

SEROPREVALENCE OF HEPATITIS B AND C VIRUSES AMONG BLOOD DONORS

BY

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DEGREE IN MICROBIOLOGY

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Seroprevalence of Hepatitis B and C Viruses Among Blood Donors" 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 seroprevalence of hepatitis b and c viruses among blood donors, 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 seroprevalence; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with seroprevalence and hepatitis. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Germ Theory of Disease and the Microbial Ecology Theory. A sample size of 400 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 383 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 = 3.01). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.499$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 5.72, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.27$, $p > 0.05$). 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 seroprevalence.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of seroprevalence of hepatitis b and c viruses among blood donors 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.

The relationship between seroprevalence and hepatitis has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. National policies and programmes have sought, with varying degrees of success, to respond to the realities of seroprevalence and hepatitis. The work of Ogunlana and Osinachi (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that hepatitis reinforces the effects of seroprevalence. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. The work of Adeniyi and Salami (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that hepatitis reinforces the effects of seroprevalence. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. It is therefore imperative that further empirical work be undertaken to clarify the causal relationships at stake.

Contemporary scholarship increasingly frames seroprevalence as inseparable from the broader question of hepatitis. The colonial and post-colonial legacies of the Nigerian state continue to influence contemporary patterns of seroprevalence. Evidence assembled by Umeh and Kalu (2015) across twelve states underscored the heterogeneity of outcomes linked to seroprevalence. The implications of these dynamics are far-reaching, touching questions of equity, efficiency, and accountability. Field evidence gathered by Ogunlana and Okonkwo (2016) suggested that stakeholder engagement materially improves the results achieved in matters of seroprevalence. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

seroprevalence occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about hepatitis and national development. In Nigeria, the intersection of seroprevalence and hepatitis is conditioned by unique socio-economic, cultural, and institutional factors that differ markedly from Western settings. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Ogunlana and Okonkwo (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. Comparative work by Dauda and Adigun (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking seroprevalence with hepatitis. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of seroprevalence in shaping developmental trajectories. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to seroprevalence must be differentiated rather than uniform. Research by Nwosu and Ogunlana (2021) using mixed methods provided