



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2014_IJTDH_12194
Title of the Manuscript:	Cases of dog bite in Aba , Abia state Nigeria and its public health significance
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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:

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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)
Compulsory REVISION comments	1. No description on the 'structured questionnaire' in the Methods section. This is the most critical component of a scientifically robust study. But in the paper I could not find relevant details on this questionnaire: the structure, psychometrics, and how the questionnaire was implemented to the participants. 2. Figure 2 and Table 4 have overlapping data. It seems everything reported in Figure 2 has been presented in Table 4. Unless Figure 2 could provide additional information, it could be removed. 3. Lack of discussion on the results in Table 4 (Location of Bite by Age of Victims) in the discussion section. 4. Page 9 Line 226-227: Authors' discussion on why male adults are more bitten than children/adolescents did not explain the link between dog bite expose and 'the needs of their families'. Do the authors suggest that male adults have to interact with dogs more than children because of the work they have to do to support the family? Or is it because only male adults who are 'risky' enough could build up a family and therefore more likely to get bitten because of their 'riskiness'? Children/adolescents have also been documented as 'More risky than any other age group' in the literature.	This has been highlighted, and is worth to note that this is a retrospective study. And it was only the information that was recorded at the veterinary clinic that was used in the study relevant questions like first aid carried out immediately after the bite, if the bite was provoked or unprovoked, knowledge of rabies by the victims, age of the offending dogs wasn't in the clinic records. This will be added in the recommendation, that adequate record should be taken at the veterinary clinic . Noted Figure 2 will be removed The site and location of bite have been included in the discussion Yes from the nature of the study area which is a business district it is inferred that male adults have to interact more with dogs more than children as they are more mobile in moving from an area to another transacting one form of business or the other in a quest to support their families.

<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Page 1 Line 34-35: No other sentences in this paragraph were related to the discussion of ‘developed nations’. Not sure what role this sentence plays in this section. Page 2 Line 61: How ‘densely populated’ is Aba? Is there any data supporting this statement? Page 3 Line 79-80: Readers might need more information to interpret Figure 1 from the ‘time series decomposition’. More details on what the percentage represent in the figure could be helpful. Page 8, Line 204: the ‘recent study’ authors mentioned needs citation and reference.	Noted Noted The figure was plotted based on standard requirements Noted
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	none	