



SDI Review Form 1.6

PART 1:

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2013 IJTDH 3289
Title of the Manuscript:	Effect of Pre and Post Academic Examination Stress on Serum Level of Cortisol and progesterone Circulation Amongst Students of Nnamdi Azikiwe University Nnewi Campus. Anambra State, Nigeria

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 9 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)	
Compulsory REVISION comments	What were the authors' hypotheses? A description of the sample is lacking. How were the participants selected for participation? Where they men or women? What was the age and ethnicity? What time of day were the blood samples taken and how does this relate to normal circadian fluctuations in these hormones? The results are not clear. In the text and tables, it is difficult to discern which group of participants the data represent (just the controls, experimental group, both?). It would be helpful if there were a second blood sample taken in the control group at the same time as the experimental group's second blood draw for comparison purposes. If there is progesterone stealing, shouldn't there be a negative correlation between cortisol and progesterone levels? (see line 195) From about line 207 to the end of the paper, the authors begin to digress from the main focus of their study. Some of this could be moved to the introduction, but much of it could be removed.	Stress has become an important issue in academic circle as well as in our society The mean age of the participants was 24 years. Student with observable signs and symptoms of any sickness; those who smoke, drink alcohol or under any medication; female students in their menstrual period and pregnant women were excluded from the study The blood sample were collected between the hours of 7am and 8am for pre-examination group, 11am and 12noon after examinations It was not possible to retain the control group in a resting state to justify second sample collection we targeted the immediate stress hormonal response of the students as built by anxiety due to examinations. Yes progesterone level showed inverse relationship with cortisol level -0.399 indicating a negative correlation Please see the discussion as revised	Formatted: Highlight Formatted: Normal Formatted: Font: 10 pt Formatted: Font: 9 pt, Highlight Formatted: Font: 9 pt Formatted: Font: 9 pt Formatted: Font: 9 pt Formatted: Font: 9 pt, Highlight Formatted: Font: 9 pt Formatted: Normal Formatted: Font: 9 pt, Highlight Formatted: Font: 9 pt Formatted: Highlight Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman, Highlight



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<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Place a decimal in the correct location of the correlation coefficient in the abstract and manuscript (r=399) Line 115: "cortisol" should be "progesterone"? Provide references in the text for the sources which are quoted (line 206)	<u>-0.399</u> Yes cortisol should be progesterone
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	Some instances of English grammar should be corrected. Overall, the study provides an important glimpse into hormonal changes in an under-studied population, and I encourage the authors to revise their paper.	

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