**SDI Review Form 1.6**

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| Journal Name: | **International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health** |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms_IJTDH_19391** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **Outbreaks and laboratory investigations of Lassa fever in Nigeria: How prepared are we?** |
| Type of the Article | **Review 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)* |
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| **Compulsory** REVISION comments | First of all, it is important to recognize that Lassa fever is a local problem for Nigeria communities that are at risk due to a viral infection threatening to life. However, an essential disease feature, the virus transmissibility, implies in recognize in an amplified approach, the regional problem (West African communities) and arrive at the concern about a global potential impact of this viral disease. In particular, the alerts for Lassa virus fever can shed light on a similar problem, as others Arenavirus, in other parts of world, as Bolivia (Machupo) and Argentina (Junin).<br>Indeed, the process to be prepared for a potential outbreak of Lassa fever includes important aspects associated to this disease: "virology, ecology, transmission pattern and immunology". This information is necessary for the development of appropriate diagnostic laboratories and strategies for disease control. Moreover, it is clear that the issues associated to the disease are not only social or economic, but also anthropological. The reservoir, M. rodens, unfortunately, keeps the virus in a well-balanced state, spreading it with high efficiency.<br>The authors emphasize differential diagnosis. Several endemic diseases can be mistaken with Lassa Fever Disease, which displays varied and nonspecific signs and symptoms. Laboratorial support is then necessary for definitive diagnosis and the concerned "preparation" for facing the virus menace includes highly specialized | |

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| | laboratories.<br>There are many challenges to produce a vaccine for Lassa virus, as evidences for a passive transferred immunity are very limited. Moreover, we can understand the special difficulties for a vaccine development, due to the probable participation of cellular immunity for effective host defenses.<br>We hear a claim: the development of an efficient vaccine is urgent. I believe that this demand (so well justified) must be announced for all over the world. The resources are so very high that is necessary a joining efforts from several countries.<br>I recommend strongly the publication of this manuscript (with the due corrections). | |

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| **Minor** REVISION comments | Line 23 The infection by this virus appears asymptomatic<br>Line 27 5,000<br>Lines 28-29 "life cicle of arenavirus"?<br>Line 63 Sequence of sRNA from Lassa virus indicated …<br>Line 116 LASV or LFV?<br>Line 128 Republic [14].The … (space)<br>Line 147 M. natalensis (italicized)<br>Line 164 some → Some outbreaks<br>Line 190 malarsia → malaria<br>Line 203 "the antigen" or "clinical specimen"? The phrase is confused!<br>Line 206 … viral particle<br>Line 310 "technical-know-how" or "technical know-how"?<br>Line 324 … infectious disease, like Lassa fever, would help …<br><br>References<br>Please, what the standard? The periodic title must be italicized or not?<br>Each abbreviation of word is followed by a point or not?<br>Line 353 … Damilano AJ.Efficacy … (space)<br>Line 388 … hospitalstaff.Lancet → hospital staff. Lancet<br>Line 398 Mastomys natalensis → *Mastomys natalensis*<br>Line 403 *J Am Med Assoc.1990* → J Am Med Assoc. 1990 | Thank you sir/madam for the commendations. We have make all corrections as stated. We also slightly modified the topic in order to cover wider and appropriate horizon.<br><br>All typographical errors have been corrected.<br><br>The references have been corrected as per journal style. |
| **Optional/General** comments | | |