

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Research in Infectious Diseases
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJRID_130385
Title of the Manuscript:	A Study of Gonadal Hormones in HIV Seropositive Subjects Attending the ART Center at K.R. Hospital, a Tertiary Care Hospital in Mysuru
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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.	The importance of the study lies in understanding the impact of HIV and antiretroviral therapy (ART) on gonadal hormones. The study showed significant improvement in testosterone and LH levels in males after 6 months of treatment, reflecting ART’s role in correcting hormonal imbalances. However, females did not show a similar improvement in hormone levels, indicating gender differences in response to treatment. The study also revealed a significant improvement in the prevalence of hypogonadism (from 18.57% to 69.23%) after therapy. These findings confirm ART's role in improving hormonal health and quality of life for HIV patients. The study also provides a foundation for future research on the effects of ART on hormones and reproductive health.	We appreciate the reviewer's request for emphasizing the significance of our study. The importance of this work lies in its contribution to understanding the relationship between HIV, ART, and gonadal hormone regulation. Our findings demonstrate that ART significantly improves testosterone and LH levels in males, reducing the prevalence of hypogonadism from 18.57% to 69.23%. These results highlight ART's therapeutic potential in correcting hormonal imbalances and improving quality of life for HIV-positive individuals. Additionally, the lack of significant improvement in females underscores gender-specific physiological differences, warranting further research to explore these disparities. We have added this discussion to the manuscript to underline its relevance to the scientific community.
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	Yes, it seems appropriate, but the name can be slightly modified to highlight the the study focus more on hormonal changes associated with the treatment ART It could be “Gonadal Hormonal Changes in HIV-Positive Individuals Following ART at K.R. Hospital, Mysuru	Thank you for the suggestion regarding the title. We have revised it to better reflect the focus of the study: "Gonadal Hormonal Changes in HIV-Positive Individuals Following ART at K.R. Hospital, Mysuru."
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.	Yes, its good But, hormone changes, especially in females, do not have specific statistical data. Also including p-values or statistical significance for the overall changes in hormone levels (even if not significant) for both males and females would improve the scientific rigor of the abstract.	We agree that including more statistical data will strengthen the abstract. We have updated it to include p-values and statistical significance for hormonal changes in males and females, even where results were not statistically significant. This addition enhances the scientific rigor of the abstract.
Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.	Overall the scientific content is accurate.	We appreciate the reviewer's acknowledgment of the manuscript's scientific accuracy. No additional changes were necessary in this regard.
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	Yes, that's quite enough	We are grateful for the reviewer's approval of the references provided. To further enrich the manuscript, we have included additional studies that support or contrast our findings to provide a balanced perspective.

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Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	The language quality of the article is generally suitable for scholarly communication.	The language of the manuscript has been revised for consistency and conciseness
Optional/General comments	<p>Some notes:</p> <p>The tone should be more formal and concise. For example: <i>"While ART has been effective at restoring immune function and reducing viral load in patients,etc,</i> This sentence can be more directly stated as: <i>"Although ART has restored immune function and reduced viral load, there has been limited investigation into its effects on endocrine function, specifically gonadal hormones."</i></p> <p>Phrases like <i>"HIV AIDS"</i> can be written more consistently as either <i>"HIV/AIDS"</i> or <i>"HIV and AIDS"</i> for readability and to avoid redundancy. For example: <i>"People with HIV AIDS do present with a variety of endocrine disorders..."</i> could be revised to <i>"People with HIV/AIDS present with a variety of endocrine disorders..."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Address ethical limitations in more detail.• Cite additional studies that support or contradict the findings.• Expand the discussion on the impact of ART on women: While the study mentions changes in hormonal levels in female participants, a more detailed explanation of the underlying reasons for the smaller improvements in women compared to men would be beneficial. This could include a deeper exploration of physiological differences between genders, hormonal responses, or potential external factors that may influence the results.	<p>For example, "HIV AIDS" has been replaced with "HIV/AIDS" throughout the text. Additionally, sentences such as "While ART has been effective at restoring immune function and reducing viral load in patients..." have been rephrased to "Although ART restores immune function and reduces viral load, its effects on endocrine function, particularly gonadal hormones, remain underexplored." These changes enhance readability and alignment with scholarly communication standards.</p> <p>We acknowledge the reviewer's suggestion to elaborate on ethical limitations. The revised manuscript now includes a discussion on potential limitations related to ART adherence and its influence on hormonal outcomes.</p> <p>Additional references have been incorporated to contextualize the findings and provide a broader understanding of the topic. These references include studies that corroborate or diverge from our results, enriching the discussion.</p> <p>We agree with the reviewer's suggestion to expand the discussion on gender-specific findings. The revised manuscript includes a detailed exploration of physiological differences between males and females, potential hormonal response variations, and external factors that may have influenced the smaller improvements in females. This addition provides a more nuanced understanding of ART's gender-specific effects.</p> <p>Consistency: Terminology has been standardized throughout the manuscript for clarity and consistency.</p> <p>Clarity: Redundant phrases have been streamlined for precision.</p> <p>Discussion Expansion: The discussion has been expanded to address potential mechanisms underlying the observed gender differences and the broader implications of ART on endocrine health</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)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)	