

**Knowledge, Attitude and Adherence to Routine Childhood Immunization among Mothers in
Agwara Local government area, Niger State Nigeria**

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**Being an MPH Presentation Submitted to the Department of Public Health, Faculty of Basic
Medical and Health Sciences, Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Award of Master Degree (MPH) in Public
Health**

2023

Certification

This is to certify that Usman Shehu SALIHU with Matriculation Number LCU/PG/002455 carried out this research work titled “Knowledge, Attitude and Adherence to Routine Childhood Immunization among Mothers in Agwara Local government area, Niger State Nigeria” in the Department of Public health, Faculty of Basic Medical and Health Sciences, Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo state, for the award of Master Degree (MPH) in Public Health and that this has not been previously submitted.

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Dedication

This project is dedicated to God Almighty.

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Acknowledgement

My acknowledgement goes to the Almighty God for giving me the grace, ability, spiritual wisdom and physical strength to go through this course to a successful end.

I sincerely appreciate my Supervisors Dr. Salako and Dr.F.TAkinsolu who are always been there for me with constructive advice. They painstakingly guided me through the quest for knowledge despite their tight schedule and also despite my mistakes, omission and commission; indeed, they are born teachers and mentors.

Many thanks to the Head of Department Dr. Olowolafe, and Lecturers of the department of Public Health; Miss Oladejibi, Mrs. Akinpelu Mr. Akanni and other who have in one way or the other impacted my life during the Programme.

My sincere gratitude goes to my parents Mall Salihu and Mallama Hafsat, my Wife Hajiya Lantana and friends (Mr Chiroma Laminu, Adedokun Sofiat, Nufaisat Mohammed) for their prayers and support.

Even though the above mentioned institution(s) and persons have assisted in the process of this research work, I alone stand responsible for the errors, if any, found in the work.

Abstract

Immunization remains a veritable child survival strategy in curtailing the unwholesome indices with worse/lowest indices in the northern and rural part of Nigeria. Thus, this study evaluated the Knowledge, Attitude and Adherence to Routine Childhood Immunization among Mothers in Agwara Local Government area, Niger State in Northern Nigeria.

The descriptive cross-sectional study design enrolled 354 mothers from all communities within Agwara Local Government area of Niger State using multi stage cluster sampling method. World Health organization validated instrument on immunization coverage and survey was adopted. Data collected was analysis using descriptive (frequency and percentage count) and inferential statistics (Chi-square). Data management and analysis was done using Statistical Package for Social Science Version 25.

The study found that the mean age of the mothers was $30.8 + 5.837$ years and that of their partners was $38.62 + 7.97$ years with average number of $2.52 + 1.30$ children. The overall percentage of mothers with good knowledge and positive attitude towards routine childhood immunization were 65.3% and 52.2% respectively. The adherence level to routine vaccine were BCG 59.3%, Hep-47.4%, OPV-46.9%, PCV-41.0% Penta-40.0% and Measles-20.0%. The study showed that mothers do often forget their children immunization appointment and claimed that they need a reminder to meet up with their children immunization appointment. The study discovered that there was statistical significance associated between knowledge (Chi-square value 6.056, p-value 0.014) and attitude (Chi-square value 15.653, p-value<0.001), and adherence to routine childhood immunization. Other socio-demographical factor namely religion, education qualification, marital status, family type, occupation, age at first marriage, age at first birth, and partner's age. Education and occupation had statistical significance association with adherence to routine immunization. The adherence level in Agwara Local Government Area is quite low when compared with proposed adherence level of 90% in National policy on immunization. And this could be attributed to low knowledge and negative attitude. Thus. it would be recommended that adequate immunization educational programme be provided for the mothers. In addition, national customized immunization reminder apps could be developed to alert the mothers of immunization schedules.

Keyword: Routine childhood immunization, mothers, attitude, knowledge, adherence.

Word Count: 300

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