Reviewer's report

Title: Herbal medicine use among urban residents in Lagos, Nigeria

Version: 2 Date: 31 October 2011

Reviewer: Titilayo Fakeye

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory Revisions

• Abstract:
  (Background). Line 3 – lack of evidence ……. their use - This is not one of the aim/ goals of the study so may not be relevant

• Space between Abstract and Background
  Space not sufficient .Need for justify the alignment, the pages

• Background:
  Page 5, last paragraph. I believe more references are needed with reference 20 about the risk of taking herbal medicines.

• Ethical Consideration
  Page 7 line 5. better phrased as “….. in the study of taken as a consent from them..”

• Since the local language was used for illiterate participants, and back translation was done into English language, was the questionnaire and the responses validated by a language specialist? This may be necessary t remove bias that may be introduced in interpreting from English Langage to the local language and the response of the respondents back to English language

• Page12. Last paragraph, last sentence may not be accurate. Please check the following articles
  o IJPP 2009, 17; 101-104
  o Journal of Herbal pharmacotherapy 2007; 7 (3-4); 213-227

• Page 12 first paragraph. Lines 11-12. The reason may simply be because the studies cited were in selected populations such as pregnant women, hypertensive patients etc, and not the general population, which was eventually pointed out in page 13, last paragraph. I’ll advise that lines 11-12 of page 12 be removed.

• Page 14 first paragraph lines 5-6. I believe the sentence be better rephrased as …….. preparations may supposedly contain similar …………… thus may put the respondents.
Minor Essential Revisions
• Tables are not properly arranged. There is a need to have another look at the tables again, and make sure they are properly arranged

Discretionary Revisions
• No definition of what is meant by herbal medicines in the methodology.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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