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TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION	1C
INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS	1F
EDITORIAL NOTES – Newborn Screening for Sickle Cell Disease – G. E. Erhabor.....	237
World Hearing Day – Impaired Hearing and Noise Culture	238
– T.S. Ibekwe, S.O. Ayodele, Y.B. Amusa, G. E. Erhabor	
ORIGINAL ARTICLES	
A Clinico-Pathological Study of Vulvo-Vaginal Disease at a Nigerian Tertiary Health Facility	241
I. Emmanuel, P. O. Akpa, D. Yakubu, E. N. Yakubu, B. S. Otene, B. C. Dallang, B. K. Adedeji, B. W. Audu, T. N. Fadok, C. Amaike, A. N. Manasseh, B. M. Mandong	
Abnormalities of Kidney Function in Acute Malarial and non-Malarial Infections	247
O. Efuntoye, S. Ajayi, Y. Raji, B. L. Salako, A. Arije, S. Kadiri	
Accuracy of Whole Blood Cardiac Troponin I in the Diagnosis of Childhood Heart Failure at the University College Hospital, Ibadan	254
A. Hamza, S. I. Omokhodion	
Clients’ Perception of Maternal, Newborn and Child Health Services received before and during the COVID-19 Outbreak in Nigeria’s Epicenter	262
M. Balogun, T. Olubodun, O. Ubani, V. Yesufu, A. Sekoni, F. Ogunsola	
Decisional Conflict amongst Women Undergoing Caesarean Section in Health Facilities in Ibadan, Nigeria	269
A. I. Anih, O. O. Ogunbode, A. O. Okedare	
Evaluation of Primary School Health Environment in Ido/Osi Local Government Area, Ekiti State, Nigeria	277
E. O. Adeyemi, O. S. Olatunya, O. B. Bolaji, O. A. Lawal, W. A. Ajetunmobi, A. O. Adaje, C. E. Onyema, P. N. Omefe, O. Fayemi, S. O. Ajigbotosho, J. C. Okolugbo	
Socioeconomic Parameters and Well Being of Sickle Cell Anaemic Patients in Southwestern Nigeria	284
T. A. Obembe, O. O. Akinyemi, O. A. Adeyanju, T. Ilori, I. E. Okunade	
Effect of COVID-19 Pandemic on Utilization of Paediatric Health Services at the Federal Medical Centre, Asaba, Nigeria..	292
B. U. Ezeonwu, C. O. Okike, K. A. Adeniran, E. E. Omoyibo, E. Onyeka-Okite, H. I. Opara, U. C. Ajanwenyi Joseph, O. M. Uwadia, A. A. Okolo	
Acceptability of Newborn Screening for Sickle Cell Disease among Post-Partum Mothers in Abakaliki, South East Nigeria...	298
O. C. Nnachi, A. A. Umeokonkwo, H. C. Okoye, A. N. Ekwe, C. O. Akpa, A. E. Okoye	
Effect of Frequency of Antenatal Care Contacts on Maternal and Fetal Outcome in Low-Risk Pregnancies at Federal Teaching Hospital Gombe, Nigeria	305
A. B. Rabiu, A. U. El-Nafaty, B. Bako, M. D. Yahaya	
Missed Opportunity for Routine Childhood Vaccination in Urban and Rural Areas of Edo State, Nigeria: A Comparative Study	312
V. O. Omuemu, E. O. Ogboghodo, J. Erhunmwunsee	
Pattern of Abdominal Trauma and Treatment Outcome in a Nigerian Tertiary Hospital	321
E. Ray-Offor, V. Enebeli, S. E. B. Ibeanusi	
Vision-Related Quality of Life after Cataract Surgery in West Africa	329
I. Signes-Soler, J. Javaloy, R. Montés-Micó, G. Muñoz, R. Montalbán, A. Hernández, C. Albarrán-Diego	
Barriers and Facilitators of Isoniazid Preventive Therapy Implementation among People Living with HIV in Nigeria: A Scoping Review of the Literature	336
V. A. Adepoju, A. Adelekan, O. E. Adepoju, O. I. Onyezue, W. Imoyera, A. Nkeiruka, A. B. Olofinbiyi	
Tape Rule Measurement of Foot Length as Proxy for Vernier Digital Calliper in Estimating Gestational Age among Nigerian Neonates	345
O. Kuponiyi, T. Ogunlesi, A. Adekanmbi, O. Akodu, M. Olowonyo	
INDEX TO VOLUME 40, NO. 3, 2023	
Author Index	351
Subject Index	352



Evaluation of Primary School Health Environment in Ido/Osi Local Government Area, Ekiti State, Nigeria

Évaluation de l'Environnement Sanitaire des Écoles Primaires dans la zone de Gouvernement Local d'Ido/Osi, État d'Ekiti, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: School environment entails the sum total of the physical, biological, social, and emotional environment within which members of the school community operate. It is essential to make the school environment healthy to promote and protect the health of school pupils as well as their safety. This study aimed at finding the level of implementation of a Healthy School Environment (HSE) in Ido/Osi Local Government Area (LGA) of Ekiti State.

METHODOLOGY: A cross-sectional descriptive study carried out among 48 private and 19 public primary schools using a standardised checklist and direct observation.

RESULTS: The teacher-to-pupil ratio was 1:16 in public schools and 1:10 in private schools. The leading source of water in 47.8% of the schools was well water. Most, 97%, of the schools practiced open dumping of refuse. Private schools had more school buildings with strong walls and good roofs with doors and windows which provided adequate ventilation compared to the public schools (p- 0.001). No school was located close to an industrial area, however, none had a safety patrol team. Only 34.3% of schools had a fence and 31.3% had terrains prone to flooding. Only 3% of the schools, all private schools, attained the minimum acceptable score on the school environment.

CONCLUSION: The status of school environment was poor in the study location and school ownership did not make any much impact as there was no difference in the situations of school environment between public and private schools.

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Keywords: Ekiti State, Healthy environment, Local Government, Nigeria, Primary school, School environment.

RÉSUMÉ

CONTEXTE: L'environnement scolaire est l'ensemble des conditions physiques, biologiques, sociales et émotionnelles dans lesquelles évoluent les membres de la communauté scolaire. Il est essentiel de rendre l'environnement scolaire sain afin de promouvoir et de protéger la santé des élèves ainsi que leur sécurité. Cette étude visait à déterminer le niveau de mise en œuvre de l'environnement scolaire sain (HSE) dans la zone de gouvernement local (LGA) d'Ido/Osi de l'État d'Ekiti.

MÉTHODOLOGIE: Une étude descriptive transversale a été menée dans 48 écoles primaires privées et 19 écoles primaires publiques à l'aide d'une liste de contrôle standardisée et d'une observation directe.

RÉSULTATS: Le ratio enseignant/élèves était de 1:16 dans les écoles publiques et de 1:10 dans les écoles privées. La principale source d'eau dans 47,8 % des écoles était l'eau de puits. La plupart des écoles (97%) pratiquaient le dépôt d'ordures à l'air libre. Les écoles privées avaient plus de bâtiments scolaires avec des murs solides et de bons toits avec des portes et des fenêtres qui fournissaient une ventilation adéquate par rapport aux écoles publiques (p- 0.001). Aucune école n'était située à proximité d'une zone industrielle, mais aucune ne disposait d'une équipe de patrouille de sécurité. Seules 34,3 % des écoles disposaient d'une clôture et 31,3 % étaient situées sur des terrains inondables. Seules 3 % des écoles, toutes privées, ont atteint le score minimum acceptable en matière d'environnement scolaire.

CONCLUSION: L'état de l'environnement scolaire était médiocre dans la région étudiée et la propriété de l'école n'avait pas beaucoup d'impact car il n'y avait pas de différence dans la situation de l'environnement scolaire entre les écoles publiques et les écoles privées.

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Mots-clés: État d'Ekiti, Environnement sain, Gouvernement Local, Nigeria, École Primaire, Environnement Scolaire.

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Abbreviations: HGSE, Home Grown School Feeding Programme; HIV, Human Immunodeficiency Virus; HSE, Healthful School Environment; IBM, International Business Machines; IQR, Interquartile Range; LGA, Local Government Area; PHC, Primary Health Care; PTA, Parents Teachers Association; SD, Standard Deviation; SHP, School Health Programme; SPSS, Statistical Package for the Social Sciences; SUBEB State Universal Basic Education Board; USA, United States of America; USAID, United State Agency for International Development; WC, Water Closet; WHO, World Health Organisation.