



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	British Microbiology Research Journal
Manuscript Number:	2015_BMRJ_18071
Title of the Manuscript:	Diversity of Rotavirus VP7 and VP4 Genotypes Associated with Severe Childhood Diarrhea in North West Cameroon: Detection of Unusual strains G1P[6], G2P[6], G2P[8] and G3P[6]
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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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.

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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)
Compulsory REVISION comments	Materials and methods section Studied population should be described in detail. The period of the study should be stated together the characterisation of the population : number of children hospitalized, number of out patients, sex ratio, age groups, name of the districts and health units participating . Criteria for inclusion in the study. Methods used to determine the electropherotype are not cited in this section but you present results. Please add. Results and discussion As a general comment, present all data in the following format "51/56 (96.4%)". It is not clear in the text whether the results and statistics presented are for hospitalized or out patients and if the 56 strains are the total number of rota positives by EIA or a selection. If a selection please detail how the selection was performed. Line 111-117 : the phrase should be separate into two, one phrase presenting the odds for the age group distribution and a second one stating the sex distribution with statistical analysis	Materials and methods section Study area, study population and specimens In this study we analyze rotavirus strains isolated from an earlier molecular epidemiologic study conducted in the North West Region of Cameroon between January and December 2004 [8]. A total of 543 diarrheic stool specimens were collected from children age 0 – 59 months who sought medical care for acute diarrhea at the Bamenda Regional Hospital; divisional hospitals at Bali, Batibo, Ndop and Santa; Presbyterian Health Center Bafut and the Catholic Health Center Won. Case definition and criteria for inclusion A case of diarrhoea was defined as a child with increased bowel movement within 3 days prior to sample collection or three days with decrease in consistency (watery, liquid or loose stools). A child < 60 months of age, male or female suffering from acute diarrhoea was considered for inclusion in the study. Any child who met the criteria for inclusion and whose parents or guardian gave informed consent was eligible and enrolled in the study. Consenting parents or guardians completed an interviewer assisted structured questionnaire for socio-demographic and biodata of each child including outcome of the visit whether the child was admitted or treated at the outpatient department. Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis Rotavirus dsRNA genome was extracted from 128 stool specimens that previously tested positive for rotaviruses by Enzyme Immunoassay. Briefly, rotavirus antigen detection was performed on 10% stool suspension in phosphate buffered saline using commercial DAKO IDEIA Rotavirus kit (DAKO Diagnostics, Sweden) following the manufacturer's instructions. Rotavirus dsRNA was extracted by the Bender method [9] ie (Flook et al.,



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	results included. L130, L162-164, L181-183 : add numbers, statistical analysis if any. L128-137: Please add numbers and statistical for the monthly distribution to sustain your statements.	1992) with slight modification for polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (PAGE) analysis. The extracted dsRNA was applied to separate lanes of a 10% polyacrylamide gel in a discontinuous buffer system overnight for 18-20 hours at a constant voltage of 100V at room temperature. The RNA bands were visualized by the silver nitrate staining technique over an illuminated box [10]. The presence of rotavirus in stool specimens was determined by detection of 11 RNA segments of rotavirus by PAGE as previously described [11]. 10. Herring AJ, Inglis NF, Ojeh CK, Sondgrass DR. Rapid diagnosis of rotavirus infection by direct detection of viral nucleic acid in silver-stained polyacrylamide gels. J Clin Microbiol. 1982 16(3):473-7 <i>Results and discussion</i> Corrections were made to present data in the recommended format ["51/56 (96.4%)"]. Clarification on were made with respect to number of specimens from hospitalized children (40) compared to total specimens (56), number of ELISA positive specimens (128). Selection of 56 specimens for genotyping was based on PAGE results and availability of genotyping materials. Data for sex distribution was provided in a new chat . 111 – 117: This section was actually written as recommended. There is a full stop after "P[8]" separating the sentences. L130, L162-164, ,L181-183: The statistics were added. L128-137: Numbers and percentages were added Others: 1. Authors and affiliations: The second author's name was corrected for spelling and affiliation 2. Other errors identified by authors were corrected. 3. Reference 16 was moved to position 8 and subsequent references were renumbered accordingly including three new ones.
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		4. Subsections were renumbered to reflect the changes made under materials and methods and results and discussion sections 6. Line 185 – 189 was moved to line 160 for flow. 5. All corrections appear in red in the draft revised manuscript.
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		