

# Review of: "Monkeypox among linked heterosexual casual partners in Bayelsa, Nigeria"

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**Potential competing interests:** The author(s) declared that no potential competing interests exist.

Thank you for sharing this interesting and very well written paper.

Since the beginning of the current outbreak of Monkeypox in non endemic countries, a few thousands of cases were reported in UK amongst persons in the high risks groups. The description of Monkeypox transmission resulting from close and sexual contact rather than the zoonotic transmission in endemic countries as well is very important. I wonder if the small number of cases observed in this hospital and reported in the country is a result of lower awareness of this possible route of transmission and less presentations to the health care services. It is also very interesting that none of the household contacts of the patients developed symptoms.

Please find below a few minor comments:

- in the abstract and in the text is not immediately clear that the three pairs where Monkeypox transmission was observed were all amongst the seven patients described. At a first glance, I wondered if those were in contacts with the patients described rather than be a part of the study.
- I am not sure that marital status and profession are relevant information for the purpose of the study. I would definitely suggest to remove it from the table.
- Could you specify which is the patient who had a probable diagnosis (i. e. not confirmed by PCR analysis?) I believe it is number 7?
- A few patients observed a worsening of their symptoms after an unspecified intramuscular injection, I wonder if this is just a coincidence given the small number of patients and also the natural history of the disease?