



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJTDH_38025
Title of the Manuscript:	MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS OUTBREAK (OF 2009) AMONG CHILDREN IN MAIDUGURI NORTH-EASTERN NIGERIA: EPIDEMIOLOGY AND DETERMINANTS OF OUTCOME
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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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	Study entitled: MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS OUTBREAK (OF 2009) AMONG CHILDREN IN MAIDUGURI NORTH-EASTERN NIGERIA: EPIDEMIOLOGY AND DETERMINANTS OF OUTCOME. General comments: 1. This is a cross-sectional prospective study of a Meningococcal outbreak during 2009 in Nigeria. In general, English grammar needs an overall correction, many sentences and statements are confusing, too many to be mentioned one by one. 2. Many and important issues should be answered in order to publish this outbreak, which indeed needs to be published, the apparent attack rate seemed to be very high. Specific comments: 1. Abstract: the 10.1% "Incidence" refers as 10.1% of all people affected were children, or the authors are referring to attack rate?, if the latter the authors should refer to that number as attack rate in children of 10.1/100,000 2. Materials and methods: I am very confused, why the authors chose those "inclusion criteria"? Why all children who were hemodynamically unstable were not included? We need to remember that Meningococcal Disease (MD) is a potentially lethal disease, many children will be admitted to the ER in a critical clinical condition. 3. Material and methods: For the diagnosis of meningococcal meningitis or MD, did the authors choose cultures, latex-agglutination of PCR for the diagnosis? They are not even using WHO or CDC definitions. 4. All analysis (both statistically and clinically) are appropriate, but, without a clear definition authors' conclusions are vague, and as such, should not be published. 5. In addition, why are children with suspected meningitis receiving gentamicin? It is clear that all aminoglycosides do not penetrate the CNS. 6. In addition to grammar, some words like "Kernig", Brudzinsky), etc, should be well written through all the manuscript. It is imperative to re-write the whole document	
Minor REVISION comments		
Optional/General comments		

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