

Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJTDH_111726
Title of the Manuscript:	National Surveillance Data on the Epidemiology of Meningitis in Niger, 2005 - 2020
Type of the Article	

Review Form 1.7

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)
<p>Compulsory REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Is the manuscript important for scientific community? (Please write few sentences on this manuscript) Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title) Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate? Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct? Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form. <p>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</p>	<p>1.This article provides the space to understand the trend of meningitis in Niger, how to improve meningitis surveillance and what can be done to reduce meningitis incidence and outbreaks. This would be of interest to the actors in the meningitis community</p> <p>2. Yes</p> <p>3. Yes</p> <p>4. Yes</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6.No. the in-text referencing needs to be checked. The manuscript discusses itself than relying on available scientific evidence/literature</p>	
<p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? 	<p>Language checking: Although some work has been done in this regard, more is still required. It is suggested that detailed language checks on the entire work be done. Few examples to demonstrate language gabs include: “Oordt-Speets and al. in a meta-analysis in which they stated that the most common pathogens in the all ages group” “therefore, uncertainty surrounds the 'true' incidence of diseases affecting morbidity and</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<p>1.Consistency in reporting/presentation is required. For example “A total of 47,953 suspected meningitis cases and 3,276 deaths (CFR=6.83%)”. The authors should consider reporting figures alone or report figures with analysis.</p> <p>Also, same presentation format makes it easy to follow. “The male represented 55.41% (sex-ratio male: female = 1.30) and 40.52% were 5 -14 y”. The ratio of male : female is incomplete yet not consistent for the age grouping</p> <p>2.Clarity is required on some of the figures. For example “A total of 47,953 suspected meningitis cases” and “A total of 29,998 cases were reported through RNL” What is the difference and what is accounting for that difference?</p> <p>On mortalities: 3,276 deaths reported in abstract but 2,653 deaths reported in discussion</p> <p>3.Epidemiologic data presentation:</p>	

Review Form 1.7

	<p>Epidemiologic graphs should not contain grid lines Also, the graphs do not have x and y axis labels</p> <p>4. Passive surveillance systems are not robust enough to detect and report all cases however, the statement that 'Indeed, it is clear that there is a high level of underreporting' is not supported by evidence in the data and the supporting explanation to that statement is not backed by available literature of evidence in the report</p>	
--	---	--

PART 2:

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

Reviewer Details:

Name:	Mukaiia Mumuni Zankawah
Department, University & Country	Ghana