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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION	IC
INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS	1F
EDITORIAL NOTE:	
Addressing the Persistent Burden of Under-Five Mortality, and the Growing Importance of Healthcare Marketing – <i>G. E. Erhabor</i>	615
<b>ORIGINAL ARTICLES</b>	
<b>Concordance Between Clinical and Histopathological Diagnosis of Skin Diseases in South-South Nigeria: A Two-Center Study</b>	617
O. E. Ogunbor, C. R. Madubuko, C. A. Okoye, D. E. Imasogie	
<b>Early Versus Delayed Oral Feeding in Emergency Gastrointestinal Surgeries</b>	625
O. O. Akanbi, A. S. Oguntola, M. L. Adeoti, J. G. Olaogun, O. L. Idris, S. O. Fadiora	
<b>Effect of Dietary Phosphate Restriction in Pre-Dialysis Chronic Kidney Disease Patients with Hyperphosphataemia in Southern Nigeria</b>	630
I. R. Edeki, E. I. Unuigbe, E. I. Okaka	
<b>Physicians' Perception on the Relevance of Healthcare Marketing in a Tertiary Hospital, South-West, Nigeria</b>	638
T. O. Adebawojo, V. A. Adekiya, O. O. Abesin, N. H. Ugwuchukwu, O. I. Adeniji, M. D. Adekanle, T. O. Esan	
<b>A Survey of What Healthcare Professionals Consider as Relevant for Decisional Autonomy in Health and Treatment in Nigeria</b>	644
O. Sorinmade, O. Elugbadebo, T. Bello	
<b>Risk Factors Associated with Under Five Children Mortality in Northeast Nigeria; A Retrospective Analysis of National Demographic and Health Survey Data</b>	651
Y. A. Misau, M. F. Bashir, M. M. Dabo, A. S. Adamu, L. M. Dattijo, A. Z. Musa, S. M. Ahmad, J. Yaya, M. Meremikwu, B. M. Usman, N. K. Abdulhamid	
<b>Relationship Between Blood Pressure Control and Self-Care Practices Among Hypertensive Patients Attending Family Medicine Clinic of Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Lagos, Nigeria</b>	659
S. O. Odunaye-Badmus, O. O. Sodipo, S. O. Malomo, O. E. Oluwatuyi, R. N. Odiana	
<b>Prevalence of Intestinal Parasitic Infections Among Pregnant Women: A Multi-Centre Survey</b>	668
S. E. Ocheja, O. Adesina, O. Makajuola	
<b>Heart Rate Variability in Healthy Young Adult Nigerians</b>	675
D. B. Adamu, B. S. Chori, O. Onaaedepo, J. O. Ogedengbe, A. N. Odili	
<b>Assessment of Rifampicin Indeterminate Results among Adult Patients attending a Tertiary Tuberculosis Treatment Center in Port Harcourt Rivers State using Shewhart control Charts: Implications for patients and Tuberculosis Control Programs</b>	682
T. J. Abaate, A. A. Alali	
<b>Prevalence of High Blood Pressure and Associated Factors among a Population of Apparently Healthy in-School Adolescents in Delta State, Nigeria: A Cross-Sectional Survey</b>	691
E. M. Umuerri, Patrick Oyibo, I. A. Oyibo, O. Eyawo	
<b>A Comparative Study of Intelligence Quotients of Almajirai Attending Quranic Schools and Pupils of Selected Primary Schools in Zaria, Northwest Nigeria</b>	699
A. Abubakar-Abdullateef, A. Mohammed, K. Kusi-Mensah, H. D. Mohammed, A. S. Kakangi	
<b>Total Thyroidectomy versus Subtotal Thyroidectomy as a Suitable Surgery for Benign Thyroid Disorders</b>	708
W. M. El-Sayed, S. Elhariri, M. S. F. Mekhaeel, I. Burud	
<b>Trends in Dermatological Diagnoses During Covid-19 Pandemic in Nigeria: A Retrospective Study</b>	714
C. C. Anaje, O. I. Ezejiofor, N. A. Enechukwu, C. I. Okpala, C. L. Onyekonwu, J. C. Nkesi	
<b>Knowledge of Helping Babies Breathe Programme and the Determinants among Trainees in Edo State</b>	721
I. G. Enato, O. K. Olaniyi, O. J. Uduebor, S. Oriaifo, E. Idemudia, I. A. Enadeghe, F. Okhamafe, O. Ezomo, E. M. Osazee, V. S. Effiong	
<b>CASE REPORT AND REVIEW OF LITERATURE</b>	
<b>Ebstein's Anomaly in a Young Nigerian Lady</b>	727
S. E. Antia, G. C. Isiguzo, C. C. Ajaero, P. O. Okpala, C. N. Ugwu	
<b>INDEX TO VOLUME 41, NO. 6, 2024</b>	
<b>Author Index</b>	735
<b>Subject Index</b>	736



### Concordance Between Clinical and Histopathological Diagnosis of Skin Diseases in South-South Nigeria: A Two-Center Study

*Concordance entre le diagnostic clinique et histopathologique des maladies de la peau dans le Sud-Sud du Nigeria : une étude menée dans deux centre*

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#### ABSTRACT

**BACKGROUND:** An accurate diagnosis is the bedrock of the treatment of skin diseases. This study aimed to evaluate the correlation between clinical and pathological diagnosis of patients with skin disorders seen in dermatology units of Federal Medical Centre (FMC), Asaba, Delta State, and the University of Benin Teaching Hospital (UBTH), South-South Nigeria between 2019 – 2021.

**MATERIAL AND METHODS:** This was a retrospective study of the charts of all patients seen in the dermatology units of FMC Asaba and UBTH who had skin biopsies for various skin diseases from 2019 to 2021. Biodata, clinical information, diagnosis, and histology results of these patients were collected using a questionnaire. One hundred and sixty-two (162) patients were excluded on account of the absence of a clinical diagnosis and a pathological conclusion of insufficient tissue sample.

**RESULTS:** 356 skin biopsies were included. The male-to-female ratio was 1:1.18 and most patients were aged 40 to 49 years 74 (20.8%) with a mean age of  $38.28 \pm 19.19$ . Papulosquamous skin disorders accounted for 141 of the clinical diagnoses (39.0%). Among the histology request forms filled, only 69 (19.4%) had detailed clinical history. Clinico-pathological concordance (CPC) was recorded in 214 (60.1%) cases and discordance in 142 (39.9%), both the highest concordance and discordance percentages were among papulosquamous diseases (45.1% and 31.5% respectively). There was no significant association between the completeness of documentation of patient's clinical information and clinico-pathological concordance.

**CONCLUSION:** Although the CPC was above 50% in this study, better modalities of communication between dermatologists and pathologists is desired. **WAJM 2024; 41 (6): 617 - 624**

**KEYWORDS:** Clinico-pathological correlation, Skin diseases, Skin biopsies.

#### RÉSUMÉ

**CONTEXTE:** Un diagnostic précis est la pierre angulaire du traitement des maladies de la peau. Cette étude visait à évaluer la corrélation entre le diagnostic clinique et le diagnostic pathologique chez les patients atteints de troubles cutanés observés dans les unités de dermatologie du Centre Médical Fédéral (FMC) d'Asaba, dans l'État du Delta, et de l'Hôpital Universitaire de Benin (UBTH), dans le sud-sud du Nigéria, entre 2019 et 2021.

**MATÉRIELS ET MÉTHODES:** Il s'agit d'une étude rétrospective des dossiers de tous les patients vus dans les unités de dermatologie du FMC Asaba et de l'UBTH ayant subi des biopsies cutanées pour diverses maladies de la peau entre 2019 et 2021. Les données biodynamiques, les informations cliniques, les diagnostics et les résultats histologiques de ces patients ont été collectés à l'aide d'un questionnaire. Cent soixante-deux (162) patients ont été exclus en raison de l'absence d'un diagnostic clinique et d'une conclusion pathologique en raison d'échantillons de tissus insuffisants.

**RÉSULTATS:** 356 biopsies cutanées ont été incluses. Le ratio hommes/femmes était de 1:1,18 et la plupart des patients avaient entre 40 et 49 ans, soit 74 (20,8%), avec un âge moyen de  $38,28 \pm 19,19$  ans. Les troubles cutanés papulosquamueux représentaient 141 des diagnostics cliniques (39,0%). Parmi les formulaires de demande d'histologie remplis, seuls 69 (19,4%) comportaient une histoire clinique détaillée. Une concordance clinico-pathologique (CPC) a été enregistrée dans 214 cas (60,1%) et une discordance dans 142 cas (39,9%), les pourcentages de concordance et de discordance les plus élevés étant enregistrés parmi les maladies papulosquamueuses (45,1% et 31,5% respectivement).

**CONCLUSION:** Bien que la CPC ait dépassé 50% dans cette étude, de meilleures modalités de communication entre les dermatologues et les pathologistes sont souhaitées. **WAJM 2024; 41 (6): 617 - 624**

**MOTS-CLÉS:** Corrélation clinico-pathologique, Maladies de la peau, Biopsies cutanées

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**Abbreviations:** CPC: Clinico-pathological correlation; UBTH: University of Benin Teaching Hospital; FMC: Federal Medical Centre Asaba