



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2013_IJTDH_7251
Title of the Manuscript:	Prevalence, characteristics of and risk factors for early pediatric mortality at Zomba Central Hospital, Malawi
Type of the 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>)



SDI Review Form 1.6

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	Table 1: section on distance of health centre should have specification of unit (example mile or kilometre)	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Table 1 does not specify the unit (example mile, kilometre) for measurement of distance of health centre.	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	Materials and method: the methodology of this study was of adequate technical standard for the aims of the study, and can allow replication. Results: 1. Data is robust although with a lot of missing data because of incomplete documentation in the patients' case notes. 2. The references provided during discussion are relevant and mostly current except for a Lancet article of 1966 and references numbers 5 and 11 published in 1995. 3. Discussion and conclusion are based on facts and figures of the study. No biased claims. 4. Statistical analysis is necessary for this study and adequate and relevant analyses have been carried out. Conclusion: Conclusion is not biased and it is based on the facts discussed in the manuscript References: All the references cited are relevant and adequate. Additionally two relevant references that are relevant to this study are: i. Katz et al (2003), Risk factors for early infant mortality in Sarlahi district in Nepal. Bulletin of WHO ii. Cooper et al (1999), Early childhood mortality for	



SDI Review Form 1.6

	community acquired infections. Am J Epidemiol. Vol150 This manuscript has shown some important findings which if considered can improve quality of patients' care and outcome. Notable among these is incomplete documentation in patients' case notes. Although this is one of the pitfalls in retrospective studies, the high level of incomplete documentation portrays low level of efficient patients' management. I suggest acceptance after minor revision	
--	--	--

Reviewer Details:

Name:	Eyo E. Ekpe
Department, University & Country	Department of Surgery, University of Uyo, Nigeria