



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2014_IJTDH_13282
Title of the Manuscript:	Investigating prevalence rate of HCV, HBV, and HIV co-infection in Khorramabad, iran, in 2013
Type of Article	Original Research Article

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
The manuscript is slightly improved, but my main concern remains. The prevalence of HIV, HCV and HBV need to be presented separately in most analyses. HIV test with one ELISA is not enough for diagnosing HIV. Normally we confirm positive ELISA with western Blot and if not available in resource limited settings with a second ELISA measuring antibodies towards another antigen and if unclear results with a third test. With only one test the HIV prevalence can be overestimated. For hepatitis B the type of antibodies need to be specified. Anti- HBs is seen after vaccination and in patients cured from hepatitis B. Antibodies towards hepatitis C is seen also in patients cured from hepatitis C and overestimate the prevalence. To confirm active hepatitis C we normally use HCV- RNA test. I have also an ethical concern. Did you have ethical approval for the study? Was the patients informed of the test result? Did you offer the patients treatment if diagnosed with chronic infection?	In this study, all tests were repeated twice to ensure accuracy. The molecular tests such as PCR is not performed in the hospital, after positive tests, PCR to patients in other centers such as blood transfer is recommended. also We do not allow offer, other centers. Number of patients because of poor health care and culture despite refuse recommend additional tests. In consultation with experts, the answer is usually the tests are consistent with the molecular results The aim of our study was the frequency of synchronization and communication of clinical symptoms and test results from the three viruses were not targets. Let the tests, the patient is taken. Serum samples of patients who request physician and patient satisfaction was. This study was approved by the research ethics committee with a letter to the Issue 129/93/6012