



SDI Review Form 1.6

PART 1:

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	MS: 2013_IJTDH_3416
Title of the Manuscript:	TREND AND SEASONALITY IN ADMISSION AND OUTCOME OF LOW BIRTHWEIGHT INFANTS IN GWAGWALADA-ABUJA, 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.



SDI Review Form 1.6

PART 2: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment. The study focuses on trying to understand the reasons of LBW by evaluating seasonal variations. Bearing in mind, that the exposure is antedated to outcome, this may be very difficult to establish. We are not sure where it develops, maybe evaluation SGA, may be more precise than LBW in this situation. It may also better to evaluate preterm birth, which is of acute in nature rather than LBW which is of chronic in nature, within the 9 months of pregnancy. Authors ought to seriously consider this as their main hypothesis is based on seasons.	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	1. Need to give more socio-demographic information of the mother, age; obstetric and medical information such as parity, diabetes and other medical conditions (in methods or results table) 2. Its not clear when the infants were admitted ie, at what age/ gestational age/ and how many days post delivery- in methods 3. Where are these infants coming from, the hospital, clinics, rural/ urban, etc? – in methods 4. Characterize infant with regards to prematurity, and characterize LBW in terms of IUGR. What is the role of PTD (preterm delivery) – methods, results and discussion 5. Malaria also causes PTD, it's an acute infection, so PTD needs to be discussed when discussing malaria - in discussion 6. Table 1- split it to 2. Confusing as is 7. Table III- Why did you choose January- June, and	1. The study did not intend to look at maternal demographic factors since the objective was limited to the trend and seasonality in admission and outcome of low birthweight babies. 2. The term babies implied that the were newborns. This is the idea upheld by almost all neonatologists. Since the study was focused on season, the results and discussion was tailored towards that direction, howbeit, the opinion of the reviewer is appreciated. 3. It is true that newborns are looked in terms of either being small for gestational age or preterm delivery.



SDI Review Form 1.6

	July - December, has that to do with dry/wet- clarify. Always identify wet/dry months in footnote. Why not analyze by day of delivery 8. Table IV- include LBW and PTD, define wet/dry months in footnote of table 8. Address selection bias of using referral centre, are rates comparable to the source population 9. Line 111, Incidence assumes you have all at risk population (many LBW are referred, many are born at home, and the population may differ from the hospital- part of the selection bias too) - call it frequencies- 10. Line 156-7, is this not where they have oil, could it be that the mothers are generally health, such that they are less likely to have LBW? 11. Discussion starts of focused, but might be less focused from line 212-220.	But this study is focused on seasonality rather than on the causes of low birthweight 4. Table I is self explanatory 5. The issue about January-june and july-december has been deleted to avoid confusion of terms 6. Wet/dry months has been defined below the Table 7. The incidence in line 111 of previous article has been changed to frequencies 8. Issues about socioeconomic status raised in line 156-7 has been addressed 9. Adjustment has been made to focus the discussion
--	---	---



SDI Review Form 1.6

Minor REVISION comments	Line 40- rate of 11.5% [should be identified as for this study population] Line 42. Clarify “monthly an seasonal distributions” what you mean by that statement Line 44. “higher mortality rate- give it- what is it Line 55. “14% in 2004” reference it Line 76. “ Federal Capital territory and its neighbouring state” – specify, and explain what these are. Line 207 - :factors typo	Issues raised with line 40 in abstract has been rectified thus: giving the unit’s LBW prevalence of 11.5%. Line 42: The word is rephrased as-----there was variations in monthly distribution. Line 44: the mortality is given. Line 55;National average referenced Line 76: The federal capital territory is a conglomeration of cities carve out of many states and it is been addressed as Federal Capital territory rather than States.
Optional/General comments		