

REVIEWER'S REPORT

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Title: ASSOCIATION BETWEEN DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS AND KNOWLEDGE OF CHOLERA PREVENTION IN OWERRI NORTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA IN IMO STATE, NIGERIA

Recommendation:

Accept as it is.....**YES**.....
 Accept after minor revision.....
 Accept after major revision
 Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	√			
Techn. Quality		√		
Clarity		√		
Significance			√	

Reviewer's Name: Dr Aamina

Reviewer's Decision about Paper: **Recommended for Publication.**

Comments (*Use additional pages, if required*)

Reviewer's Comment / Report

Overall Evaluation:

This research paper investigates the relationship between demographic factors and knowledge of cholera prevention in Owerri North Local Government Area in Imo State, Nigeria. The study employs a cross-sectional design, using structured questionnaires to gather data from 412 randomly selected respondents. The study analyzes the data using descriptive statistics and chi-square tests, focusing on factors such as age, education, occupation, marital status, religion, and ethnicity. The findings reveal key insights into the public's knowledge of cholera, highlighting significant gaps in understanding, especially concerning preventive measures. The paper makes a strong case for targeted education campaigns and community-based interventions to improve cholera prevention.

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Strengths:

- **Clear and Relevant Topic:** The study addresses a critical public health issue, especially pertinent to regions in Nigeria where cholera outbreaks are still frequent due to inadequate sanitation and hygiene. The association between demographic factors and cholera knowledge is timely and important for shaping effective public health interventions.
- **Strong Methodological Approach:** The use of a cross-sectional design with a large sample size (412 respondents) provides a solid foundation for understanding the knowledge and perceptions of the community in Owerri North. The study's methodological rigor ensures that the findings are robust and applicable to the target population.
- **Comprehensive Demographic Analysis:** The paper makes effective use of various demographic factors to analyze knowledge levels. By examining factors such as age, education, occupation, marital status, religion, and ethnicity, the study provides a well-rounded understanding of how these factors influence awareness and knowledge of cholera prevention.
- **Practical Implications:** The paper emphasizes the importance of targeted education campaigns and community-based interventions to improve cholera prevention. It highlights practical challenges such as soil type and economic barriers that must be considered when designing prevention strategies, offering a practical guide for public health policy makers.
- **Data Analysis and Statistical Significance:** The use of chi-square tests to explore associations between demographic factors and knowledge of cholera prevention is well executed. The findings show statistically significant relationships between knowledge levels and factors such as education, occupation, age, marital status, religion, and ethnicity. This strengthens the credibility of the study's conclusions.

Specific Observations:

- **Abstract:** The abstract provides a concise summary of the study's objectives, methods, findings, and implications. It clearly highlights the study's focus on the association between demographic factors and knowledge of cholera prevention, setting the stage for the reader to understand the core findings.

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- **Introduction:** The introduction effectively frames the importance of cholera as a public health issue, particularly in regions with inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure. It provides a global context for the disease and justifies the need for research in areas like Owerri North, where cholera remains a significant concern. The introduction is informative and directly connects to the study's objectives.
- **Study Design and Methodology:** The study employs a cross-sectional design, which is appropriate for exploring associations between demographic factors and knowledge. The use of structured pretested questionnaires ensures consistency in data collection. The sample size of 412 respondents is sufficient to draw meaningful conclusions. The paper also provides a clear rationale for using descriptive statistics and chi-square tests for data analysis.
- **Results and Findings:** The results reveal important insights into the level of knowledge about cholera among the population in Owerri North. While a majority of respondents had heard of cholera, many lacked detailed knowledge about its transmission and prevention. The study finds that education level, occupation, and other demographic factors play a significant role in the level of knowledge about cholera prevention. These findings are supported by statistical analysis, which strengthens the study's conclusions.
- **Obstacles to Cholera Prevention:** The study also identifies practical challenges that hinder effective cholera prevention, such as soil type and financial constraints. These factors are important considerations for public health campaigns, and the study rightly highlights the need to tailor interventions to the specific challenges faced by local communities.
- **Conclusion:** The conclusion reinforces the need for targeted education campaigns that address the specific needs of different communities. It stresses the importance of practical support, such as improving sanitation infrastructure, to reduce the risk of cholera outbreaks. The recommendations are aligned with the findings and offer a clear path forward for public health interventions in the region.

Relevance:

This research is highly relevant to public health initiatives in Nigeria and other developing countries where cholera remains a major concern. By exploring the relationship between demographic factors and knowledge of cholera prevention, the study provides valuable insights

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for designing more effective public health campaigns and interventions. The focus on local challenges, such as soil type and financial resources, ensures that the study's recommendations are practical and grounded in the realities of the community.

Final Thoughts:

This study provides a thorough analysis of the association between demographic factors and knowledge of cholera prevention in Owerri North. The research design, data analysis, and findings are sound, and the study offers valuable insights for improving cholera prevention in the region. The paper highlights the importance of targeted education campaigns and community-based interventions, offering practical recommendations for addressing the specific challenges faced by the population. Overall, the study is a valuable contribution to the understanding of cholera prevention in Nigeria and other regions facing similar public health challenges.
