



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

**PART 1:**

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| Journal Name:            | <b><u>British Microbiology Research Journal</u></b>                                                                             |
| Manuscript Number:       | <b>2013 BMRJ 4327</b>                                                                                                           |
| Title of the Manuscript: | <b>CORRELATION OF H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> PRODUCTION OF LACTOBACILLUS SPECIES WITH NUGENT SCORES OF YOUNG NIGERIAN WOMEN</b> |
| Type of the Article      | <b>Research paper</b>                                                                                                           |

**General guideline for Peer Review process is available in this link:**

**(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)**

- This form has total 7 parts. Kindly note that you should use all the parts of this review form.



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### **PART 2:** 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)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Compulsory</u></b> REVISION comments | <p><b>Content of the paper as it is now is of importance but a compulsory revision of the English language is required for proper presentation and discussion of results.</b></p> <p><b>Genus name should be corrected from lactobacillus to "<i>Lactobacillus</i>". Corrections needed in Introduction part specially.</b></p> <p><b>As stated 97 women were included in the study and 97 isolates were tested. Does that mean one isolate was selected from one woman? If Yes then on what basis these isolates were selected? Were all the colonies having different colony morphotypes selected? If No then there is a possibility of missing some <i>Lactobacillus</i> species. There are published studies and we in our own study found out that 9 out of 40 women were colonised by more than one <i>Lactobacillus</i> species and not necessarily all the species produce H2O2. One of the species did not produce at all or very less and the other would produce more. It is important that all the <i>Lactobacillus</i> species from MRS agar are selected &amp; analysed.</b></p> <p><b>H2O2 production by different <i>Lactobacillus</i> isolates was measured but no where the identification of isolates is mentioned. The information is incomplete by not having identified/mentioned the <i>Lactobacillus</i></b></p> | <p>Done.</p> <p>Yes, one isolate was selected from one woman.</p> <p>All morphotypes that were Gram positive bacilli and catalase negative were picked and stored. More than one colonies with different morphologies were seen in very few of the women studied. In such women, only those producing H2O2 were considered since we had no facilities for species identification. The focus of the study was whether there was protection of the vagina or not by H2O2 production.</p> |



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|  | <p><b>species. Production of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is important but <i>Lactobacillus</i> species is more important. From my experience and the available literature, colonising species is important and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> plays an additional important role in conferring protection. Hence identification of isolates and finding correlation between them and the BV status will give an important piece of information in addition to what is presented in the paper.</b></p> | <p>We did not identify to the species level because we did not have the required facilities. Nevertheless, the information being sought here as shown by the aim is the susceptibility of the women to vaginal infection as portrayed by production of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> by their lactobacillus regardless of the type (species). Correlated with Nugent score, this should give us information on the vaginal health of the women.</p> |
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| <p><b>Minor</b> REVISION comments</p>   | <p>Lot of corrections are required in the manuscript in terms of English language and grammar. Some of the very visible ones are as follows with correction:</p> <p>In Abstract<br/>Line Aim: Lactobacilli specie should be written as "lactobacilli" or "<i>Lactobacillus</i> species"<br/>Methodology: Lactobacilli could be written as lactobacilli and "was isolated" should be "were isolated".<br/>Anywhere, either you should say <i>Lactobacillus</i> isolates or lactobacilli.</p> <p>Line 48, 49, 50, 52, 67, 70 and other: throughout the whole manuscript, change lactobacillus to "<i>Lactobacillus</i>".<br/>Line 55: Should be only one full stop.<br/>Line 68: in 10% glycerol stock<br/>Line 75: 1ml of 0.1N<br/>Line 95: should be rewritten as "forty four of these were isolated from women without BV"<br/>Line 106: As shown in figure 1<br/>Line 107-108: This line should be rewritten clearly that the prevalence of H2O2 producing lactobacilli decreased with increasing Nugent scores and non H2O2 producers increased with increasing scores.</p> | <p>All the corrections specified have been effected in the script.</p> |
| <p><b>Optional/General</b> comments</p> | <p>Language in the Discussion part should be corrected and the references should be checked again.</p> <p>With the suggested corrections, this manuscript will benefit a lot.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>Discussion revised.</p>                                             |