



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

**PART 1:**

|                          |                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Journal Name:            | <b><u>International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE &amp; Health</u></b>                                                                                           |
| Manuscript Number:       | <b>2013_IJTDH_4608</b>                                                                                                                                         |
| Title of the Manuscript: | <b>Spinal neurobrucellosis is an unusual cause of nontraumatic paraplegia in Zaria, Northern Nigeria: A report of 3 cases and review of current literature</b> |
| Type of the Article      | <b>Case study</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>I suggest only few changes:</b></p> <p><b>In the introduction, lines 59 to 73 contain detailed information on the diagnosis and treatment of neurobrucellosis. I would prefer this section to be incorporated in the discussion, thus achieving a more concise introduction and a more detailed discussion.</b></p> <p><b>I would be curious to learn as a reader of the paper the reason why the third patient was treated for Pott's disease. If it is possible it would be useful to clarify this point.</b></p> <p><b>I liked the idea of the direct presentation of the clinical charts in figures 1 and 2, but I think that the patients' names and the dates must be covered.</b></p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The introduction lines 59 to 73 have been transferred to the discussion section.</li> <li>2. The primary physicians decided that the paraplegia was due to Pott's disease, and put the patient on empiric anti tuberculous therapy. This is a common management error in Nigeria where most cases of nontraumatic paraparesis/paraplegia are treated as Pott's disease.</li> <li>3. The name of the patient has been erased on the clinical chart, but other details are left intact for authenticity and verification, if necessary.</li> </ol> |
| <b><u>Minor</u></b> REVISION comments      | <p><b>I suggest only few word changes mostly in language style;</b></p> <p><b>Line 34: cows, goats and sheep/instead of cows and goats and sheep</b></p> <p><b>Line 37: All patients/instead of All the patients</b></p> <p><b>Line 54: exists /instead of exist</b></p> <p><b>Line 54: any of four species/instead of any four species</b></p> <p><b>Line 62: gold standard diagnostic method/instead of gold standard</b></p> <p><b>Line 71: ,/instead of ;</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All the observations have been corrected.</li> <li>2. Sensory loss at level T12</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |



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|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
|                                         | <b>Line 88: is it sensory loss at the level T12? Please clarify.</b><br><b>Line 99: treated for possible pyogenic meningitis/instead of (?Pyogenic) meningitis</b><br><b>Line 177: unless/instead of except</b> |           |
| <b><u>Optional/General</u></b> comments | <b>This is a very interesting presentation of a disease that may escape diagnosis if not suspected. I recommend its publication.</b>                                                                            | Thank you |