Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	**South Asian Journal of Parasitology**
Manuscript Number:	**Ms_SAJP_117562**
Title of the Manuscript:	**MALARIA INFECTION AND MOLECULAR CHARACTERISATION OF PLASMODIUM SPECIES IN ADAMAWA STATE, NIGERIA.**
Type of the Article	**Original Research 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)*
Compulsory REVISION comments 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.** **(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)**	**EVALUATION** **1.** can total parasite density be used to assess parasite density and burden in malaria. If possible kindly referred to the reference **2.** Prevalence of malaria infection and molecular Plasmodium speciation in patients consulting at the secondary health centres in Adamawa State, Nigeria **3.**No Proposed abstract. **METHODS:** We conducted a health facility-based cross-sectional study from the 15th of December 2018 to the 30th of May 2019 on patients attending selected 5 secondary health centre distributed in 3 zones in Adamawa State, Nigeria. The prevalence of Plasmodium infection was measured by light microscopic and polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) targeting *P. falciparum* 18S rRNA gene. Long-lasting insecticidal net (LLIN) ownership and usage were also assessed **RESULTS**: The prevalence by microscopic analysed was 39.08% with total parasite density of 1633048/µl., while PCR assay amplifying 18S small-subunit ribosomal RNA (SSU rRNA) gene of Plasmodium confirmed only 15.7% of isolates as asymptomatic malaria infections. *Plasmodium falciparum* was the only species found in the study area. The prevalence of malaria infection by geographical zone (p= 0.001) and by gender (p= 0.0001) varied significant with the predominance of North Zone and female patients respectively. Shockingly, only 52.3 % of participants without ITNs were infected. **CONCLUSION**: The results indicated a high prevalence of *P. falciparum* areas under study called for the scaling-up of malaria intervention with special attention to female in the population. **Materials and methods** Sample collection and storage. For laboratory investigation 5ml of blood was collected from each subject with assistance of the licensed laboratory scientists working in the health facilities, blotted in triplicate onto Whatmann (Whatman (Specify the number and the country of origin) paper and allowed to air dry at room temperature. Whatmann paper was individually placed in sealed plastic bags marked with patient's study numbers and date of collection before being transported to the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) (Specify the city and the State of the federation). Each sampling points coordinates was obtained by GPS Application by Ketan computers (13) Inclusion criteria The study was delimited to patients of all ages that presented at the selected secondary health centres irrespective of their social status and those whose parents/guardians signed the assent forms for under children after clear explanation of the study objectives both in English and local languages (Authors should mention them). Data Analysis The authors should reconsider age grouping in such a way that the minimum number of participants is the group is 30. **Results** The authors should define "total parasite density" **4.**The manuscript needs to be restructured. Corrections were made on the text **5.**The manuscript is scientifically correct **Introduction.** Discuss the Seasonal intermittent chemotherapy intervention in Adamawa State	

	7. References are obsolete and not recent. Suggested references are: **-** Impacts Of Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention on Malaria Burden Among Under Five-Year-Old Children In Borno State, Nigeria J. P. Amb. Journal of Tropical Medicine Volume 2020, Article Id 9372457, 9 Page **-** Malaria Consortium's Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention Program Philanthropy Report 2021 - Nigeria Malaria Report 2022 - Nigeria Malaria Report 2023 **-**Jummai V. Zirra, Garandi I. Danjuma* And Awal Yakubu. An Assessment Of Trends And Spatial Distribution Of Cases Of Malaria Fever In Mubi South Local Government Area Adamawa State, Nigeria. Journal Of Environmental Material Sciences **-** Adamawa State Situation Analysis Of Children.2021 -A perspective on Oxford's R21/Matrix-M™ malaria vaccine and the future of global eradication efforts Nicholas Aderinto1. *Malaria Journal (2024) 23:16*	
Minor REVISION comments **1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?**		
Optional/General comments		

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?	*(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)*	

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