Reviewer's report

**Title:** Community-based study of the prevalence of essential tremor in urban Lagos, Nigeria - a door-to-door study

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 1 August 2012

**Reviewer:** Catherine Dotchin

**Reviewer's report:**

Minor essential revisions

A couple of typos to point out:

1. p5 line 4 should be tagged "onto" rather than "unto"

2. p4 and p11 Tanzania is described as a Southern African country - I have previously believed and referred to it as an East African country. Please confirm.

3. The table that has been provided with supplementary information I actually think should be in the main body of the text as it is helpful to confirm the actual number of cases in each age banding. As expected they are quite small, which needs to be considered when extrapolating to larger populations, and this is something that needs to be clear when reading and interpreting the paper.

4. Out of interest, do you have the details of what the non-ET cases were diagnosed with who screened positive to the initial stage, but who didn't screen positive to the next clinical exam? quite a large number of people lost here (194) - if they all had PD that would be interesting, for example

5. could the authors comment on why so many people scored as mild on the severity of their tremor, especially since only 1 on treatment , I would have expected to see much higher numbers of moderate and severe cases. Do the authors postulate that there is a survival issue for more severely affected cases?

6. it is interesting that none of your cases had rest tremor. from previous reading and clinical practice my experience has been that some people with ET do have a rest component to their tremor.

7. do the authors think the family history was only positive in just over a third of cases because of a lack of diagnosis in previous years, or older age groups having historically not living long enough to develop ET?

8. although the authors have gone into detail about the screening tool they used in stage 2 with assessment of specificity, specificity etc, they do not comment on the possibility of people with mild tremor being missed by stage 1 screening and no examination of false negatives from stage 1 was undertaken. This should be acknowledged in the text.

**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.