

Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	European Journal of Nutrition & Food Safety
Manuscript Number:	Ms_EJNFS_118917
Title of the Manuscript:	Comparing the prevalence of food, water borne. parenterally acquired viral hepatitis in the tribal, non-tribal north east Indian population and its prevalence pre-COVID and during COVID
Type of the 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)
<p>Compulsory REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the manuscript important for scientific community? (Please write few sentences on this manuscript) 2. Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title) 3. Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? 4. Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate? 5. Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct? 6. Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form. <p><u>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</u></p>	<p>The manuscript titled "Comparing the prevalence of food, water borne, parenterally acquired viral hepatitis in the tribal, non-tribal northeast Indian population and its prevalence pre-COVID and during COVID" provides valuable insights into the epidemiology of viral hepatitis in a specific and understudied population. It focuses on the tribal and non-tribal populations of northeast India, comparing the prevalence of hepatitis before and during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hence, it holds significant importance to the scientific community.</p> <p>The title has formatting issues and needs to be revised. The author has several errors with periods instead of commas. The title can be improved with the suggested: "Comparing Viral Hepatitis Prevalence Among Tribal and Non-Tribal Populations in Northeast India Before and During COVID-19."</p> <p>The abstract is comprehensive; however, there are several formatting issues and errors. The author should remove the headings: Background, Methodology, Results, and Conclusion from the abstract. The author needs to address the punctuation and spacing issues: there are missing spaces between words (e.g., "whoare", "duringthe") and inconsistent punctuation. In fact, the entire article has missing spaces and inconsistent punctuation. The author also needs to use consistent terms, such as "COVID-19" instead of "COVID19" and "non-tribal" instead of "nontribal." Additionally, "HBV. HDV. HCV." should be "HBV, HDV, HCV," for clarity. The author does not use "and" for several terms used in a sentence (e.g., "for HDV, HCV, HEV." or "border adjacent to Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan.").</p> <p>The subsections and structure of the manuscript are appropriate. However, the author needs to improve the formatting by using numbering for headings. The author also needs to present data in tabular form for tribal, non-tribal, and total populations with respect to the region for better readability. This improvement should also apply to other results, such as socio-demographic data and drinking water facilities. The manuscript is scientifically appropriate, but there are concerns over the data presented on state-specific observations (Figure 2a to 2i). These figures can be represented as a table. It is not necessary to mention in every caption what each color represents; just mention it once. Also, the captions for tables should be above the tables for Table 1 and Table 2.</p> <p>The references are sufficient but are inconsistent in their structure. References 1-15 are formatted differently from references 16-35, and references 36-48 are formatted differently again.</p> <p>The conclusion section of the manuscript significantly lacks a comprehensive summary of the study's findings. The authors need to provide a more detailed and conclusive overview of all the key results. They should explain how food and waterborne pathogens affect viral hepatitis. Additionally, the current conclusion is too brief; the authors should also address future research directions and acknowledge any limitations or gaps in the study.</p>	
<p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? 	<p>Yes, but there is area for improvement. Grammar and Syntax, Clarity and Consistency. The language quality of the manuscript needs improvement to meet the standards of scholarly communication. Addressing grammatical errors, ensuring clarity and conciseness, maintaining consistent terminology, and improving formatting will enhance the readability and professionalism of the document.</p>	

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Optional/General comments		
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PART 2:

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

Reviewer Details:

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