Author's response to reviews

Title: Comparison of haematological parameters determined by the Sysmex KX-21N automated haematology analyzer and the manual counts

Authors:

Samuel O Ike (sobiajuluike@gmail.com)
Thomas Nubila (tnubila@yahoo.co.uk)
Ernest O Ukaejiofo (eukaejiiofo@yahoo.com)
Imelda Nubila (immelanubila@yahoo.com)
Elvis N Shu (enshu@yahoo.com)
Ifeyinwa Ezema (ifezema@yahoo.com)

Version: 3 Date: 11 February 2010

Author’s response to reviews: see over
REVIEW BY DAN JONES

MANDATORY REVISIONS

1. **BRIEF DISCUSSION OF MANUAL METHODS**

Haemoglobin (Hb) was estimated by the cyan-methaemoglobin method: Packed Cell Volume by the microhaematocrit method: Total and differential leucocyte counts by visual method. Mean Cell Haemoglobin Concentration (MCHC) was calculated from a knowledge of the haemoglobin and PCV.

2. **DETERMINATION OF WBC COUNTS**

One hundred (100) White blood cell (WBC) was counted by one competent and experienced Medical Laboratory Scientist for both total and differential leucocyte counts.

Corrections (1) and (2) above have been reflected in the method section, in the third and fourth paragraphs, respectively.

3. **MAJOR OUTLIERS BETWEEN MANUAL AND AUTOMATED METHODS**

A paragraph of discussion on the major outliers between manual and automated methods, especially in the platelet and total WBC counts, has been reflected in the second paragraph under the results section.

4. **THE LIMITATIONS OF A 100-CELL COUNT RELATED TO STATISTICAL VARIATIONS**

This has been added in the discussion section, in the third paragraph, as instructed.

5. **FIXING THE Y-AXIS IN ALL FIGURES**

This has been fixed as instructed.