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**Title: A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY OF KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND
PRACTICE ABOUT HEPATITIS IN A SUB-URBAN COMMUNITY IN SOUTHWESTERN
NIGERIA**

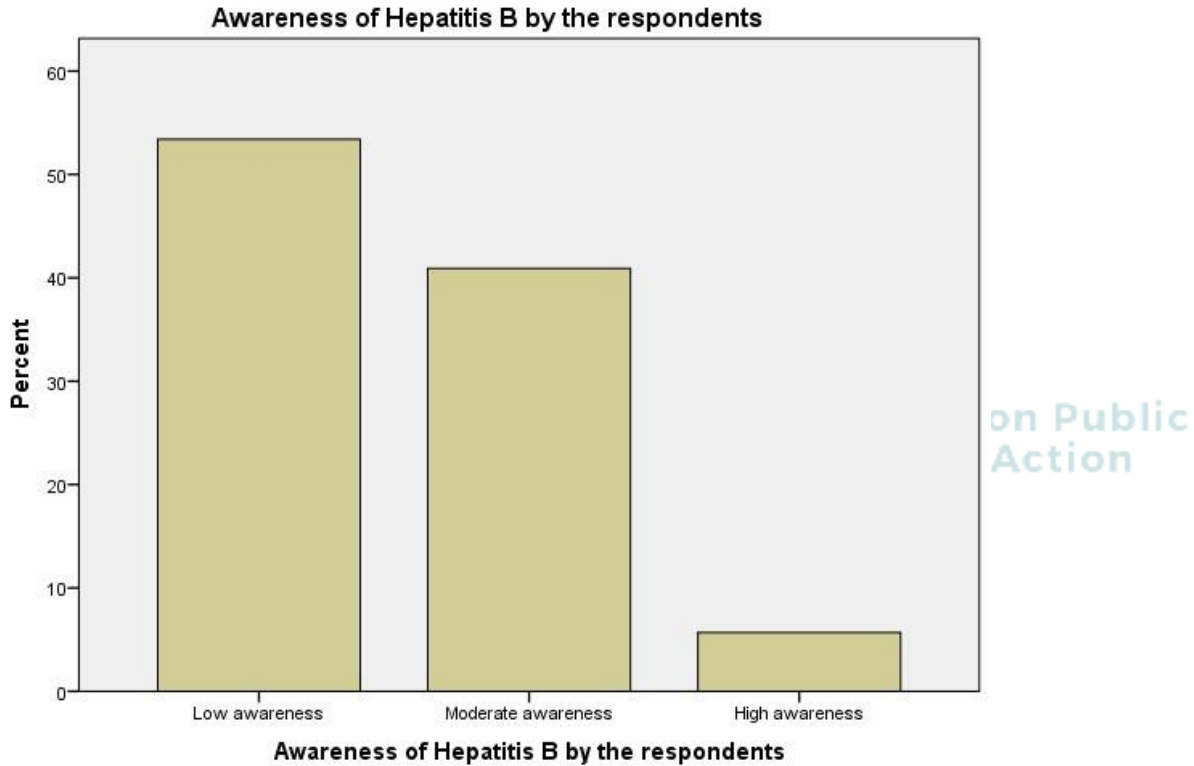
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Background: The hepatitis B virus (HBV) is a common infection that causes viral hepatitis B, which accounts for the world's most common cause of acute and chronic liver disorders. The WHO estimates 257 million people, or 3.5% of the world's population, had chronic HBV infection in 2015. July 28 every year, the world comes together under "World Hepatitis Day" (WHD) to raise awareness of the burden of viral hepatitis around the world.

Objective: This study was conducted on WHD 2021 to evaluate the knowledge, attitude and practice toward hepatitis in an urban community in south-western Nigeria.

Materials and Method: This cross-sectional study was conducted among residents in the Tejuosho market in Yaba, Lagos State, on WHD 2021. A self-administered structured questionnaire was filled by conveniently sampled participants in a strategic location in the market. Inferential statistics utilized the Pearson's Chi-Square test and multiple linear regression with $P < 0.05$ of statistical significance

Results: One hundred and thirty-four (134) participated in the study. Most participants were between 18-29 years 45(33.6%). 72(53.7%) had good knowledge of hepatitis B. 47(53.4%) of the respondents had a low awareness of Hepatitis B. Majority 62(46.3%) of the respondents had a positive attitude toward Hepatitis B. There was no statistically significant relationship between Awareness and Knowledge of hepatitis and hepatitis B vaccine, $p > 0.05$.



Conclusion: Most participants had high knowledge about hepatitis but poor awareness of the disease. In addition, more than half of the participants had positive perceptions of hepatitis.
Key Word: Knowledge, Attitude, Practice, hepatitis B vaccine, hepatitis B virus