



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	Important information regarding the methods is lacking. 1. How was the control group matched to the examination group? According to age, sex, education etc.? 2. How was confounding variables for cortisol measures controlled? For example, eating, drinking, smoking, medication, wake up time, sleeping? 3. What was the exact time of the day for blood sampling? 4. Why was only one blood sample taken from the participants in the control group and two in the examination group?	This work did not consider differences in age and sex we accessed the general effect of anxiety during examination periods. Oral questionnaire was used to rule out those who smoke, drink alcohol and are under any medication. Majority of the students slept early at night, woke up early in the morning (4am) to read with effects of circadian rhythm of cortisol at the back of our mind Blood samples were collected between the hours of 7am and 8am before examination and 11am to 12noon after examination 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.
Minor REVISION comments	There are a number of errors in the manuscript: 1. Line 123: "Pre-examination cortisol" should be "post-examination cortisol". 2. Line 129: "0399" should be "0.399". 3. Tables 2 and 3: The headlines "Pre-exam" and "Post-exam" should be "Examination group" and "Control group".	1. The correction has been effected as indicated by the reviewer 2. The correlation here was a negative one due to progesterone stealing. Hence 0399 should read -0.399. 3. The correction has been effected as



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	4. The Discussion section is far too long and speculative and should be focussed on the present findings, interpretation and limitations of the study.	indicated by the reviewer 4. The discussion has been revised
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	The manuscript has to be revised extensively and resubmitted.	