

### Review Form 3

Journal Name:	<a href="#">South Asian Journal of Research in Microbiology</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_SAJRM_128066
Title of the Manuscript:	Prevalence of Occult Hepatitis B Infection among People Living with HIV/AIDS in Rivers State
Type of the Article	

#### **General guidelines for the 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 guidelines for the Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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**Review Form 3**

**PART 1: Comments**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's Feedback</b> <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<b>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</b>	The manuscript highlights the public health significance of occult HBV infections in HIV/AIDS patients. These infections can lead to serious complications, such as liver damage, increased mortality, and challenges in treatment. Therefore, investigating the prevalence of occult HBV in individuals with HIV/AIDS is crucial to reducing the risks of liver cirrhosis, hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), and other related conditions. Additionally, it is important to take precautions to prevent HBV reactivation, particularly during transitions in antiretroviral therapy (ART).	
<b>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</b>	In the background section of the abstract, delete the first statement since it does not make sense. Write study period and sample size in abstract metrology part.	
<b>Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.</b>	The manuscript is scientifically correct but requires significant revisions in the methodology, results, and discussion sections. I have already provided my comments in the manuscript.	
<b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</b>	The references are sufficient and recent; however, in the introduction and discussion sections, additional references should be included. I have already indicated these references in the manuscript.	
<b>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b>	Yes	
<b>Optional/General</b> comments	I believe the manuscript requires substantial revisions, particularly in the methodology, results, and discussion sections. Table 1 should present the socio-demographic characteristics of the study participants, while Tables 2 through 6 should be combined into a single table, titled "Association between the Prevalence of Occult HBV and Socio-Demographic Characteristics in HIV/AIDS Patients." Additionally, the discussion section needs significant improvement. I have provided detailed comments throughout the manuscript. If the authors thoroughly address these concerns, the paper could make a valuable contribution to the field.	

**PART 2:**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> <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>
<b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b>	<b><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></b>	

**Reviewer Details:**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Solomon Tesfaye</b>
<b>Department, University &amp; Country</b>	<b>University of Gondar, Ethiopia</b>