



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2014_IJTDH_14182
Title of the Manuscript:	Risk Factors of Human African Trypanosomiasis in Mbuji Mayi, Eastern Kasai Province, Democratic Republic of the Congo
Type of Article	Report on research conducted

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
Introduction: Background and context of the study are clearly pointed up. Study-design: socio-economic conditions of local populations are well described and risk of HAT exposure and transmission is better understood. Methodology: As research studies involving human beings are liable to ethical issues, it is very important to make understandable the study-design and data collection as done in the current version. Nevertheless, <u>kindly specify the language used for the questionnaire</u> as you stated that populations are less educated. The paper can be published after minor revisions highlighted in the revised version	Thank you for your positive appreciation of how our new introduction has been rewritten. Thank you for your positive comments and appreciation regarding the section on study design. The study questionnaire was designed in French and the data collection technicians were instructed to use French as this is the official language of the DRC. However, to successfully obtain data from some subjects who, by virtue of their low school attainment, do not have a good command of French, the data collection technicians were instructed to use Tshiluba, one of the four national languages of the DRC in which most people in the Eastern Kasai province are fluent. This statement has been added to the revised manuscript. It can be found on page 8 of the revised manuscript. A screen copy is provided below.

336 previously pretested on 20 sick HAT patients who were under treatment in 2013 and on 40
337 controls, and it was then refined before the start of the survey in May 2014. The study
338 questionnaire was designed in French and the data collection technicians were instructed to
339 use French as this is the official language of the DRC. However, to successfully obtain data
340 from some subjects who, by virtue of their low school attainment, do not have a good
341 command of French, the data collection technicians were instructed to use Tshiluba, one of
342 the four national languages of the DRC in which most people in the Eastern Kasai province
343 are fluent. For each case and each control, we collected general demographic
344 characteristics as well as data on beliefs, knowledge, practices and activities considered as
345 potential enabling and risk factors for HAT. The interviews were held at their respective