



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	British Microbiology Research Journal
Manuscript Number:	2013_BMRJ_7851
Title of the Manuscript:	Molecular Characterization of hepatitis B virus circulating in asymptomatic and symptomatic carrier in Côte d'Ivoire
Type of the Article	Research

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:

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



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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)
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	Journal format was NOT satisfactorily followed Remove initials of authors cited in text in <i>Introduction</i> and <i>Discussion</i>, please Line 9 - To read: Africa and Asia remain Line 10 - To read: These deaths are due to symptomatic carriers Line 17-18 - To read: The study examined samples from 139 subjects or participants using serological and molecular techniques Line 19 - Remove Genotypes G and H were not determined (It is implied in the previous sentence) Line 20 - To read: Out of 139 samples tested, ... Line 21 - Does the average age given refer only to the Result or the over sampled subjects? It is ambiguous as presented Line 24 - To read: that infection with HBV Genotype E led to or resulted in clinical Outcome. However, the high number of non-typable HBV Line 44 - Remove initials of authors cited Line 46 - To read: Africa and Asia remain Line 47 - To read: Remove initials of authors; leave a space between). and These Line 48 - Remove initials of authors and &, to read et al. Line 49 to 53 - Remove initials of authors	The different correction would be seen in the text. Line 21: we worked on 754 samples in total, but only 139 were positive. But our decision criterion focused on positive samples. that is why we continued with 139. The average age is for 139 subjects



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	Line 53/54 – Sentence is ambiguous; Not clear; Do you mean genotype A is reportedly more severe than genotype C which in turn is more severe than genotype B? Line 54/55 – Remove initials of authors Line 55 - To read: Genotype D has been associated with Line 56 – Remove initials of authors Line 56/57 – This sentence or question posed should be rephrased; e.g. “The role of the other genotypes in the clinical outcome of hepatitis B remains unclear or not well understood” Line 58 - To read: For instance - In Côte d'Ivoire, many studies have been conducted which reported 9% prevalence of HBsAg in pregnant women (Chaucin et al. 2002) an 12.5% among blood donors (Kpa et al. 2007). Line 61 - To read: Only a few data Line 72 – Replace <i>discovery</i> with <i>presence</i> or <i>detection</i> Line 73 - To read: and subjects with liver cancer Line 74/76 - To read: ... the patients and informed consent was obtained from all recruited subjects or participants Line 76 – Leave a space between (CNER). and Only Line 79 - To read: Serum samples prepared for serological testing were stored at -20°C while plasma samples prepared for molecular testing were stored at -80°C until used. Line 80 - To read: The sera or serum samples were tested by enzyme-linked Line 87 - To read: of the HBV genome Line 88 - To read: Table 1 – 3 Line 94 - To read: 45µL Line 95 - To read: 1µL (50µM) 1µL (10µM)	Line 53/54: yes that's what I meant. Maybe it was poorly said. It will be corrected in the text.
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	Line 96 - To read: 10μL of, 3μL MgCl₂, 0.2μL??? of Line 97 - To read: μL Line 102 - To read: 5μL Line 103 - To read:, 1μL, 1μL ..., 3μL ... and 1μL Line 107 - To read: ethydium Line 121/122 - Ambiguous/vague statement Line 124/125- Not clear Line 131 - To read: A total of 139 patients consisting of 49% asymptomatic and 51% symptomatic subjects were recruited. Of the symptomatic subjects, 23.9% had liver diseases while 76.1% were chronic carriers of what? Line 131/132 - Are data on age referring to the asymptomatic subjects or referring to ALL recruited subjects? Line 132 - To read: 38.8% had HBV DNA Line 134/136 - To read: in samples of asymptomatic subjects we found 10 HBV genotype E and 12 non-typable against 24 HBV genotype HBV B and 7 non-typable HBV in samples of symptomatic subjects. Line 136 - Remove either; replace "or" with "and" Line 137 - To read: <i>carriers</i> instead of carrier Line 139/140 - To read: That means; Figure 1 shows Line 152 - To read: This study concerns or is on Line 152/154 - Kindly recast; avoid phrases for the statements to make meanings Line 157 - To read: difference is due to Line 158 - Remove initials of authors to read Ferreira et al (2006); difference is due to Line 161 - To read: ... caused by the genotype E Line 165/166 - Sentence not clear; What is leaded? Do you mead led, past tense of lead To read Based on previous study	Line 121/122: This sentence is not in place. I'm sorry, it had to follow the gel photos Line 131/132: Data on age are referring to both groups. the lower limit of 2 years was in an asymptomatic child whose mother was positive
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	Line 167 - To read: (Chaucin et al. 2002) Line 168 - To read: (Kpa et al. 2007) Line 169 - To read: 61.2% Line 170 - To read: due perhaps to Line 171 - To read: in a study carried out in Line 173 - To read: 64.8% 97.5%; Remove initials of author Line 174 - To read: 97.1% 87.5% Remove initials of authors Line 175 - To read: ... and was present (..... symptomatic). The Line 176 - To read: It may be due to the difference in sample size in both studies. Line 177 - To read: Remove initials of authors Line 178 - To read: It is NOT It's, Remove initials of author; who reported or opined Line 179 - To read: ... in both categories Line 180 - To read: 18.5% Line 181 - To read: Space between (2010). and In asymptomatic carriers Line 182 - To read: 44.5% Line 183 - To read: ... two groups of population Line 183/184 - To read: Sentence not clear please. Line 187 - To read: .. leads to....; Ledated? Line 187 - To read: We found Line 189 - To read: ... indicative of the implication of the HBV genotype E in hepatic complication Line 190 - To read: Previous Line 191 - Remove initials of authors Line 194 - To read: Remove initials of author Line 196 - To read: this is the most prevalent genotype in West Africa Line 197 - Remove initials of authors Line 204/210 - Recast the conclusion please. E.g., In summation, we observed the circulation of HBV genotypes	Line 183/184: I want to compare the proportions of genotype E in our study and in a study conducted in Angola in both groups of population.
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	E and B in Ivory Coast with a predominance of the genotype E and a high proportion of asymptomatic carriers. The genotype E abounds with significant role in the clinical evolution of the disease. Likewise we observed the circulation of non-typable strain which requires a molecular characterization of complete HBV nucleotide sequences from Côte d'Ivoire. This will enable the assessment of their genetic variability, possible molecular signatures and patterns of mutations.	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	The journal format has not been followed with regard to listing the references. The MS should follow the Journal format in general.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	This is a good study which has thrown light into the problems of HBV infections and the associated complications in Ivory Coast and in Africa as a whole. The circulation of a high proportion of non-typable strains portent serious consequences not only for Africa but for the world which has become global village.	