



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJTDH_22830
Title of the Manuscript:	Breastfeeding and Association with Diarrheal Diseases: A Tale of two Councils in South-Eastern Nigeria.
Type of the Article	Original research Articles

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)
Compulsory REVISION comments	1. There is no need to put statistics about diarrhoeal diseases in the abstract (line 9 to line 11), because these statistics are already presented in the introduction section. 2. The spelling of the word Introduction (line 41) should be corrected as the letter (I) is missed. 3. Line 48, the word (contribute) should be followed by (to). 4. At line 53, the abbreviation of exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) should be written for the first time it appears in the study. 5. Line 62, the statement (The benefit of EBF extends...) should be changed to The benefits of EBF extend....). 6. <u>The significance to conduct your study should be emphasized</u>; in other words, why it is important to do this study? What would it add to the existing literature???) 7. Line 76: the abbreviations (PHCs) should be written for the first time completely (it stand for what???? Primary health centres, or primary health clinics....). 8. Line 83, I think that, the study participants should be consisted of (parents or carers of infants aged 0 to 12 months) and not the opposite (infants aged 0 to 12 whose parents or carers....) because you collect your data by doing interview with parents or carers and not with infants. 9. The inclusion and exclusion criteria to participate in the study should be discussed, for example (what if the infants have other gastrointestinal problems such as food	Dear Reviewer, Thanks so very much for your kind observations and suggestions. We are very grateful. 1. Corrected and figures removed. Line 9 to 11 2. The word "Introduction" corrected. Line 41 3. "to" added. Line 48 4. Abbreviation "EBF" added. Line 53 5. Statement changed. Line 62 to 63 6. We stated in the original manuscript that little is known in a heterogeneous community (semi-urban) in our original manuscript in the original lines 64-66. However, we have expanded this more. See Lines 65 to 69 7. This was written fully. See original lines 72, now line 75 8. Correction made. See line 88. 9. The Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria have been added to the "Study Participants' section". See line 90 to 92 10. The questions on our study questionnaire were derived from existing literature on this



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	malabsorption, celiac disease, or other disorders that are associated with diarrhoea). 10. Line 85, regarding the study instrument which is a pre-tested semi-structured questionnaire, it should be emphasized more about the psychometric proprieties of this tool such as its validity and reliability, if it was examined by a panel of experts or not, and if its questions were derived from literature that discussed similar topics. 11. Line 112, the word (children) should be removed as you conducted your interviews with mothers only.	topic. We pre-tested our instrument in a similar population. Issues observed were sorted out by our team before we finally arrived at what we finally used. We have added these in lines 95 to 97.
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	1. At the conclusion section, please add more recommendations for health care providers including how to encourage mothers to exclusively breastfeed their infants, the benefits of EBF for both mothers and infants. In addition you can add recommendations for policy makers such as to increase maternal leave period.	1. Thanks so much for this suggestion. It has been added. See lines 198 to 206
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		