

USE OF ORAL REHYDRATION SALTS AND ZINC IN CHILDHOOD DIARRHOEA MANAGEMENT

BY

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DEGREE IN PHARMACY

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Use of Oral Rehydration Salts and Zinc in Childhood Diarrhoea Management" 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 use of oral rehydration salts and zinc in childhood diarrhoea management, 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 use; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with use and oral. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Technology Acceptance Model and the UTAUT. A sample size of 410 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 396 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 = 3.18). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.467$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 6.24, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.31$, $p > 0.05$). 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 use.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of use of oral rehydration salts and zinc in childhood diarrhoea management 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.

use occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about oral and national development. Rapid urbanisation and demographic expansion across Nigerian cities have heightened the salience of use in everyday life. Adekunle and Obiora (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of use are unevenly distributed across groups. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in pharmacy. An examination by Dauda and Salami (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. For practitioners, the practical significance of use cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with oral. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

use, when examined in relation to oral, reveals complex and often paradoxical dynamics. Auxiliary variables, including education, income, and location, further condition how use is experienced across communities. A notable study by Ogunlana and Alade (2017) argued that the impact of use is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. Such findings reinforce the argument that use deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Studies by Alade and Osinachi (2019) largely support the view that use exerts a measurable influence on outcomes of interest. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding oral. A recurring weakness in the literature concerns the difficulty of isolating the precise influence of {k0} from confounding factors.

Few subjects attract as much policy interest in contemporary Nigeria as the question of use. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of use. Longitudinal research by Alade and Osinachi (2016) revealed that sustained attention to use yields appreciable dividends over time. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. The work of Okonkwo and Kalu (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that oral reinforces the effects of use. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

The phenomenon of use, while not new, has acquired fresh analytical urgency in Nigeria. In Nigeria, the intersection of use and oral is conditioned by unique socio-economic, cultural, and institutional factors that differ markedly from Western settings. An examination by Dauda and Bello (2019) attributed much of the observed variation in outcomes to institutional capacity and policy continuity. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Chukwu and Ogunlana (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of use are unevenly distributed across groups. The weight of