

**Detection of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and Influenza A and B Viral Infections
in COVID-19 Negative Individuals in Oyo State Nigeria**

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Natural and Applied Sciences, Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria**

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Certification

This is to certify that **Adefunke Iyabo AKINOLA** with Matriculation number **LCU/PG/000265** carried out this research work titled “Detection of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)” and “Influenza A and B Viral Infections in COVID-19 Negative Individuals in Oyo State Nigeria” in the Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences, Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo State, for the Award of Master Degree (MSc) in Molecular Biology with Genomics and that this has not been previously submitted.

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Dedication

This research work is dedicated to the Almighty God, who sustained me throughout the time of doing and writing it.

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Even though the above-mentioned institutions 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

Respiratory Syncytial virus (RSV), an enveloped, non-segmented RNA, is one of the most common causes of severe respiratory infections in children and older adults worldwide. This study investigated RSV and Influenza Viruses A and B in older adults and children aged 5 and below who tested negative for COVID-19. A total number of 206 COVID-19 negative samples were tested, viral RNA was extracted using a QUIGEN RNA Purification kit and Real time PCR was performed using an Allplex™ RSV/Flu A/Flu B kit. Results showed a mean age of 2.97 for children and 33.50 for adults. There was a negative association between gender and infections with RSV (P-value 0.589) and influenza B (p-value 0.250) both ≥ 0.05 in children, but a positive association in adults. (p-value, $0.000 \leq 0.005$). Approximately, 52.0% of the total participants were from Oyo South while 37% from Oyo central and 5% from Oyo North, 6% did not disclose their location. The prevalence of influenza B and RSV in children 2.8% each was in Oyo Central, while in adults, the prevalence of influenza A and B, 1% each was in Oyo Central and Oyo South, and 2.0%; RSV, 1. % from Central and 1% from those who did not disclose their location. There was no positive association between location and outcome of infection with RSV and Influenza B (p- value 0.482). The prevalence of RSV in children was 2.8%, Influenza A was 0% and Influenza B was 2.8%, while in older adults, RSV was 2% and influenza A and B were 1% each. This study detected RSV, influenza A and B viral infections in COVID-19-negative individuals. There is a need to investigate other possible etiologies of respiratory tract infections in Sars -cov-2-negative symptomatic individuals.

Keywords: Prevalence, infections, RSV, RNA, Influenza.

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Table of Contents

Contents	Page
Title Page	i
Certification	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Content	vi
List of Tables	
Lists of Figures	
List of Acronym	
Chapter One: Introduction	
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	6
1.3 Justification of the Study	6
1.4 Aims and Objectives of the Study	7
1.5 Research Questions	8
1.6 Research Hypothesis	8
1.7 Significance of the Study	8
1.8 Scope of the Study	9
1.9 Limitation of the Study	9
1.10 Operational Definitions of Terms	9
Endnotes	10

Chapter Two: Literature Review

2.1	Literature Review	14
2.2	Virology of Human Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	18
2.3	Replication of Human Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)	21
2.4	Classification of Respiratory Syncytial Virus	23
2.5	Coronavirus (COVID- 19)	25
2.6	Epidemiology of Covid-19	30
2.7	Epidemiology of Respiratory Syncytial Virus	32
2.7.1	Structure	34
2.7.2	Genome	35
2.7.3.	Evolution	35
2.8	The Metabolic Cycle of Viruses	37
2.9	Signs and Symptoms of RSV	38
2.10	Contagious Nature of RSV	40
2.11	Neuromuscular Disease	42
2.12	Infants with Down Syndrome	43
2.12.1	Cystic Fibrosis	43
2.12.2	Immunodeficiency	43
2.12.3	Aboriginal Children	44
2.13	Total Burden of RSV Infections	44
2.14	Diagnosis of RSV	47
2.14.1	Laboratory Diagnosis of RSV	49
2.14.2	Detection of Viruses using Cell Culture	52
2.14.3	Identification of Antigens	53
2.14.4	Tests on Nucleic Acids	54

2.14.5 RSV-Specific Antibody Determination (Serology)	55
2.15. Transmission of RSV	56
2.15.1 Immune Response to Acute RSV Infection Viral Immune Evasion Mechanisms	57
2.15.2 Undeveloped Infant's Immune System	58
2.16 Genomic Predisposition to Serious RSV Infection	62
2.17 Prevention of RSV	64
2.18 Control Measures	65
2.19 Immunization	65
2.20 Brief History of Respiratory Viruses of Importance to This Study	66
2.21. Immune response in Respiratory Infections	68
2.22.1 Interferon Response	69
2.22.2 Epithelial Cell	70
2.23.3 Chemokines	71
2.24 RSV and its Protein	72
2.25 RSV Replication Cycle	75
2.25.1 Entry of RSV and its Host Binding Receptors	75
2.25.2 Pathogenesis of RSV	79
Endnotes	83
Chapter Three: Methodology	
3.1 Study Site	110
3.2 Sample Design	110
3.3 Sample Participant	110
3.4 Sample Size	110
3.5 Sample Collection	111

3.6	Laboratory Procedures	111
3.7	Reaction Preparation	113
3.8	Ethical Consideration	116
3.9	Data Management	116
	Endnotes	117
	Chapter Four: Results and Discussion of Findings	
4.1	Result of Findings	118
4.2	Distribution of RSV, Influenza A and B among Children Sociodemographic	118
4.3	Overall Prevalence of RSV, Influenza A and Influenza B among Children	122
4.4	Distribution of RSV, Influenza A and B among Adults Sociodemographic	124
4.5	Overall prevalence of RSV, Influenza A and B among Adults	128
4.6	Discussion of Findings	130
	Endnotes	133
	Chapter Five: Conclusion	
5.1	Summary of Findings	134
5.2	Conclusion	135
5.3	Recommendations	136
5.4	Contribution to Knowledge	137
5.5	Suggested area for Further Research	137
	Bibliography	138
	Appendices	163
	Bio-Data	165
	The University Compliance Certification	169

List of Tables

Table	Title	Page
3.1	Recommended Setting of Reaction Procedure	114
4.1	Prevalence of Infection across Socio-demographic Groups	119
4.2	Prevalence of Infection across Gender in Children	120
4.3	Prevalence of Infection across Oyo State in Study Participating Children	121
4.4	Prevalence of Infection among Children	123
4.5	Prevalence of Infection among Adults by Sociodemographic	125
4.6	Prevalence of Infection across Gender (Adults)	126
4.7	Prevalence of Infection across Locations/Senatorial District (Adults)	127
4.8	Prevalence of Infection among Children	129

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List of Figures

Figure	Title	Page
2.1	Structure of Respiratory Syncytial Virus	20
2.2	Respiratory Syncytial Virus Replication	22
2.3	Coronavirus Replication	29
2.4	The Genetic Structure of RSV	33
2.5	RSV and its Protein	74

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Lists of Acronym

Abbreviation

Meaning

RSV	Respiratory Syncytial Virus
WHO	World Health Organization
USA	United State of America
SSPE	Subacute Sclerosing Panecephalitis
CHD	Congenital Heart Abnormalities
BPD	Bronchopulmonary Dysplasia
PHSMs	Public Health and Social Measures
NCDC	Nigeria Center for Diseases Control
LUTHVL	Lagos University Teaching Hospital Virology Laboratory
LRTI	Lower Respiratory Tract Infection
IAV	Influenza A Virus
IBV	Influenza B Virus
IFIT	Interferon – Induced Protein with Tetratricopetide
CD4	Cluster Differentiation Four
CD8	Cluster Differentiation Eight
CPA	Canadian Paediatric Society
CCA	Chimpanzee Coryza Agent
UK	United Kingdom