

Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJTDH_79890
Title of the Manuscript:	Pattern and Outcome of Paediatric Surgeries: A Private Paediatric Hospital Experience in Southern Nigeria
Type of the Article	

General guideline for 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 guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with the reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. Authors must write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	<p>The author aims to ascertain the pattern and outcome of pediatric surgeries in his hospital which is a private entity.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the introduction section, I would like to suggest the authors not write the name of the hospital in the manuscript. One can simply write it as a private hospital. 2. In the result section, although there is a good variety of surgical cases, the data lags in the sample size of the cases which are considered core pediatric surgery, such as Anorectal malformations, Hirschsprung's disease, neonatal pediatric surgery, pediatric urology etc. 3. In most countries, the health sector either comes under the domain of the provincial/ state government or sometimes under the central government. Thus, the health policies and facilities differ from province to province even within a country. Moreover, it is a well-known fact that there is a huge gap between the health infrastructure in the private and government sectors in developing countries. Thus, in the discussion section to compare the data of one private hospital with that of tertiary care centres in other developing countries in my opinion is not a wise idea. The comparison should first be done between hospitals within their province or country 4. There is no take-home message in the conclusion section. The authors have only summarised their findings. 5. In their recommendations, the authors write "This study, therefore, highlights the importance of surgical care as an essential aspect of public health even in the private health sectors in the reduction of paediatric morbidity and mortality as surgical conditions play a significant role in the overall burden of paediatric diseases especially in low-income countries.". This statement is a known fact. It is not something that is derived from this study and neither it is specific to any country. <p>Moreover, the author mentions "We thus advocate the development/improvement in surgical infrastructure and manpower not only in the tertiary health facilities but also in the private health sector." In itself, the statement is right but on what basis are they making such a statement since this study does not study the lacunas in health infrastructure in their hospital. This study is a retrospective collection of the 'pattern and outcome' of surgical pediatric cases over some time.</p>	
Minor REVISION comments		
Optional/General comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In my opinion the authors should make their aim clear. Whether they want to study the clinico/surgical aspect of their pediatric patients or the infrastructure aspect of their hospital. 2. To increase the clinical variety, they can pool in other private pediatric surgical hospital in their region. They can then further compare their data with the government hospitals in their region. 	

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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>	

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