



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2013_IJTDH_6809
Title of the Manuscript:	Bloodstream infections and malaria as causes of fever among adult medical patients at a referral hospital in Malawi
Type of the Article	Research Paper

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)

To the Editor:

The authors present interesting data on the management of febrile adult patients in a referral hospital in Central Malawi. I think that the main message of the manuscript is that the majority of patients presenting with febrile illness are empirically treated for malaria or bacterial disease, however diagnostic confirmation reveals that the frequency of cases of malaria or invasive bacterial disease are actually lower than the primary diagnosis. The authors also present interesting data on the prior use of antimalarials and antibiotics before hospital admission and data on antibiotic susceptibility of bacterial isolates, from positive blood cultures. Although the study size (180 patients) is small, which may account for the relative low frequency of bacteremia and malaria cases found, the study highlights the importance of implementing local guidelines for the management of febrile patients and adherence to national guidelines, with a caution to the indiscriminate use of large spectrum antibiotics and antimalarial treatment. I think the manuscript should be published as it is.



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PART 1: 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	Accept as it is	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		

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