



Journal Name: [Journal of Disease and Global Health](#)
Manuscript Number: Ms_JODAGH_12692
Title of the Manuscript: **Prevalence, profiling and molecular detection of Hepatitis B virus infection among the students of tertiary institutions within Birnin kebbi metropolis**
Type of the Article

General guideline:

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PART 1: Review Comments

Compulsory REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This study provides valuable insights into the prevalence and molecular characteristics of HBV infection in tertiary institutions within Birnin Kebbi metropolis. While the study methodology is sound and the findings are significant, the paper could be improved by a more detailed analysis of risk factors, a clearer explanation of statistical methods, and expanded recommendations for public health action. By addressing these areas, the study would offer more practical implications for HBV prevention and control	



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	in the region.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	yes	
Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.	yes	
Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?	yes	
Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.		
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.	yes	



<p><u>Minor</u> REVISION comments</p> <p>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>yes</p>	
<p><u>Optional/General</u> comments</p>	<p>Weaknesses and Areas for Improvement:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Prevalence Data Interpretation:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The study reports a high prevalence of HBsAg in Waziri Umaru Federal Polytechnic (41.25%) compared to the Federal University Birnin Kebbi (29.52%). However, the interpretation of these findings would benefit from a more detailed comparison of the factors that could contribute to these differences (e.g., age, gender, socioeconomic status, lifestyle factors, vaccination status, etc.).○ The overall prevalence of HBV in the student population is concerning but relatively high, suggesting the need for targeted health interventions. A clearer breakdown of the prevalence rates for each HBV marker across the two institutions could further strengthen the findings.2. Sample Size and Representation:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ While 329 blood samples were analyzed, it is unclear if this sample size is representative of the entire student population in Birnin Kebbi metropolis. The study could be improved by providing more information on how the sample was selected (random vs. convenience sampling) and whether it accounts for different demographic groups, which would allow for better generalization of the findings.3. Risk Factor Analysis:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ While the study mentions the use of a questionnaire to assess social and demographic factors, there is limited detail on what specific risk factors were considered. More information on the factors assessed (e.g., sexual behavior, history of needle sharing, history of blood transfusions, vaccination status) and how they correlate with HBV infection rates would add significant value to the study. A	



	<p>multivariate analysis would also help identify the most significant predictors of HBV infection in this population.</p> <p>4. Statistical Analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ There is no mention of statistical methods used to analyze the data. The inclusion of statistical tests (e.g., chi-square tests for association, logistic regression models for risk factor analysis) is necessary to validate the findings and provide insight into which factors are most strongly associated with HBV infection.○ Additionally, confidence intervals and p-values for the prevalence rates of HBV markers could improve the reliability of the reported results. <p>5. Discussion and Public Health Implications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The discussion of the results should be expanded to provide more context regarding the implications of the findings for public health. For instance, how do these findings compare to similar studies conducted in other regions? What are the potential public health interventions or screening strategies that could be implemented in these institutions to reduce the spread of HBV?○ The recommendation for regular screening of newly admitted students is excellent, but it could be further elaborated. For example, should vaccination campaigns be prioritized? What role do educational campaigns play in HBV prevention within the student population? <p>6. Conclusion and Policy Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The conclusion calls for the screening of newly admitted students, which is an important recommendation. However, it would benefit from additional suggestions on the type of interventions required, such as vaccination programs, awareness campaigns, or ensuring access to HBV testing and treatment. Additionally, the role of university health services and local health authorities in implementing these measures should be considered. <p>7. Limitations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The study could benefit from a clear statement of its	
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	limitations. For example, was the study limited by any sampling biases, lack of longitudinal data, or incomplete data on risk factors? These limitations should be acknowledged to provide a more balanced view of the study's findings.	
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PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(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)</i>
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

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