

**Review Form 1.7**

Journal Name:	<b>Microbiology Research Journal International</b>
Manuscript Number:	<b>Ms_MRJI_119073</b>
Title of the Manuscript:	<b>Sero-Prevalence and Distribution of Hepatitis B Surface Antigenaemia among People Living in Urban Settings in Rivers State of Nigeria</b>
Type of the Article	<b>Original Research Article</b>

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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><b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Is the manuscript important for scientific community?</b> (Please write few sentences on this manuscript)</li> <li>2. <b>Is the title of the article suitable?</b> (If not please suggest an alternative title)</li> <li>3. <b>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive?</b></li> <li>4. <b>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</b></li> <li>5. <b>Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct?</b></li> <li>6. <b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form.</b></li> </ol> <p><u>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</u></p>	<p><b>Review Comments</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Is the manuscript important for the scientific community?</b>  Yes, this manuscript is important for the scientific community as it addresses the prevalence and distribution of Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) among urban populations in Rivers State, Nigeria. Given the global health burden of Hepatitis B and the high prevalence rate in Nigeria, this study provides valuable insights into demographic factors influencing the disease's spread. The findings can inform targeted public health interventions and strategies to reduce Hepatitis B transmission in high-risk groups, thus contributing to better disease management and control efforts.</li> <li>2. <b>Is the title of the article suitable?</b>  The title "Sero-Prevalence and Distribution of Hepatitis B Surface Antigenaemia among People Living in Urban Settings in Rivers State of Nigeria" is suitable as it clearly indicates the scope and focus of the study.</li> <li>3. <b>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive?</b>  The abstract is comprehensive, providing a concise overview of the study's background, aim, methodology, results, and conclusion. It effectively summarizes the key findings and their implications, making it informative for readers.</li> <li>4. <b>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</b>  The subsections and structure of the manuscript are appropriate. It follows a logical flow, including sections for the introduction, methodology, results, discussion, conclusion, and references. This organization helps in understanding the research process and findings systematically.</li> <li>5. <b>Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct?</b>  The manuscript appears scientifically correct. The methodology is sound, involving appropriate statistical analyses to determine the significance of the findings. The results are clearly presented, and the discussion provides a thoughtful interpretation of the data in the context of existing literature.</li> <li>6. <b>Are the references sufficient and recent?</b>  The references are generally sufficient and recent, covering relevant studies and providing a solid background for the research. However, to strengthen the manuscript, the authors may consider adding more recent references from the past three to five years to ensure the study is situated within the latest scientific discourse.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>Minor</b> REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b></li> </ol>	<p>### Minor Revision Comments</p> <p>#### 1. Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	

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	<p>The language and English quality of the article are generally suitable for scholarly communications. However, there are a few areas that can be further improved to ensure greater clarity and professionalism:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Sentence Structure</b>: Some sentences can be simplified or restructured to enhance readability. For example, breaking complex sentences into simpler ones can make it easier for readers to understand.</li><li>2. <b>Terminology Usage</b>: Ensure consistency and accuracy in the use of technical terms. Some terms may need clearer definitions or explanations to help readers from different backgrounds understand.</li><li>3. <b>Spelling and Grammar</b>: Carefully check for spelling and grammar errors. Although the overall language quality is high, attention to detail is essential to ensure accuracy.</li><li>4. <b>Punctuation</b>: Pay attention to the correct use of punctuation to avoid ambiguity and improve sentence flow.</li></ol> <p>In summary, the language and English quality of the article are mostly suitable for scholarly communications, but thorough revision and editing can further enhance its academic professionalism and readability.</p>	
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<p><b>Optional/General</b>comments</p>	<p>### Optional/General Comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Data Presentation</b>: Consider including more visual representations of the data, such as graphs and charts, to complement the tables. Visual aids can help readers quickly grasp key findings and trends.</li> <li><b>Literature Review</b>: Expand the literature review to include more recent studies and provide a broader context for your findings. This can strengthen the background and justification for your research.</li> <li><b>Discussion Depth</b>: Enhance the discussion section by exploring the implications of your findings in greater depth. Discuss potential reasons for observed trends and compare them with other studies. This can provide a richer understanding of the results.</li> <li><b>Public Health Implications</b>: Emphasize the public health implications of your study. Discuss how your findings can inform public health policies and interventions, particularly in the context of the demographics with higher prevalence rates.</li> <li><b>Limitations and Future Research</b>: Clearly state the limitations of your study and suggest areas for future research. Acknowledging limitations can provide a balanced view of your findings and help guide future studies in this area.</li> <li><b>Engagement with Stakeholders</b>: Consider discussing how your findings can be communicated to and utilized by relevant stakeholders, including public health officials, healthcare providers, and community organizations.</li> </ol> <p>These optional comments are intended to provide additional insights that could further enhance the quality and impact of your manuscript.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Language and Clarity</b>: The manuscript is generally well-written but could benefit from minor language and clarity improvements.</li> <li><b>Scientific Rigor</b>: The methodology and analysis appear scientifically sound and robust.</li> <li><b>Ethical Considerations</b>: The manuscript appropriately addresses ethical considerations.</li> <li><b>Competing Interests</b>: There are no competing interests declared by the reviewer.</li> </ul> <p>Given these considerations, I would assign the manuscript an overall mark of <b>8.5</b>, indicating that it requires minor revisions.</p>	
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**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)
<p>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</p>	<p><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></p>	

**Reviewer Details:**

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