



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

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| Journal Name:            | <a href="#">International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE &amp; Health</a>                                                                                            |
| Manuscript Number:       | 2015_IJTDH_16624                                                                                                                                                  |
| Title of the Manuscript: | <b>Influence of Rheumatoid Factors and Bilirubin on the Sensitivity of Immunochromatographic Rapid Diagnostic Tests for HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis B in Cameroon.</b> |
| Type of the Article      | <b>Original Research Article</b>                                                                                                                                  |

**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)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Compulsory</u></b> REVISION comments | Confirmation of HIV positivity should be done by 4 <sup>th</sup> generation ELISA along with clinical follow up of the patient if being done by third gen elisa. Only then we can confirm the cases. Required to give further details. Repeat testing by rapid tests of three types are recommended before calling these samples reactive as are the normal guidelines. Either of these techniques have to be incorporated to make the data statistically significant | As RDTs used in the study looks for antibodies, using ELISA 4th generation for confirmation would be a bias. Because participants in the early stage of infection may be negative without this is a failure of the test.<br>To confirm we found it necessary to use an ELISA test which has the same target as RDT.<br><br>Regarding the realization of repeated tests, we must admit that we were more concerned about evaluating the test rather than making a diagnosis. We were also limited by finances to repeat these tests. The funding for this study was provided the members of the research team. |
| <b><u>Minor</u></b> REVISION comments      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b><u>Optional/General</u></b> comments    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |