



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2014_IJTDH_9758
Title of the Manuscript:	HIV Treatment Program Mapping: A Mixed Method Process for Identifying Barriers to Linkage in HIV Care
Type of the Article	Method Article

General guideline for 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 guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



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PART 1: Review Comments

	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)
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	This is an interesting paper presenting data on barriers to linkage in HIV care. It is well written and has important public health implications. I have no major revisions to suggest	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Several minor revisions would strengthen this paper: 1) The study does not need to be presented as 3 stages but rather as two stages. Most studies have a data analysis period and this is not considered an additional study stage. Suggest that the data analysis not be called "stage 3." 2) In section 3.2, line 138-139, the authors mention there were 4801 tests done. How many were positive? It would be helpful to have this information in the paper. 3) For understandable reasons, a significant proportion of the 567 patients were not able to be traced in the analysis. The authors should mention this in the limitations of the paper. 4) In the methodology section, the authors describe well what they did in the different stages of the study. They may want to consider using some of the standard terminology employed in many studies, such as key informant interviewing, resource mapping, and a convenience snowball sample. However, since they describe their methods well, the use of these terms could	1) I have changed this to 2 stages and a data analysis period 2) There were 567 positive cases. I have clarified this in the results. 3) I have included the limitations of the document review and tracing process in the discussion. 4) We have elected to keep the current terminology in this paper.



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	be optional.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	This is a great paper that adds to the scientific body of literature on the topic and has important public health implications. The journal should publish it with minor revisions as noted above.	