



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	MS: 2012 IJTDH 2738
Title of the Manuscript:	PREVALENCE OF MALARIA PARASITE INFECTION AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN ATTENDING ANTENATAL CLINICS IN PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE, NIGERIA

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
On one and the same day I was asked to review 2 papers, submitted to different journals, at the same editorial office, , papers by the same authors on 400 pregnant women, 104 of whom were found with malaria parasites (P. falciparum). In both papers 400 pregnant women were examined, in both 104 were malaria positive Both papers reported that the survey was done from April to Sept 2011 And both studies were performed in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria. Am I wrong in concluding that both studies are about THE SAME 400 WOMEN, a suggestion I made in my earlier review which =was not denied (or answered) by the authors. The numbers of women in first, second and third trimester, the numbers positive in the respective trimesters The numbers of primigravidae, secundigravidae and multiparous women and those positive are different in the 2 papers. Can the authors explain? Questions: What type of season is from April to Sept; wet or dry? The total number of women attending the antenatal clinics is the source population from which the authors randomly selected the study population. How was randomisation (the selection) done? Specific for this paper: AGE AND PARITY ARE NOT INDEPENDENT. Multigravidae are probably older, young women are more likely primi- or secundigravidae. This should be addressed by multivariate analysis. This reviewer misses any note on a malaria programme, nationally and in the region. What is the policy around pregnancy? The advice from WHO is ITNs and IPT, since many years. What about this in the area how does this study and its results relate to this?	You are not wrong; both studies were carried out on the same 400 pregnant women. The data in tables 2 and 3 of the initial manuscript submitted to IJTDH were wrong due to compilation error by the authors, hence the differences in the numbers positive for parity and gestation period in the 2 papers. The correct data are in tables 2 and 3 of the revised manuscript submitted to IJTDH for final evaluation. The data in the manuscript submitted to BJMMR are correct and are in agreement with the data in the revised manuscript submitted to IJTDH for final evaluation. April to September is wet or rainy season (L56 of the revised manuscript for final evaluation). Randomization among the pregnant women attending antenatal clinics in this study was done by systematic random sampling (L59 of the revised manuscript for final evaluation). Multi-variant analysis was used (L89 of the revised manuscript for final evaluation). The advice from WHO on ITNs (bednets) and IPT is addressed in the manuscript submitted to BJMMR. Due to the international attention given to malaria in Africa, this research serves as one of the sources of information (for local and international scientists/health organizations) in evaluating the impact of malaria on pregnant women. Thank you for your review comments, which improved the quality of this manuscript.