Analysis of health information sources available to rural farming households

in Ondo state, Nigeria.

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Abstract

This study identified various health information sources at the disposal of the rural farming

households in nine selected Local Government Areas (LGA) of Ondo state, Nigeria. The

perceived characteristics of the identified health information sources was also examined. The

study determined how these perceived health information characteristics influenced the adoption

of three selected public health programmes (Family planning, Immunization and Roll Back

Malaria). Data from 272 households were analysed using both descriptive and inferential

statistics. The result of the analysis showed that majority of the respondents indicated radio as

the first source of information about the three health programmes. For example, radio was the

first source of information about Family Planning (71.0% of the respondents). There was no

significant relationship between adoption of (Family planning, Immunization and Roll Back

Malaria) and the first source of information about these public health programmes. It was

recommended that stakeholders in the development of rural public health programmes should

take advantage of radio as a means of health information dissemination and ensure it is

strengthened for sustained use.

Keywords: Health-information, rural household, immunization, malaria, family planning, radio,

and public health

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