



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	<u>International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health</u>
Manuscript Number:	2014_IJTDH_13296
Title of the Manuscript:	The effectiveness of de-stigmatizing interventions
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:

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



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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	The manuscript is excellent. The theme is very relevant. Introduction is well structured. Each paragraph discusses a different topic in clear language, but in order to relate to each other. First, stigma is conceptualized. Then there is a historical theme and its social repercussions. Finally, intervention strategies are well detailed. The methodology is well done. Selecting a community sample, randomization of the sample, choice of three communities without major differences and statistical analysis are very good. The results are statistically significant and consistent with other publications.	Thank you very much for such encouraging comments. We appreciated this very much.
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Although informative and motivating the title might better contemplate the contents of the manuscript. I suggest: "The effectiveness of leprosy de-stigmatizing interventions". The graphs and tables are well explanatory. However, it might be better to unite the three graphs into one, since they relate to items of the same scale. The conclusion could also highlight the importance of self-help group in the stigmatization of leprosy.	We would like to present in three graphs because each graph presents a bit different content. Figure 1: presents the views of community members and health workers on how they and other people feel about having people affected by leprosy in their family or community before and after the interventions. Figure 2: presents the before and after views of community members and health workers regarding shame and avoidance behaviour of the family of persons affected by leprosy and community members. Figure 3: presents the before and after views of community members and health workers on how they and other people think about people affected by leprosy and their families in terms of marital and work prospects.



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<u>Optional/General</u> comments	The article discusses the issue of stigma and shows solutions. It highlights the importance of self-help group. It's very good. The study follows the ethical principles and was approved by ethics committee. The participant could refuse participation in the study without retaliation.	Thank you again for your comments.
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