

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

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ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	Cohort Profile: The South African National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS) National HIV Cohort
AUTHORS	MacLeod, William; Bor, Jacob; Candy, Sue; Maskew, Mhairi; Fox, Matthew; Bulekova, Katia; Brennan, Alana; Potter, James; Nattey, Cornelius; Onoya, Dorina; Mlisana, Koleka; Stevens, Wendy; Carmona, Sergio

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Abigail Kroch Ontario HIV Treatment Network
REVIEW RETURNED	05-Aug-2022

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>The authors have addressed prior comments well. There are a few minor clarifications below:</p> <p>1. In this statement, please make it clear that the denominator is the UNAIDS 90-90-90 versus all PLHIV. In South Africa, 84.8% of PLHIV know their HIV status, of whom 70.7% are on ART, and of whom 87.4% are virologically suppressed.</p> <p>2. In Table 2. Is the percent virally suppressed among those on ARTs or of all entering care? Please make more explicit what the denominator is.</p>
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VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

1. In this statement, please make it clear that the denominator is the UNAIDS 90-90-90 versus all PLHIV.

In South Africa, 84.8% of PLHIV know their HIV status, of whom 70.7% are on ART, and of whom 87.4% are virologically suppressed.

We have clarified the statement to now read: "In South Africa, 84.8% of PLHIV know their HIV status, 70.7% of those who know their HIV status are on ART, and of those on ART, 87.4% are virologically suppressed."

2. In Table 2. Is the percent virally suppressed among those on ARTs or of all entering care? Please make more explicit what the denominator is.

In Table 2 the percent virally suppressed is among those receiving a viral load test. This is stated in the footnote, but we have revised the column header to say "Percent HIV VL suppressed out of all VL tests".

We have edited the contributorship statement and it is the same in the manuscript and in ScholarOne.

We have placed the Patient and Public Involvement under the Cohort Description section in the manuscript.