02-janwary-2024

Dear Dr. Elom

You submitted a manuscript AJGH-2312-1045 entitled " **COMPARATIVE STUDY OF KNOWLEDGE, RISK FACTORS AND PREVALENCE OF HEPATITIS B VIRUS INFECTION AMONG DONKEY BUTCHERS AND HERDERS IN EBONYI STATE, NIGERIA** " to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.  The reviewer's comments (s) are included at the end of this email.

The reviewers have requested revisions to your manuscript.  Therefore, I invite you to respond to the reviewers' comments and revise your manuscript. Instructions on how to do this can be found at the bottom of this email.

Because we are trying to facilitate the timely publication of manuscripts submitted to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, your revised manuscript should be submitted as soon as possible.

Once again, thank you for submitting your manuscript to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, and I look forward to receiving your revision.

Sincerely,

Salem Y Mohamed

Chief Editor, African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology

Please revise your manuscript using a word processing program and save it on your computer.  Please also highlight the changes to your manuscript within the document using the track changes mode in MS Word or using bold or colored text.

Once the revised manuscript is prepared, you can send it to me via email.

When submitting your revised manuscript, please provide your responses and details of changes made to each comment in an Author Response Letter.  To expedite the processing of the revised manuscript, please be as specific as possible in your response to the reviewers.

**Reviewer Comments to Author:**

**Reviewer1: (AM)**

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**Reviewer 2: (MS)**

This manuscript needs to be rewritten and needs to undergo some changes. Please revise to perform the required corrections.
To improve the readability of the paper, I suggest to:
\*Revise the reference style according to journal roles and revise the year of publication
\*Correct the references writing as the number in brackets in the manuscript
\*Revise the figure numbers as there is a discrepancy between figure numbers and citations inside the manuscript.
\*Subjects, materials, and methods need to be shorter, and some unnecessary data may be referred to as supplementary material
\*The data collection, analysis, and statistical analysis parts should be shorter with fewer subtitles.

**Check the uploaded file.**

**Reviewer3: (AA)**

The manuscript explains the broad spread of HBV based on the risk factors summarized there.
Please add the source of the virus infection and more Diagnostic methods for the virus to differentiate between recent and chronic, persistent infections.
However, I approved the manuscript for publication.

**Editor Comments to Author:**

1. Please check the author names and affiliations included on your Title Page, mainly that the spelling of all authors' names is correct. They are cited in the order you wish them to appear in the final article. In addition, each author's affiliation details are correct.

2. Please include a 'Structured Abstract': not more than 250 words, broken down into, i.e., Aims, Patients & Methods/Materials & Methods, Results, and Conclusions. For authors presenting the results of clinical trials, the guidelines recommended by CONSORT should be followed when writing the abstract (http://www.consort-statement.org/), and the clinical trial registration number should be included at the end of the abstract, where available.

3. Please include up to 10 keywords in your revised manuscript (including the four keywords you selected as part of the submission process).

4. Please amend the references as per the author's guidelines:

a. References should be numerically listed in the reference section in the order they occur in the text.

b. References should appear as a number, i.e., [1, 2] in the text.

c. References should cite three authors et al.: It is our house style to list a maximum of six authors, and if there is more than this, three authors et al.

5. Please ensure all tables and boxes are titled and cited in the text. Three-line tables are preferred.

Please find a link to the African Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology Author Guidelines, which explains these sections in more detail: <https://ajgh.journals.ekb.eg/journal/authors.note>.

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