

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Telegram "AFYA", DODOMA
Telephone: +255 26 2323267
Fax No: +255 22 2138060
All letters should be addressed to
PERMANENT SECRETARY



Government City – Mtumba,
Afy Road,
P.O BOX 743
40478, DODOMA

PUBLIC STATEMENT

August 24th 2024, Dodoma.

INACCURATE PREVALENCE OF HIV IN THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA IN
ARTICLE TITLED "SEXUAL BEHAVIORS AND HIV STATUS: A POPULATION-
BASED STUDY AMONG YOUTHS AND ADULTS IN TANZANIA" PUBLISHED IN
THE JOURNAL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND EPIDEMIOLOGY VOLUME 7 |
ISSUE 8; DOI:10.23937/2474-3658/1510224, 2021.

The Government of The United Republic of Tanzania, in collaboration with different
stakeholders, has been conducting periodical Surveys to track progress in the fight
against HIV and AIDS at community level since 2002. These series of Surveys have
shown a steady decrease of the Prevalence of HIV from 7% in 2003 - 2004 to
4.4% in 2022 - 2023. According to 2016 - 2017 Survey (publicly available data used
in the publication of the above article), the Prevalence of HIV in Tanzania was 4.9%.

Adaralegbe and colleagues Published an article
reflecting the Prevalence of HIV among youth and
Adults in Tanzania to be 80% (Data that is grossly
inaccurate and false). Despite quoting inaccurate
data, the authors and the Journal editors did not adhere
to regulations governing scientific publications,
specifically the involvement of local scientists as
authors or co-authors or use of peer reviewers from a
country where the data was generated.

Moreover, the Government through the Ministry of
Health, has sent a petition to the Editor-in Chief



requesting substantiating the estimate, provide authentic data source, or retract the publication. The Ministry has also notified the employer of the main author, Department of Allied Health Sciences, University of Connecticut, Storrs, USA regarding misleading information contained in the article published by its employee for necessary academic actions.

The Ministry would like to take this opportunity to remind scientists, academicians and all Partners in Health care at large, regarding the importance of adhering to Code of Research ethics, Laws of the Land governing Publications of Research findings as well as meticulous processing and reporting of scientific data before publishing new evidence to avoid unnecessary inconveniences.

We would also like to remind all those interested in publishing articles to be diligent in identifying and avoiding predatory journals which do not strictly adhere to ethical scientific publication practices.

For appropriate information regarding HIV and AIDS situation in Tanzania, please visit the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). The Director General of Tanzania National Bureau of Statistics is the only entity mandated to announce country statistics that must be diligently quoted in any publication that references Tanzania National Statistics. For more information please refer to the following links https://www.nbs.go.tz/nbs/takwimu/this2016-17/THIS_2016-2017_Final_Report.pdf or https://www.nbs.go.tz/nbs/takwimu/this2016-17/Tanzania_SummarySheet_English.pdf

Released by


Englibert Kayombo
Ag. HEAD OF GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATIONS