



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	2014_IJTDH_10912
Title of the Manuscript:	RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SERUM C-REACTIVE PROTEIN LEVELS AND SEVERITY OF <i>PLASMODIUM FALCIPARUM</i> MALARIA IN CHILDREN SEEN IN SOUTH-SOUTH NIGERIA.
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.

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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	Materials and Methods: The description of the data collected in each of the participants is inadequate. Exactly what blood samples were collected from each child? Were full blood counts, random blood glucose and urea and electrolytes and creatinine performed in all study children or only those with severe malaria? The researcher does indicate that blood samples for CRP levels were taken from patients and controls. Was this (CRP) the only test conducted in the controls? The statistical test used in the data analysis should be described. Currently it is not clear what tests were performed; was it analysis of variance or t-test for instance? Results: The only results reported for the control group are general characteristics and temperature. The CRP which was stated as having been done in children in the control group is not reported. It becomes unclear why the authors even bothered getting a control group for this study.	
<u>Minor</u> REVISION comments	Discussion: The authors correctly state that mean serum CRP concentrations were higher in patients with severe manifestations of malaria than in those with uncomplicated malaria. However, parasitaemia also correlated well with severe malaria. Indeed a correlation was shown between parasitaemia and CRP concentrations. In the introduction, the authors assert that the intensity of parasitaemia does not always correlate with disease severity. In this study however, the authors' findings seem to suggest that in this age group parasitaemia is useful for assessing severity. Is it possible that the CRP concentrations are more a reflection of the parasitaemia?	
<u>Optional/General</u> comments		

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