

Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJTDH_83112
Title of the Manuscript:	Seroprevalence and socio-demographic risk factors of Leptospirosis in Aligarh region of North India.
Type of the Article	Original Research 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:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comments (if agreed with reviewer, corrects the manuscript and highlight <i>that part in the manuscript</i> . It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	<p>The study presents results of a serological study for leptospirosis in human. A sample of 171 clinically cases is included. Authors found serological evidence for the presence of Leptospira in some patients evaluated. Since the disease is usually underreported in the country, the results are of interest. However, the manuscript is poorly presented; the description of the methodology does not allow to appropriately evaluating the soundness of the study.</p> <p>a) The experimental design of the study is paramount. A detailed description of the sampling method is needed. The objective is to determine the seroprevalence of infection. This will only be valid if a proper sampling design was carried. What data, of the national or regional human populations, was used to estimate the sample size? Provide the reference. Also, provide the method used for sample calculation.</p> <p>b) Criteria for labelling a human as positive should be in the methods section.</p> <p>c) Was this project reviewed and approved?</p> <p>Check spelling: leptospirosis instead of Leptospirosis, venepuncture (venipuncture), by B. Garba et al In table 3, remove mid dash from each number; it seems that the result is negative. Eliminate table 1, the information of the results is repeated.</p>	<p>Thank you so much reviewer for valuable suggestion of this manuscript.</p> <p>a) This was a prospective study, conducted during Jan 2013-May 2014. Patients were enrolled according to inclusion criteria throughout the study period.. So accordingly 171 clinically cases were included. Since the leptospirosis disease was underreported in Aligarh region so the study cases were selected using Modified Faine's criteria over the period of study.</p> <p>b) The criteria for labelling human as positive have been included in the methodology section in main manuscript as suggested by the reviewer.</p> <p>c) Yes, this study was approved by Institutional Ethical Committee. The soft copy of the document is attached with the manuscript.</p>
Minor REVISION comments	<p>Comment</p> <p>[A 1 }Why was the research conducted at this location? whether leptospirosis cases are high and why sociodemography was chosen as a risk factor for leptospirosis. What is the sociodemographic condition at the research site so far?</p> <p>{A 2} Has this research received ethical approval from the local ethics committee?</p> <p>{A 3} How is the seroprevalence of leptospirosis in domestic animals in the study area?</p> <p>{A 4} what is the majority of the types of work of those with low economic status</p> <p>{A 5} What are the implications of the results of this study for low economic status groups so as</p>	<p>A 1: This original scientific research was a part of thesis study, conducted at Department of Microbiology, Jawahar Lal Nehru Medical College and Hospital, Aligarh. A Laptosporis case in that particular region was mostly underreported due to lack of diagnostic facilities. Sociodemographic has one of the risk factor for laptospirosis as outlined in modified Faine's criteria used for presumptive diagnosis of laptospirosis. The sociodemographic condition has improved in extensive manner from the condition at the time of research.</p> <p>A 2:Yes, this study was approved by Institutional Ethical Committee. The soft copy of the document is attached with the manuscript.</p> <p>A3: There are various studies documented the presenting of laptospirosis microorganism in the renal tubules of cattle, sheep, got and rat etc. However, no such study has been conducted in the particular geographical region .</p> <p>A 4: Majority of peoples with low socioeconomic status were field labours working in fields, and having frequent exposure with domestic animals.</p> <p>A 5: The study recommended following steps for low socioeconomic status</p>

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	not to be infected with leptospira?	group , so as not be infected as leptospirosis: (1) Covering of cuts and wounds with adhesive cello tape (2) Wearing of slippers while working in filed. (3) Avoiding exposure with urinary secretion of domestic animals (4) Washing of exposed area with soap and water.
Optional/General comments		

PART 2:

	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)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)	No, study was taken ethical clearance from institutional ethical committee Copy attached