



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

No

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|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Journal Name:            | <a href="#">International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE &amp; Health</a>                                                     |
| Manuscript Number:       | Ms_IJTDH_37581                                                                                                             |
| Title of the Manuscript: | HEPATITIS B SEROLOGICAL MARKERS AND RISK FACTORS AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN AND PROSPECTIVE BLOOD DONORS IN SOUTHWESTERN NIGERIA |
| Type of the Article      | Original Research Article                                                                                                  |

**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>)

**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)                 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments | <p>Screening for serological markers (viral antigens and host antibodies) helps to establish a suspected HBV infection from different phases of the chronic disease and also the severity of the infection – please reformulate (the viral load and the degree of fibrosis are important in assessing the disease in terms of staging and severity)</p> <p>Transfusion transmitted hepatitis B infection (TTHBVI) has always been a dreaded disease with an increased incidence in donated blood- please change the information with new data from the literature as this is no longer up to date.</p> | <p>The sentence has been reconstructed to cater for the Reviewer's comment.</p> <p>This has been reviewed and a new reference [8] added</p>                                                   |
| <b>Minor</b> REVISION comments      | <p>Screening for serological markers (viral antigens and host antibodies) helps to establish a suspected HBV infection – the host antibodies are in concordance with the healing and not with HBV infection – please address this issue</p> <p>Regarding Tabel 1- regarding the age please mention the years</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>This has been taken care of in our response to the first comment</p> <p>'Years' has been added to the table line 101. The years cannot be mentioned because the ages have been grouped</p> |
| <b>Optional/General</b> comments    | The manuscript needs a revision in terms of English, the use of a native speaking doctor would be a good idea, and there are some words/sentences/sentence constructions that are not used in the medical field.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | I do not think 'a revision in terms of English' is necessary. Education at all levels is in English in Nigeria.                                                                               |