



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2013_IJTDH_4985
Title of the Manuscript:	PATTERN OF NEONATAL MORTALITY IN A TERTIARY HEALTH FACILITY IN UMUAHIA, SOUTH EAST, NIGERIA

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
Overall, there is remarkable improvement in the quality of the manuscript – it now flows much better. I have made some very minor corrections and these are shown below. On page 2, under RESULTS, change <i>premature delivery</i> to <i>preterm delivery</i> On page 4, the last sentence beginning with <i>“The aim of the current study.....”</i> should be <i>a separate paragraph</i> On page 5, under MATERIALS AND METHODS the third paragraph should read <i>“It is a hospital-based audit.....”</i> On page 6 in the last paragraph, after analysed using the statistical package SPSS Version 18, the authors should add the following sentence <i>“Data were arranged in contingency tables and associations were tested for statistical significance using chi-square statistic.”</i> On page 7 under RESULTS, the sentence “The neonatal mortality rate during the period of review was 159 per 1000 live births” is obviously not correct. <i>The question that arises is HOW MANY BABIES WERE BORN OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL AT THE PERIOD COVERED BY THE REVIEW AND WERE THEY BORN WITHIN THE CATCHMENT AREA OF THE TERTIARY CENTRE WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE STATE? It is much safer to remain within the confines of the CASE-FATALITY RATE.</i> <i>On page7 I have reconstructed the tables and merged tables II and III into one table. (see attachments). Table I in the present form is rather unwieldy and difficult to understand what the authors intend to tell readers. The authors should recalculate the figures carefully for possible errors in addition. They should also provide the missing figures indicated with question marks and letters (x and y) and the p values in the respective rows as indicated. These can be readily retrieved from the results.</i> On page 13, the last sentence (authors' contribution) is not acceptable in the present form. <i>They should state the specific contribution of each author. For example, LITERATURE SEARCH AND REVIEW, DATA RETRIEVAL AND COLLATION, STATISTICAL ANALYSIS, etc.</i>	Done. See Page 1 lines 25-26. Already formatted, see page 4 lines 24-26. Done. See page 5 line 10. Correction effected. See 6 lines 4 and 5. This has been corrected as shown in the manuscript(See Results section on page 7 lines 3- 4): The neonatal case - fatality rate during the period of review was 16.0% per 100 live births. Conscious efforts made to retrieve the data for the survived newborns but we found that majority of them were missing from the medical records as they have not been computerized. However, we tried to re- do table I along the suggested format with all the data available to us. So we state that this is a limitation to our work. AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS: ECB conceived of the study, participated in the design of the study, was the main responsible for collection and drafting of the manuscript. EUO was involved in the study design and co-collected the data. Statistical analyses was done by CBF & ECB KFC, CJM, NC, UKI were involved in the revising of the manuscript critically for important intellectual content. See 17 lines 7-12.