

### Review Form 3

Journal Name:	<a href="#">International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE &amp; Health</a>
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJTDH_127978
Title of the Manuscript:	Prevalence and Determinants of Exclusive Breastfeeding among Infants Aged 0-6 Months on Follow up after Discharge from a Tertiary Neonatal Unit in South-South Nigeria.
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> (Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<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>	This study offers important insights into the prevalence and factors influencing exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) among infants discharged from a Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) in South-South Nigeria. The research reveals that only 40.3% of infants are exclusively breastfed within the first six months, falling short of the WHO's recommended target. Key determinants identified include the infant's age, delivery method, gestational age, and the role of early skin-to-skin contact and healthcare worker support. These findings emphasize the need for targeted interventions, particularly for preterm and low-birth-weight infants, to improve breastfeeding outcomes. The study contributes valuable evidence to the ongoing efforts to enhance breastfeeding practices, particularly in neonatal care settings, and supports the development of policies aimed at improving infant nutrition in this context.	
<b>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</b>	"Prevalence and Determinants of Exclusive Breastfeeding Among Infants After Discharge from a Neonatal Unit in South-South Nigeria"	
<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>	Abstract Background: Exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) is essential for infant health, but global rates remain below the WHO's target. Little is known about EBF rates among infants discharged from Special Care Baby Units (SCBU) in Nigeria. This study assessed EBF prevalence among infants aged 0-6 months following discharge from a tertiary SCBU. Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted with 263 mother-infant pairs at the Federal Medical Centre Yenagoa (FMCY) from February 7 to May 22, 2024. Data on sociodemographics, breastfeeding status, and factors related to delivery and support were collected and analyzed using logistic regression. Results: EBF prevalence was 40.3%. Key factors influencing EBF included infant age, delivery method, early breastfeeding initiation, skin-to-skin contact, and healthcare support. Only infant age and skin-to-skin contact remained significant predictors in multivariate analysis. Conclusion: EBF rates at FMCY are suboptimal. Enhancing early breastfeeding support, especially for preterm and low-birth-weight infants, is essential to improve EBF rates.. Keywords: Exclusive breastfeeding, Neonatal follow-up, Special Care Baby Unit, Breastfeeding support I have shortened the whole abstract.	
<b>Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.</b>	Yes the manuscript is scientifically correct	
<b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</b>	References are enough and up to date.	
<b>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b>	Quality of English is good.	
<b>Optional/General</b> comments	The manuscript is written in a way that it describes what it is supposed to describe.it shows encouraging results for certain specific geographical area.	

**PART 2:**

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

**Reviewer Details:**

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