Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Seroprevalence of transfusion-transmissible infections and evaluation of the pre-donation screening performance at the Provincial Hospital of Tete, Mozambique

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 7 April 2011

**Reviewer:** Ahizechukwu Eke

**Reviewer’s report:**

Minor Essential Revisions

Thank you for inviting me to review this manuscript - ‘Sero-prevalence of transfusion-transmissible infections and evaluation of the pre-donation screening performance at the Provincial Hospital of Tete, Mozambique’. While I found this manuscript very interesting, there are some issues of concern.

1) Page 6, line 109 – It is still difficult to understand why there is no routine screening for HCV in Mozambique. I agree that cost-effective interventions should be favored, but for a commodity like blood, it is important to make sure blood is not infected in any way before transfusion. Is there any plan underway to make HCV screening routine in Mozambique?

2) Page 9, line 159 – The authors should state what is usually done when there is HIV sero-discordance with the Determine HIV ½ and the Uni-Gold ½ kits. Does it follow the same algorithm as HBV and Syphilis?

3) Page 10, line 198 – The authors should state the compliance rate for treatment for donors who test positive to the TTI’s. Were there any barriers to treating these affected donors?

4) Page 25 (Questionnaire) – Some of the questions in this questionnaire are vague. For example, question 4. The authors should state how they explained what hepatitis is to the donors, because this can be difficult. Assuming the donors reported past history of jaundice, does this mean the jaundice was from hepatitis B or C?

5) Most of the other questions are vague as well – questions 9,10,11,12,13… These questions may have been difficult for the donors to understand. What efforts did the authors put in place to make sure the donors really understood the contents of this questionnaire?

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
'I declare that I have no competing interests'