

QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF PARACETAMOL TABLETS SOLD IN OPEN MARKETS

BY

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DEGREE IN PHARMACY

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Quality Assessment of Paracetamol Tablets Sold in Open Markets" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined quality assessment of paracetamol tablets sold in open markets, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of quality; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with quality and assessment. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 414 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 395 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.05). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.535$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.9, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.28$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on quality.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title Page	i
Certification	ii
Dedication	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background to the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	7
1.4 Research Questions	7
1.5 Research Hypotheses	7
1.6 Significance of the Study	7
1.7 Scope and Limitation of the Study	10
1.8 Definition of Terms	12
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	14
2.1 Conceptual Review	14
2.1.1 Concept of Quality	14
2.1.2 Concept of Assessment	15
2.1.3 Concept of Paracetamol	17
2.2 Theoretical Framework	19
2.2.1 Technology Acceptance Model	19
2.2.2 UTAUT	20
2.2.3 Diffusion of Innovation Theory	21
2.2.4 Systems Development Life Cycle	22
2.3 Empirical Review	23
2.3.1 Early Studies on quality	24
2.3.2 Recent Nigerian Evidence on quality	25
2.3.3 Quality and assessment	27
2.3.4 Comparative Perspectives across Africa	29
2.4 Summary of Literature Review	31
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	35
3.1 Research Design	35
3.2 Population of the Study	35
3.3 Sample Size and Sampling Technique	36
3.4 Sources of Data Collection	37
3.5 Research Instrument	38
3.6 Validity and Reliability of the Instrument	39
3.7 Method of Data Analysis	40
3.7.1 Administration of the Instrument	41

3.8 Ethical Considerations	42
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	44
4.1 Data Presentation	44
4.2 Demographic Characteristics of Respondents	44
4.3 Analysis of Research Questions	45
4.4 Test of Hypotheses	46
4.5 Discussion of Findings	47
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	52
5.1 Summary	52
5.2 Conclusion	53
5.3 Recommendations	53
5.4 Suggestions for Further Studies	54
REFERENCES	55
APPENDIX	57

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1: Summary of the Review of Related Literature	31
Table 2.2: Operationalisation of the Study Variables	31
Table 3.1: Population of the Study and Sampling Technique	42
Table 3.2: Validity and Reliability of the Research Instrument	43
Table 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	50
Table 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	50
Table 4.3: Educational Attainment of Respondents	50
Table 4.4: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question One	51
Table 4.5: Weighted Mean Analysis of Research Question Two	51
Table 4.6: Correlation Summary between the Independent and Dependent Variables	51
Table 4.7: Independent Samples t-test by Gender	51
Table 4.8: Chi-square Test of Association	51

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Conceptual Framework of the Study	13
Figure 2.1: Quality in Pharmacy Research Context	32
Figure 2.2: Assessment in Pharmacy Research Context	33
Figure 2.3: Paracetamol in Pharmacy Research Context	34
Figure 3.1: Pharmacy Research Context	43
Figure 4.1: Gender Distribution of Respondents	50
Figure 4.2: Age Distribution of Respondents	50

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of quality assessment of paracetamol tablets sold in open markets is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

quality occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about assessment and national development. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to quality must be differentiated rather than uniform. Findings reported by Alade and Dauda (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to quality recorded markedly different results. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. The work of Ekwueme and Salami (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that assessment reinforces the effects of quality. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

quality continues to command considerable attention among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in pharmacy. National policies and programmes have sought, with varying degrees of success, to respond to the realities of quality and assessment. Evidence assembled by Ogbeide and Oyelaran (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to quality. For practitioners, the practical significance of quality cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with assessment. Empirical evidence from Ogunlana and Obiora (2021) suggests that positive developments in assessment are associated with improvements in quality. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

In recent years, quality has emerged as a central theme in scholarly discourse on pharmacy. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which quality advances in practice. Research by Ogunlana and Obiora (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting quality and assessment. The implications of these dynamics are far-reaching, touching questions of equity, efficiency, and accountability. An examination by Aderemi and Ogunlana (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of quality in shaping developmental trajectories. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of quality. Evidence assembled by Bakare and Bakare (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to quality. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. An examination by Umeh and Bakare