIDS patients. Though not
273 statistically significant when adjusted to other variables, HIV disclosure status and access to HIV
274 related health education were also associated with malnutrition. Hence, HIV treatment services
275 should be supported with nutritional assessment, supplementation, counseling, care and support
276 to patients. A comprehensive nutritional assessment and support should be provided for all

277 patients on follow-up care. Moreover, community support to patients should be strengthened, as
278 social determinants of health may also interact with effectiveness of treatments.

279 **Acknowledgments**

280 The authors would like to thank Jimma Medical Center and Workers at Antiretroviral Therapy
281 (ART) unit for cooperating with and supporting the research work.

282 **Authors Contributions**

283 Conceived and designed the study: WD SM. Conducted the study: WD SM. Analyzed the data:
284 WD. Wrote the paper: WD SM. Edited the manuscript: WD SM.

285 **Conflict of interest**

286 No author declared conflict of interest

287 **Table Title**

288 **Table 1. This is Table 1 Title.** Socio-demographic characteristics of patients on HIV/AIDS
289 follow up care at Jimma Medical Center, Southwest Ethiopia, 2016.

290 **Table 2. This is Table 2 Title.** Clinical and service related characteristics of patients on ART
291 follow up care in Jimma Medical Center, 2016.

292 **Table 2. This is Table 3 Title.** Socio-demographic and clinical characteristics of study
293 participants grouped by nutritional status (BMI^a) in Jimma Medical Center, Southwest Ethiopia,
294 2016

295 **Table 2. This is Table 4 Title.** Bivariate association of different variables with malnutrition in
296 PLWHA^b in Jimma Medical Center, Southwest Ethiopia, 2016

297 **Table 2. This is Table 5 Title.** Adjusted association of different variables with malnutrition in
298 PLWHA^b in Jimma Medical Center, Southwest Ethiopia, 2016

299 **Table Legend**

300 **This is Table 3 Legend.** BMI^a = Body Mass Index

301 **This is Table 4 Legend.** PLWHA^b= People Living with HIV/AIDS, * P-value<0.05,

302 COR^c=Crude Odds Ratio, CI^d= Confidence Interval

303 **This is Table 5 Legend.** ^b PLWHA=People Living with HIV/AIDS, AOR^e=Adjusted Odds

304 Ratio, CI^d= Confidence Interval, * P-value<0.05

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383

Table 1.

| Variables | Frequency | % |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------|
| Gender | | |
| Male | 372 | 40 |
| Female | 558 | 60 |
| Total | 930 | 100 |
| Age (in years) | | |
| <30 | 402 | 41.4 |
| 30-39 | 368 | 37.9 |
| 40-49 | 151 | 15.6 |
| >=50 | 50 | 5.1 |
| Total | 971 | 100 |
| Marital status | | |
| Married | 464 | 48.2 |
| Never married | 164 | 17.0 |
| Separated | 136 | 14.1 |
| Divorced | 82 | 8.5 |
| Widowed | 116 | 12.1 |
| Total | 962 | 100 |
| Religion | | |
| Muslim | 302 | 31.9 |
| Orthodox | 549 | 58.0 |
| Protestant | 90 | 9.5 |
| Catholic | 6 | 0.6 |

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----|------|
| Total | 947 | 100 |
| Educational status | | |
| No education | 188 | 19.5 |
| Primary education | 418 | 43.5 |
| Secondary education | 266 | 27.7 |
| Tertiary education | 90 | 9.4 |
| Total | 962 | 100 |
| Employment status | | |
| Employed | 95 | 10.5 |
| Unemployed | 814 | 89.5 |
| Total | 909 | 100 |
| Running water | | |
| Available | 771 | 83.4 |
| Not available | 154 | 16.6 |
| Total | 925 | 100 |
| Electricity | | |
| Available | 901 | 97.2 |
| Not available | 26 | 2.8 |
| Total | 927 | 100 |

Table 2.

| Variables | Frequency | Percent |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| Disclosure status | | |
| Yes | 796 | 87.0 |
| No | 119 | 13.0 |
| Total | 915 | 100 |
| Access to spiritual caregiver | | |
| Yes | 490 | 53.1 |
| No | 432 | 46.9 |
| Total | 922 | 100 |
| Access to community support/HIV support group | | |
| Yes | 275 | 29.9 |
| No | 646 | 70.1 |
| Total | 921 | 100 |
| Attended HIV related counseling session | | |
| Yes | 389 | 42.3 |
| No | 531 | 57.7 |
| Total | 920 | 100 |
| Attended HIV related HE session | | |
| Yes | 705 | 76.5 |
| No | 217 | 23.5 |
| Total | 922 | 100 |
| Adherence concern | | |

| | | |
|--|-----|------|
| Stigma | 584 | 70.9 |
| Afraid of medications(side effects) | 94 | 11.4 |
| Doubt that medications couldn't work | 51 | 6.2 |
| Depression or anxious | 68 | 8.3 |
| Forget to take medication and other reasons | 27 | 3.2 |
| Total | 824 | 100 |

WHO Clinical AIDS staging

| | | |
|--------------------|-----|------|
| Stage one | 232 | 24.4 |
| Stage two | 283 | 29.7 |
| Stage three | 320 | 33.6 |
| Stage four | 117 | 12.3 |
| Total | 952 | 100 |

CD4 cell count

| | | |
|-----------------|-----|------|
| <200 | 506 | 55.8 |
| >=200 | 400 | 44.2 |
| Total | 906 | 100 |

Diagnosed for active TB

| | | |
|--------------|-----|------|
| Yes | 124 | 13.2 |
| No | 817 | 86.8 |
| Total | 941 | 100 |

Functional status at start of ART

| | | |
|-------------------|-----|------|
| Ambulatory | 175 | 19.1 |
| Bedridden | 30 | 3.3 |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|------|
| Working | 711 | 77.6 |
| Total | 916 | 100 |
| Patient past opportunistic infection | | |
| Yes | 805 | 82.9 |
| No | 166 | 17.1 |
| Total | 971 | 100 |

Table 3:

| Variable | Normal nutritional status | Under nutrition |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| | No (%) | No (%) |
| Gender | | |
| Male | 225(38.5) | 147(42.5) |
| Female | 359(61.5) | 199(57.5) |
| Total | 584(100) | 346(100) |
| Age group (years) | | |
| <30 | 253(41.2) | 149(41.7) |
| 30-39 | 227(37) | 141(39.5) |
| 40-49 | 100(16.3) | 51(14.3) |
| >=50 | 34(5.5) | 16(4.5) |
| Total | 614(100) | 357(100) |
| Marital status | | |
| Married | 308(50.6) | 156(44.2) |
| Never married/ single | 98(16.1) | 66(18.7) |
| Separated | 88(14.4) | 48(13.6) |
| Divorced | 52(8.5) | 30(8.5) |
| Widowed | 63(10.4) | 53(15) |
| Total | 609(100) | 353(100) |
| Religious status | | |

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Muslim | 185(30.9) | 117(33.6) |
| Orthodox | 359(59.9) | 190(54.6) |
| Protestant | 51(8.5) | 39(11.2) |
| Catholic | 4(0.7) | 2(0.6) |
| Total | 599(100) | 348(100) |
| Educational status | | |
| No education | 126(20.7) | 62(17.6) |
| Primary education | 263(43.1) | 155(44.0) |
| Secondary education | 164(26.9) | 102(29.0) |
| Tertiary education | 57(9.3) | 33(9.0) |
| Total | 610(100) | 352(100) |
| Employment status | | |
| Employed | 64(11.1) | 31(9.3) |
| Unemployed | 510(88.9) | 304(90.7) |
| Total | 574(100) | 335(100) |
| WHO Clinical AIDS staging | | |
| Stage one | 174(29) | 58(16.5) |
| Stage two | 212(35.3) | 71(20.2) |
| Stage three | 167(27.8) | 153(43.5) |
| Stage four | 47(7.8) | 70(19.9) |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Total | 600(100) | 352(100) |
| CD4 cell count | | |
| <200 | 277(48.4) | 229(68.6) |
| ≥200 | 295(51.6) | 105(31.4) |
| Total | 572(100) | 334(100) |
| Functional status | | |
| Ambulatory | 68(11.7) | 107(31.8) |
| Bed ridden | 9(1.6) | 21(6.3) |
| Working | 503(86.7) | 208(61.9) |
| Total | 580(100) | 336(100) |
| Patient past opportunistic infection | | |
| Yes | 508(82.7) | 297(83.2) |
| No | 106(17.3) | 60(16.8) |
| Total | 614(100) | 357(100) |
| HIV/AIDS Disclosure status | | |
| Yes | 513(89.4) | 283(83) |
| No | 61(10.6) | 58(17) |
| Total | 574(100) | 341(100) |
| Access to spiritual care giver | | |
| Yes | 313(53.1) | 177(53.2) |

| | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| No | 276(46.9) | 156(46.8) |
| Total | 589(100) | 333(100) |
| Access to community support group | | |
| Yes | 174(29.9) | 101(29.8) |
| No | 408(70.1) | 238(70.2) |
| Total | 582(100) | 339(100) |
| Attended HIV related counseling session | | |
| Yes | 244(42) | 145(42.8) |
| No | 337(58) | 194(57.2) |
| Total | 581(100) | 339(100) |
| Attended HIV related HE session | | |
| Yes | 459(78.9) | 246(72.4) |
| No | 123(21.1) | 94(27.6) |
| Total | 582(100) | 340(100) |
| Diagnosed for active TB | | |
| Yes | 63(10.6) | 61(17.6) |
| No | 531(89.4) | 286(82.4) |
| Total | 594(100) | 347(100) |

Table 4:

| Variables | Normal nutritional status No (%) | Under nutrition No (%) | COR ^c (95% CI ^d) |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Gender | | | |
| Male | 225(60.5) | 147(39.5) | 1 |
| Female | 359(64.3) | 199(35.7) | 0.848(0.647-1.112) |
| Total | 608(65.4) | 398(34.6) | |
| Age group (years) | | | |
| <30 | 253(62.9) | 149(37.1) | 1 |
| 30-39 | 227(61.7) | 141(38.3) | 1.055(0.788-1.412) |
| 40-49 | 100(66.2) | 51(33.8) | 0.866(0.584-1.283) |
| >=50 | 34(68) | 16(32) | 0.799(0.427-1.497) |
| Total | 614(63.2) | 357(36.8) | |
| Marital status | | | |
| Married | 308(66.4) | 156(33.6) | 1 |
| Never married/ single | 98(59.8) | 66(40.2) | 1.330(0.921-1.919) |
| Separated | 88(64.7) | 48(35.3) | 1.077(0.721-1.608) |
| Divorced | 52(63.4) | 30(36.6) | 1.139(0.699-1.857) |
| Widowed | 63(54.3) | 53(45.7) | 1.661(1.099-2.510)* |
| Total | 609(63.3) | 353(36.7) | |
| Educational status | | | |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| No education | 126(67) | 62(33) | 1 |
| Primary education | 263(62.9) | 155(37.1) | 1.198(0.833-1.722) |
| Secondary education | 164(61.7) | 102(38.3) | 1.264(0.854-1.870) |
| Tertiary education | 57(63.3) | 33(36.7) | 1.177(0.696-1.990) |
| Total | 610(63.4) | 352(36.6) | |
| Employment status | | | |
| Employed | 64(67.4) | 31(32.6) | 1 |
| Unemployed | 510(62.7) | 304(37.3) | 1.231(0.783-1.933) |
| Total | 574(63.1) | 335(36.9) | |
| WHO Clinical AIDS staging | | | |
| Stage one | 174(75) | 58(25) | 1 |
| Stage two | 212(74.9) | 71(25.1) | 1.005(0.673-1.5) |
| Stage three | 167(52.2) | 153(47.8) | 2.749(1.9-3.977)* |
| Stage four | 47(40.2) | 70(59.8) | 4.468(2.781-7.179)* |
| Total | 600(63) | 352(37) | |
| CD4 cell count | | | |
| <200 | 277(54.7) | 229(45.3) | 2.323(1.750-3.083)* |
| ≥200 | 295(73.8) | 105(26.3) | 1 |
| Total | 572(63.1) | 334(36.9) | |
| Functional status | | | |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| Ambulatory | 68(38.9) | 107(61.1) | 3.805(2.697-5.369)* |
| Bed ridden | 9(30) | 21(70) | 5.643(2.542-12.525)* |
| Working | 503(70.7) | 208(29.3) | 1 |
| Total | 580(63.3) | 336(36.7) | |
| Patient past opportunistic infection | | | |
| Yes | 508(63.1) | 297(36.9) | 1.033(0.730-1.462) |
| No | 106(63.9) | 60(36.1) | 1 |
| Total | 614(63.2) | 357(36.8) | |
| HIV/AIDS disclosure status | | | |
| Yes | 513(64.4) | 283(35.6) | 0.580(0.394-0.855)* |
| No | 61(51.3) | 58(48.7) | 1 |
| Total | 574(62.7) | 341(37.3) | |
| Access to spiritual care giver | | | |
| Yes | 313(63.9) | 177(36.1) | 1.0(0.764-1.310) |
| No | 276(63.9) | 156(36.1) | 1 |
| Total | 589(63.9) | 333(36.1) | |
| Access to community support group | | | |
| Yes | 174(63.3) | 101(36.7) | 0.995(0.743-1.333) |
| No | 408(63.2) | 238(36.8) | 1 |

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|---------------------|
| Total | 582(63.2) | 339(36.8) | |
| Attended HIV related counseling session | | | |
| Yes | 244(62.7) | 145(37.3) | 1.032(0.787-1.354) |
| No | 337(63.5) | 194(36.5) | 1 |
| Total | 581(63.2) | 339(36.8) | |
| Attended HIV related health education session | | | |
| Yes | 459(65.1) | 246(34.9) | 0.701(0.514-0.956)* |
| No | 123(56.7) | 94(43.3) | 1 |
| Total | 582(63.1) | 340(36.9) | |
| Diagnosed for active TB | | | |
| Yes | 63(50.8) | 61(49.2) | 1.798(1.229-2.630)* |
| No | 531(65) | 286(35) | 1 |
| Total | 594(63.1) | 347(36.9) | |

Table 5:

| Variables | Normal nutritional status No (%) | Under nutrition No (%) | AOR ^e for all variables (95% CI ^d) |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Marital status | | | |
| Married | 308(66.4) | 156(33.6) | 1 |
| Never married/ single | 98(59.8) | 66(40.2) | 1.410(0.904-2.198) |
| Separated | 88(64.7) | 48(35.3) | 0.723(0.440-1.187) |
| Divorced | 52(63.4) | 30(36.6) | 1.506(0.835-2.716) |
| Widowed | 63(54.3) | 53(45.7) | 1.701(1.034-2.798)* |
| Total | 609(63.3) | 353(36.7) | |
| WHO Clinical AIDS staging | | | |
| Stage one | 174(75) | 58(25) | 1 |
| Stage two | 212(74.9) | 71(25.1) | 1.129(0.692-1.841) |
| Stage three | 167(52.2) | 153(47.8) | 2.267(1.392-3.693)* |
| Stage four | 47(40.2) | 70(59.8) | 3.147(1.667-5.943)* |
| Total | 600(63) | 352(37) | |
| CD4 cell count | | | |
| <200 | 277(54.7) | 229(45.3) | 2.037(1.463-2.837)* |
| ≥200 | 295(73.8) | 105(26.3) | 1 |
| Total | 572(63.1) | 334(36.9) | |
| Functional status | | | |

| | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| Ambulatory | 68(38.9) | 107(61.1) | 2.763(1.833-4.165)* |
| Bed ridden | 9(30) | 21(70) | 4.677(1.761-12.419)* |
| Working | 503(70.7) | 208(29.3) | 1 |
| Total | 580(63.3) | 336(36.7) | |
| HIV/AIDS disclosure status | | | |
| Yes | 513(64.4) | 283(35.6) | 0.847(0.505-1.421) |
| No | 61(51.3) | 58(48.7) | 1 |
| Total | 574(62.7) | 341(37.3) | |
| Attended HIV related Health Education session | | | |
| Yes | 459(65.1) | 246(34.9) | 0.715(0.495-1.033) |
| No | 123(56.7) | 94(43.3) | 1 |
| Total | 582(63.1) | 340(36.9) | |
| Diagnosed for active TB | | | |
| Yes | 63(50.8) | 61(49.2) | 0.874(0.537-1.423) |
| No | 531(65) | 286(35) | 1 |
| Total | 594(63.1) | 347(36.9) | |

