



SDI Review Form 1.6

PART 1:

Journal Name:	<u>International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health</u>
Manuscript Number:	2013_IJTDH_4985
Title of the Manuscript:	PATTERN OF NEONATAL MORTALITY IN A TERTIARY HEALTH FACILITY IN UMUAHIA, SOUTH EAST, NIGERIA
Type of the Article	Research paper

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 7 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)
<u>Compulsory</u> REVISION comments	1. The Introduction does not present an evidence-based review of the possible intervention to reduce neonatal death. Neonatal resuscitation is not in the list of simple actions/care but it is more effective than early treatment of infections and other interventions listed. Reference 10 was published before the data on resuscitation trials were published (see Carlo WA, Zambia study of ENC and NRP published in Pediatrics, and Perlman J in Pediatrics papers). Essential newborn care (ENC) is also very effective and proven by a large trial (Carlo WA, NEJM). Indeed, both interventions have a much larger effect than the obstetric interventions mentioned. High level of evidence trials should be addressed better in the introduction not put in the Discussion. 2. The demographic characteristics provided are limited. A table using a rather standard format of reporting a cohort should be provided instead. This table should include livebirths and deaths (allowing comparison), birth weights (the most important predictor of death), sex (making Figures 2 and 3 unnecessary), and inborn/outborn death, facility birth, method of delivery, duration of hospitalization, and other baseline demographics. 3. The current Table II is the only one that is acceptable. Data on Table I are not needed in the manuscript unless mortality was seasonal. Timing of death can be stated in the results. A table is not needed.	



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	4. Most of the results stated in the Results section should be included in the demographic characteristic table suggested. 5. The methods do not address the process for assigning cause of death. The person making the diagnosis and the algorithm used to classify death should be stated. For example, if a premature baby had birth asphyxia , was the cause of death prematurity or asphyxia? 6. The definitions for the cause of death should be mentioned unless it is obvious, for example, what criteria had to be met to classify a death as due to asphyxia? 7. Data on whether this is a population-based study or not are not provided. Is this one of several referral hospitals in the region?	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Age of admission has not been analyzed as a covariate for death.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		

Note: Anonymous Reviewer