



SDI FINAL EVALUATION FORM 1.1

PART 1:

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2013_IJTDH_6669
Title of the Manuscript:	Black Women's Predisposition to Preterm Birth; Could We Be Near The Answer?

PART 2:

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
To my opinion, the manuscript is not good enough for publication in its present form. The authors reply to the comments is not satisfactory. It is a very interesting study and I would recommend that authors continue with it using quantitative aMMP-8 method and then submit manuscript for publication.	

Dear Editor-in-Chief

We are appealing against this decision for the following reasons.

The reviewer's comments are wrong and biased. We had already responded saying This request is impossible. The study has already been completed. We believe a qualitative assessment showing over 83% with elevated a-MMP-8 is strong enough evidence. Moreover, we already stated these concerns as a limitation of this study. The elevation found was qualitative but observing this in 83% of subjects is strong enough for our conclusions. The reviewer is asking us to do the impossible because we have already completed the study and might not be able to trace all the patients again! Moreso, the other two reviewers do not agree with this review. There comments are pasted below;

The manuscript is well structured and it concerns a current topic of deep interest. Moreover, what we particularly appreciated was the interest in a population particularly at risk, such as that of black women.	

The other reviewer said



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Well written, with good significance.

The comments of these two other reviewers clearly shows that reviewer number 1 does not understand this study. His comments should therefore be disregarded and our paper published.



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