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Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2013_IJTDH_6240
Title of the Manuscript:	HYPERTENSION IN THE ADULT POPULATION OF KAYA HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM IN BURKINA FASO: PREVALENCE AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS
Type of the Article	Research Paper

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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 <i>(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)</i>
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	*The article has significant and widespread grammatical errors that reflect fundamental English language issues. This need to be improved upon. *The sentences are disconnected and occasionally do not carry the intended or complete meaning. For instance in Line 18, I get the impression the authors were referring to global prevalence of hypertension in year 2000. *Table 1 is very confusing and needs to be clarified. For example, I do not understand why there should be decimal points for number of people in the age bracket, Civil status, Education et cetera. What exactly are these authors reporting in; percentage or number of subjects? *In the discussion, there was no mention of the relationship between marital status and hypertension which was noted in the result section of study. The possible reason for this among subjects in Burkina Faso will be of interesting read for users of the journal. Marital status has been related to longevity among others, but not so much of this has been noted in African studies.	We apologize for these errors. We have attempted to correct them and hope now to have reached a better copy. We have corrected this sentence. We were referring to global prevalence of hypertension in the year 2000. We report here percentage of subjects. This is now stated in the body of the table. We mention now in the discussion that: "In semi-urban areas, married people were less likely to be hypertensive than those who were unmarried. This is consistent with previous studies that found that married individuals tend to experience better health outcomes than those who were not married [42, 43]. Marriage could confer more protection in semi-urban than in rural areas by preserving traditional healthy dietary behaviors."



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	Also, there was a result section which said there was no impact of BMI on hypertension in semi-urban subjects, but there was in rural area. Why is this so? These need to be discussed and reasons for this possibly alluded to.	We mention now in the discussion that: “The finding that hypertension was associated with being overweight in rural areas may be explained by rapid changes in the occupational activities of some individuals; for example, the transition from doing mostly physical activity in the past (farming) to adopting less active jobs (vendors and merchants).”
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<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	* The authors should state the actual prevalence of hypertension in the Kenyan, Ghanaian and South African studies referred to in Line 23. * Classification of BMI is quite confusing and obviously do not completely reflect the accepted international indices, if present form remains. *In Line 100-115 there is an acronym; STEPS. The full meaning of STEPS is not reflected anywhere in the paper. *In the result section, there was no recording for mean BMI values in the different age groups or populations compared. * In Line 200-201, there is no need for the statement attempting to give more bite to the $p < 0.06$. The relevance of family history to prevalence of hypertension is well captured in Table 4 and discussion.	In this sentence we aim at giving some examples of studies that have reported low prevalence. The sentence immediately following shows recent prevalence estimates in those countries and others (Ghana, South Africa, Mozambique, Tanzania ..) We use the WHO classification of BMI. We have now replaced “overweight” by “pre-obese” in the text. Overweight refers to people with BMI ≥ 25. STEPS is now spelled out as Stepwise Approach to Chronic Disease Risk Factor Surveillance. We have adopted the BMI categories because they allow quantification of prevalence odds ratios. We have now removed the statement.
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	The article concept and design is good, and the contribution to epidemiology of hypertension in Africans is instructive. It is worth publishing if the corrections are effected as soon as possible.	