



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	<u>International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health</u>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJTDH_35282
Title of the Manuscript:	Socio – economic Factors Influencing Utilization of Healthcare Services in Sokoto, Northwestern 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>)



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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(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)</i>
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	The research problem has not been clearly defined. According to the title and objectives, it is understood that the study would assess the association between Socio – economic factors and Utilization of healthcare services and effects of socio – economic factors and user – fees on the difficulties in paying for healthcare services utilized. However the analyzes are restricted to pattern of payment for healthcare services and the difficulties in paying for healthcare services. In this way, the text, including title, abstract, introduction, objectives, should be adjusted for this purpose. In the introduction, describe a bit about the main features of the country's health system. In the methodology, the outcome (difficulty of payment) should be better defined. Which question of the instrument was used to obtain this measure? What is the recall period used? For example, the most common health problems (table 2) was for which period? It's about last medical appointment? The same is true for Types of healthcare providers often patronized. The title of Tables 3 and 4 should also be appropriate to the study outcome (difficulty of payment). Clarify in the methodology that the questions refer to the family. The unit of analysis is the family because the questions were answered by the head of the family in most cases. The parameters for calculation of sample reported in the methodology are for prevalence study, is the sample sufficient for association as well?	



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	It was not clear whether the instrument of data collection was an interview or questionnaire. If it is a self-applicable questionnaire, it must necessarily be structured. In bivariate analyzes, the odds ratio should be presented for all variables. Table 2 presents only for some variables. The table must have a unique pattern for all variables. The odds ratio values shown in lines 168 and 172 are not shown in the table. Multivariate analysis is not correct. The analysis should be repeated entering the categories of the variables, specifying the reference category, their respective confidence intervals, and the p-value of the variable. SES index and social class are collinear variables. Only one must be entered in the model.	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	I suggest to include the distribution of economic status index of figure 1 in table 1 and exclude figure 1. In table 3, it is suggested to present only the prevalence of the outcome according to the variables, it is not necessary to put yes and no. In table 3 it is not necessary to put the legend $p < 0.05$ or $p < 0.001$ since the table shows the exact value of p.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		

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