

VACCINATION STATUS AND SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DETERMINANTS AMONGST UNDER FIVES ATTENDING HEALTH FACILITIES IN SOKOTO METROPOLIS, NIGERIA

**Khadijat Omenek Isezuo, Asma'u Adamu, Fatima Bello Jiya, Maryam
Amodu-Sanni, Usman Muhammad Sani, Bilkisu Garba Ilah and Usman
Muhammad Waziri**

Department of Pediatrics, Usmanu Danfodiyo University Teaching Hospital, Sokoto

Corresponding Author's email: khadisez@yahoo.com



Abstract

Immunization is one of the most successful, cost-effective and sustainable public health interventions against diseases globally. Routine vaccination coverage has been poor in many African countries inspite of the documented benefits. Sokoto State has consistently recorded the lowest immunization coverage in different surveys conducted in Nigeria over the last decade hence this study on socio-demographic variables associated with vaccination status of children. This was a cross-sectional study conducted in the health facilities in Sokoto Metropolis among 406 care-givers of 6 months to 5 years children over a 4-month period between October 2021 to January 2022. Their socio-demographic characteristics and vaccination status were collected with a proforma and data was analysed using IBM SPSS version 25. There were 406 parents/child pairs recruited comprising 219 (53.9%) males and 187 (46.1%) female children 245 (60.3%) were fully vaccinated for age while 88 (21.7%) were partially vaccinated and 73 (18.0%) were unvaccinated. Higher proportion of those who were partially or unvaccinated had unemployed parents ($p=0.00$). Ownership of phones for both parents and availability of radio in the household were significantly related to the vaccination status ($p=0.007$; 0.03 ; 0.00). Those who had ever exhibited vaccine hesitancy were less likely to have fully vaccinated their children (39.2% vs 73.1%; $p = 0.00$). Two-thirds of children attending health facilities in Sokoto metropolis were fully vaccinated. The proportion of those vaccinated were more among employed and educated parents, possible vaccine apathy from information gaps was associated with lack of full vaccination.

Keywords: Vaccination, Status, Sokoto, Children, Health Facilities