



## SDI Review Form 1.6

### **PART 1:**

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| Journal Name:            | <a href="#">International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE &amp; Health</a>                                                                                                           |
| Manuscript Number:       | <b>MS: 2013_IJTDH_3405</b>                                                                                                                                                       |
| Title of the Manuscript: | <b>Super agglutination Test: A novel method to minimize false negative and false positive results of plate / slide agglutination tests for diagnosis of infectious diseases.</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 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)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
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| <b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments | <p>I have, principally, nothing against the idea, but in brucellosis control it is clear that highly sensitive tests are almost highly non-specific. The RBT can be made highly sensitive by changing the concentration of the antigen and the pH. Therefore one must follow the standardization as written by Alton, otherwise we will get too many positives and this will need more efforts to retest all these samples again with a confirmatory test. In fact we use RBT test as a screening test and, the samples that test positive by RBT should be confirmed by a less sensitive high specific test such as CFT to avoid slaughtering false positive cases.</p> <p>In fact I am not happy to see all RBT negative samples were positive by the superagglutination test. In countries, where brucellosis is endemic, low titers are of no significance</p> <p><b>The only advantage of this test is to be used in brucellosis-free countries to catch any traces of antibodies to take action.</b></p> | <p>Antigen of uniform pH was used throughout and the standard procedure of Alton was used in the study. Tests like STAT and ELISA were used to compare the results of RBPT. The new superagglutination test was developed to address the issue of false positive results of RBPT. The new test is very simple to use and of point of care applicability compared to the cumbersome complement fixation test which can be done only by skilled and experienced researchers in advanced labs. Not all RBPT negative samples are always positive by superagglutination test. Here the results of superagglutination on only the samples false negative by RBPT (but positive by STAT or ELISA or both) are shown to make a point. The test would be very useful in Brucellosis – endemic countries also as a more reliable screening test to minimize the culling of false positive animals and check the spread of the disease by false negative animals.</p> |
| <b>Minor</b> REVISION comments      | <p>The following corrections are suggested</p> <p>L 18,30,56,146: brucellosis</p> <p>L23,133: biotinyleted</p> <p>L25: non-specific</p> <p>L26: leads</p> <p>L62,78,153: coloured</p> <p>L78,95,130,131,152,154: colour</p> <p>L 82: two-fold</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>All the suggested corrections have been incorporated in the revised manuscript.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |



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| <b><u>Optional/General</u></b> comments |  |  |