

Perception and practices during the COVID-19 pandemic in an urban community in Nigeria: A Cross-sectional Study

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BACKGROUND. Various perceptions, and practices have been associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. In this study, we assessed the perception and practices regarding COVID-19 among residents in selected urban communities of Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria. **METHODS.** A descriptive cross-sectional study design using a multi-stage sampling technique was used to recruit 360 respondents (Mean age: 33.2 ± 10.6 years; 62.5% females) from households in Ibadan. Data were collected using an intervieweradministered questionnaire from 3rd - 6th June 2020. Those who demonstrated washing of the palm, back of the hand, spaces between the fingers, fingernails, wrist, and thumbs had 6 points and were categorized to have had a good practice of handwashing. Descriptive statistics were conducted. Bivariate analyses of sociodemographic characteristics and good hand washing practices were conducted using Chi-square test. P-values < 0.05 were statistically significant. **RESULTS.** Going to the hospital (95%) and calling the COVID-19 help number (58.3%) were the frequently reported practices among respondents following the development of COVID-19 symptoms. Also, 89 (26%) knew they could contract COVID-19, while 41 (12%) perceived it as an exaggerated event. The effects most frequently reported by respondents were hunger/low income (48.8%) and academic delay (8.8%). Use of face masks by 64.5% and social distancing (48%) were the most frequently reported practices for prevention. Only 71(20.8%) demonstrated good handwashing practices. The perception of likelihood to contract COVID-19 and practices to prevent COVID-19 had a weak correlation of 0.239(p<0.001). **CONCLUSION.** Gaps exist in the practices that prevent COVID-19. There is a need to improve handwashing, use of face masks and other practices that prevent COVID-19. Implications across public health communication and policies were stated.

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1 Perception and practices during the COVID-19 pandemic 2 in an urban community in Nigeria: A Cross-sectional Study 3 4 Olayinka S. Ilesanmi^{1,2}, Aanuoluwapo A. Afolabi¹ 5 6 ¹ Department of Community Medicine, University of Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria 7 ² Department of Community Medicine, University College Hospital, Ibadan, 8 9 Corresponding Author: 10 Olayinka Ilesanmi, Department of Community Medicine, University of Ibadan, Oyo State, 11 Nigeria 12 Email address: E mail: ileolasteve@yahoo.co.uk 13 Phone: +2348032121868 14 **Abstract** 15 16 17 BACKGROUND. 18 Various perceptions, and practices have been associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. In this 19 study, we assessed the perception and practices regarding COVID-19 among residents in 20 selected urban communities of Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria. 21 22 **METHODS.** A descriptive cross-sectional study design using a multi-stage sampling technique was used to 23 24 recruit 360 respondents (Mean age: 33.2 ± 10.6 years; 62.5% females) from households in 25 Ibadan. Data were collected using an interviewer-administered questionnaire from 3rd – 6th June 26 2020. Those who demonstrated washing of the palm, back of the hand, spaces between the fingers, fingernails, wrist, and thumbs had 6 points and were categorized to have had a good 27 28 practice of handwashing. Descriptive statistics were conducted. Bivariate analyses of 29 sociodemographic characteristics and good hand washing practices were conducted using Chi-

square test. P-values < 0.05 were statistically significant.



RESULTS.

- Going to the hospital (95%) and calling the COVID-19 help number (58.3%) were the frequently
- 34 reported practices among respondents following the development of COVID-19 symptoms. Also,
- 35 89 (26%) knew they could contract COVID-19, while 41 (12%) perceived it as an exaggerated
- event. The effects most frequently reported by respondents were hunger/low income (48.8%) and
- academic delay (8.8%). Use of face masks by 64.5% and social distancing (48%) were the most
- 38 frequently reported practices for prevention. Only 71(20.8%) demonstrated good handwashing
- 39 practices. The perception of likelihood to contract COVID-19 and practices to prevent COVID-
- 40 19 had a weak correlation of 0.239(p<0.001).

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42 CONCLUSION.

- 43 Gaps exist in the practices that prevent COVID-19. There is a need to improve handwashing, use
- 44 of face masks and other practices that prevent COVID-19. Implications across public health
- 45 communication and policies were stated.

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47 Keywords: Coronavirus, COVID-19, risk perception, handwashing practices, Nigeria.

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Introduction

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- 51 The Coronavirus infection (COVID-19) is an emerging infectious illness which broke out during
- 52 the winter of 2019 (Al-Hanawi et al., 2020; WHO, 2020). Due to its presentations, it has been
- 53 declared a public health emergency of international concern by the World Health Organization
- 54 (WHO) (WHO, 2020). An alarming response has been introduced across the globe due to its
- 55 high infectiousness and case fatality rate (Zhong et al., 2020). The identification of the risks and
- 56 the prevention of infectivity regarding COVID-19 have been stated to depend on human
- 57 perception (Zhong et al., 2020). Especially in the submergence of an infectious disease such as
- 58 COVID-19, different thoughts have shaped individuals' views on the illness.

- 60 Currently, the Coronavirus disease has spread to 213 countries with nearly 24 million confirmed
- 61 cases with close to 820,000 recorded deaths (WHO, 2020). Publicly available reports from the





Africa Centre for Disease Control (ACDC) states that confirmed cases of COVID-19 had risen to 1,203,769 and 28,289 deaths as of 25th of August 2020 (ACDC, 2020). As of 25th of August 2020, the West African subregion accounted for a significant proportion of cumulative COVID-19 records in Africa. In Nigeria, there are 52,800 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with a total of 1007 deaths as of 25th of August 2020 (NCDC, 2020; WHO, 2020). Oyo State presently holds the third spot on the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) daily COVID-19 updates, with 3058 laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 37 deaths (NCDC, 2020). Urban areas in Ibadan, the capital city of Oyo State frequently present with confirmed cases (Enwongo, 2020).

As a part of the emergency response activities across all States in Nigeria, health education campaigns have been directed at members of the public (NCDC, 2020). These campaigns have been aimed at knowledge improvement and the correction of certain misconceptions that have been widely circulated among community members (NCDC, 2020) Education on precautionary measures such as wearing of face masks, regular handwashing with soap and water or with alcohol-based hand sanitizers, and social distancing have been done (NCDC, 2020; The Pace Setter State, 2020).

It is evident that perception shapes one's knowledge and the adoption of safety measures concerning the transmission of an infection. Data obtained from the perception of community members regarding COVID-19 could help target interventions needed to improve the knowledge of community members regarding Coronavirus. Superstitious beliefs have largely shaped the perception of most Nigerians regarding the source and cause of COVID-19 (Chukwuorji & Iorfa, 2020). At the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak in Nigeria, infected persons belonged to either the political class or high socioeconomic cadre (Chukwuorji & Iorfa, 2020). The characteristic prevalence of COVID-19 infection among this group of persons accorded COVID-19 the name, 'a disease of the rich and mighty' (Nwaubani, 2020). Few months into the COVID-19 outbreak in Nigeria, perceptions revolved around "immunity" to COVID-19 among the religious folks with a disregard of bans on religious gatherings (Lichtensein, Ajayi, & Egbunike, 2020). Such perceptions could have been influenced by several factors. Social media platforms such as WhatsApp, Facebook, and Twitter have been used to spread false news on COVID-19, resulting to panic disorder and anxiety among some persons and shunning of safety measures among





93 others (Aluh & Onu, 2020; Olapegba et al., 2020). Among many persons, physical distancing, social isolations, restriction of religious and social gatherings etc. have been opined as alien 95 solutions in overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria and Africa at large (Olapegba et al., 96 2020).

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Literatures have reported the existence of knowledge relating to COVID-19 among Nigerians, and it is expected that this would influence precautionary behavior among them. However, inherent wrong perceptions may contribute to COVID-19 risk aversion measures (Iorfa et al., 2020). Perceptions of COVID-19 has been influenced by age and gender. Due to their increased vulnerability to illnesses, older persons have been predicted to increasingly adopt COVID-19 precautionary behavior compared to other population groups (Iorfa et al., 2020). Females have been identified as models in the adoption of precautionary health behavior. In the COVID-19 context, the practice of handwashing, hygiene, and use of face masks occur more frequently among females than males (Iorfa et al., 2020). Such an occurrence could be due to the perceived susceptibility to illnesses among females as well as their health-conscious nature.

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Given the importance of risk perception in behavior modification for disease control, it becomes pertinent to assess the perception and practices regarding COVID-19. To the best of our knowledge, the perception, and practices of community members in urban areas in Ibadan regarding COVID-19 is currently unknown. An assessment of the perception and practices of community members is important to reduce the risk for COVID-19 infection in Ibadan, a densely populated city in Nigeria. We hypothesized that there is no difference in the sociodemographic characteristics of the community members with the practices of COVID-19 mitigating factors. This study thus aimed at assessing the perception and practices of community members in urban areas in Ibadan regarding COVID-19.

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Materials & Methods

Study design and study setting

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- A descriptive cross-sectional study design was used. Data was collected using an intervieweradministered questionnaire. Data collection took place from the 3rd of June to the 6th of June
- 129 2020. The study was carried out in Ibadan, Oyo State Nigeria. Ibadan is the capital city of Oyo
- 130 State. Oyo State is one of the states in the south western part of Nigeria. Between 15th of June
- and 10th of August, 2020, confirmed COVID-19 cases had risen from 764 to 2,887 in Oyo State,
- and the State ranks next to Lagos State and the Federal Capital Territory on the NCDC reports
- for COVID-19 (NCDC, 2020; Enwongo, 2020). The official language in Nigeria is English,
- while the major informal language for communication in Ibadan is Yoruba, which has different
- 135 dialects.

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Study population

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- 139 The study population for the survey was one eligible member of the households in the selected
- 140 urban communities in Ibadan, Oyo State. All consenting household members were included in
- the study. Household members that were less than 18 years were excluded. Verbal consent was
- obtained from participants.

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Sample size determination and sampling technique

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- 146 The sample size was calculated using sample size formula for descriptive cross-sectional study.
- 147 The population of the selected LGA is >100,000. The sample size was calculated using the
- 148 Leslie Kish formula for sample size determination for a single proportion as follows:
- 149 $n=Z\alpha^2 p (1-p)/d^2$ where:
- 150 n= Minimum desired sample size
- 151 Z= the standard normal deviate, usually set as 1.96 which corresponds to 5% level of
- 152 significance.
- 153 P=50% was be used
- 154 d= Degree of accuracy (precision) set at 5 % (0.05)



155	$n=1.96^2x0.5x (1-0.5)/0.05^2=384$
156	A sample of 360 (93.8%) were studied in the urban communities of Ibadan. A multi-stage
157	sampling technique was used to select the respondents for the study
158	
159	Stage 1:
160	Simple random sampling was used to select 3 out of the 6 urban local government area in Ibadan.
161	
162	Stage 2:
163	In each of the selected LGA, a political ward was chosen for the study.
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165	Stage 3:
166	A center location was chosen in the selected ward. A bottle was rotated to determine the
167	direction of movement of the interviewers. From the direction of the bottle tip all consenting
168	eligible adults from the households were included in the study until 120 persons were
169	interviewed in each LGA.
170	Sampling of 120 each in the three urban LGA gives a total sample size of 360.
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172	Data Collection Methods
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174	The questionnaire has two sections.
175	Section A: Sociodemographic characteristics
176	The sociodemographic characteristics include age of respondents, sex, highest level of education,
177	ethnicity, and occupation.
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179	Section B: Perception and practices regarding COVID-19.
180	Close-ended questions were asked on perception of the respondents on COVID-19, their current
181	practices, and what they would do if they were infected. Open-ended questions were asked on
182	the effects of COVID-19 on and suggestions to the government to curb the pandemic.
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184	A six-point question was asked on the practice of handwashing. The respondents were asked to
185	demonstrate how they usually practice handwashing. The interviewer correctly marked all the
186	points demonstrated by respondents.
187	
188	The questionnaire was adapted from a tool used for a similar perception study on Ebola Virus
189	Disease in 2014 (Gidado et al., 2014). The tool was validated by an infectious disease
190	epidemiologist. Pre-testing of the tool was done by administering 10 questionnaires in another
191	Local Government Area not selected for the study. A few ambiguous questions were modified.
192	Back-to-back translation of the questionnaire was done by experts who had sound understanding
193	of the Yoruba language. The questionnaire was administered to most of the respondents in
194	Yoruba Language.
195	
196	Data were collected using a semi-structured interviewer-administered questionnaire. The
197	questionnaire was used for a similar study done in Lagos Nigeria during the Ebola Virus Disease
198	outbreak (Gidado, 2014). A few adaptations were made to suit the COVID-19 context. Face
199	validity were done by a panel of expert epidemiologist. The questionnaire was pre-tested among
200	adult resident of an LGA that was not selected for the study (Ibadan South-West). Some
201	questions were modified based on the feedback received during pre-testing. Data collection was
202	done by trained research assistants with minimum of first degree.
203	
204	Independent variables included: Sociodemographic characteristics like age, sex, level of
205	education, and occupation.
206	Outcome/dependent variables were the practice of handwashing and the use of other mitigating
207	measures.
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209	Data Management
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211	Data were analyzed with SPSS version 23. Age was summarized using mean and standard
212	deviation, while frequencies, and percentages were used for categorical variables. A total score
213	of 6 was assigned to good practice of hand washing after the respondents were asked to
214	demonstrate hand washing. One point each was assigned for the following: palm, back of the



215 216 217 218 219 220	hand, spaces between the fingers, fingernails, wrist and thumbs. Only those who demonstrated the 6 points were categorized to have had a good practice of handwashing. Chi square test was used for the assessment of associations between sociodemographic characteristics and practice of handwashing. Pearson correlation was between the perception of likelihood to contract COVID-19 and practices to prevent COVID-19. P value of < 0.05 were accepted as significant.
221	Ethical Approval and Consent to Participate
222	
223	Ethical approval to carry out the study was obtained from the Oyo State Ministry of Health
224	Ethical Review Committee, with reference number AD/13/479/1779 ^A . Permission for the study
225	was sought from the respondents and their confidentiality was ensured. The respondents were
226	informed of their right to decline or withdraw from the study at any time without any adverse
227	consequences. No harm came to participants because of participation in this study.
228	
229	Results
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231	A total of 360 respondents were interviewed among urban residents in Ibadan. The mean age was
232	33.2 ± 10.6 years, among them 136 (37.8%) were aged between 25 and 34 years, and 225
233	(62.5%) were females. Those with secondary education and above were 332 (92.2%), 314
234	(87.2%) were of the Yoruba ethnic group, and 171 (47.5%) engaged in business or trading.
235	(Table 1). Among the 360 respondents 342 (95%) have heard of COVID-19.
236	
237	Most frequently reported practices among respondents following the development of COVID-19
238	symptoms were: Going to the hospital 171(50%) and calling the COVID-19 help number 105
239	(30.7%). The other reported practices included: Praying and staying at home each with 29 (8.5%)
240	respondents as shown in Figure 1.
241	
242	Regarding COVID-19, 89 (26%) knew they could contract COVID-19, while 41 (12%)
243	perceived it as an exaggerated event. It was also perceived as an intention for corruption by 23
244	(6.7%), COVID-19 was an attack by the Western World was reported by 68 (19,9%), and
245	122(35.7%) called COVID-19 a source of panic. The effects most frequently reported by



246	respondents were hunger/low income 167 (48.8%) and academic delay 30 (8.8%). Regarding
247	suggestions to the government, 108 (31.6%) suggested the provision of medical
248	supplies/palliatives/ seeking of cure, while 68 (19.9%) suggested free testing/free treatment.
249	Other effects of COVID-19 and suggestions to the government are as shown in Table 2.
250	
251	The most frequently reported practice for prevention of COVID-19 among respondents were the
252	use of face masks by 224 (65.5%) and social distancing by 164 (48%). Others included: Staying
253	at home/following COVID-19 updates 8 (2.2%), taking Vitamin C/fruits/warm water 4 (1.1%),
254	and doing nothing 5 (1.4%) as shown in Figure 2.
255	
256	Figure 3 shows that only 80 (22%) of respondents demonstrated good handwashing practices.
257	Among respondents aged less than 25 years, 16 (23.5%) had good handwashing practice
258	compared to 14(29.8%) aged above 45 years. Among females, 49 (22.8%) had good
259	handwashing practices compared to 22(17.3%) males although these differences are not
260	statistically significant (Table 3).
261	
262	Males have 27.5% less odds of having good hand washing practice compared to females, though
263	not statistically significant [AOR 0.725,95%CI=0.418-1.259, p=0.253], (Table 4).
264	
265	The perception of the likelihood to contract COVID-19 and practices to prevent COVID-19 had
266	a weak positive correlation of 0.239(p<0.001).
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268	Discussion
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270	This study found that many individuals lived in denial of the existence of COVID-19. The
271	perception of the illness as an avenue for politicians to enrich themselves indicates that there still
272	exists inadequate knowledge of the Coronavirus among community members in Ibadan. Denial,
273	ignorance regarding COVID-19, and the existing lack of trust in the Nigerian government have
274	been reported since the outbreak of COVID-19 in Nigeria (Chukwuorji & Iorfa, 2020). From the
275	present study, a high rating of the perceived likelihood of contracting COVID-19 was observed



among 26% of respondents, while it was minimally perceived as an attack by the Western World among nearly 20%.

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Findings obtained from this study revealed that the practices most often adopted following the development of COVID-19 symptoms were either to go to the hospital or call the COVID-19 help number. This indicates that the source of help for COVID-19 treatment is well known among community members in urban areas of Ibadan. Although distrust in government capacity regarding COVID-19 is currently obtainable, individuals are willing to take proactive measures following the suspected development of COVID-19 symptoms (Chukuorji & Iorfa, 2020). An Indian study similarly reported that hospital visitation was frequently opted for as a step to be taken following the development of COVID-19 in individuals in a close relationship (Dkar et al., 2020).

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We found that about the use of face masks and practice of social distancing measures were more frequently embraced among respondents compared to other COVID-19 mitigation measures, although full adherence was low. A web-based study conducted in Nigeria mostly stated mouthcovering while sneezing, wearing of face masks, and avoidance of crowded spaces as selfreported practices among respondents (Iorfa et al., 2020). Our findings revealed that myriads of perceptions were associated with COVID-19. These included COVID-19 as an exaggerated illness with intentions for corruption, its highly infectious and deadly nature, and a reason for Similarly, the likelihood of positive practices concerning COVID-19 was panic disorders. associated with a positive perception of the risk of infection (Zhong et al., 2020). Findings from previous studies conducted in Nigeria also corroborate the key role of positive risk perception on imbibing COVID-19 protective practices and attitudes (Iorfa et al., 2020). The finding from the present study contradicts the assumption of the Health Belief Model (HBM) that protective actions are more likely to succeed a high level of perceived susceptibility (Tarkang et al., 2015). The results obtained herein is higher than the knowledge concerning the practice of face masks in Saudi Arabia (Al-Hanawi et al., 2020). Due to its deadly nature, COVID-19 has introduced fear which has compelled protective actions from individuals regarding the illness (Zhong et al., 2020).



Previous studies have shown that fear could motivate healthy behavior among individuals especially during epidemics, but such behavior may not be sustainable (Witte, 1998; Nabi, 1999; Ufuwa et al., 2020). The adoption of these healthy behaviors in the present study is in tandem with the recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) on safety measures for COVID-19 (WHO, 2020). The insufficiency of fear as a propellant for adherence to recommended guidelines for COVID-19 has been reported to be an outplay of knowledge-attitude discrepancy (Iorfa et al., 2020). These findings imply that individual perception of infectious illnesses such as COVID-19 may not be sufficient to influence the adoption of protective practices. This explains the need for a regular sensitization of community members on COVID-19 safety measures regardless of their perception concerning the illness.

We found that the practice of handwashing was commoner among individuals with a greater risk perception for COVID-19. Because these individuals perceive themselves as vulnerable to COVID-19 infection, they are more likely to engage in handwashing practice. Handwashing practice has been identified as one of the mitigation strategies for breaking the chain of COVID-19 transmission. An online-based Nigerian survey revealed a higher practice of handwashing compared to other COVID-19 preventive measures (Iorfa et al., 2020). A study conducted in Ibadan on hand hygiene practices post Ebola virus disease outbreak revealed a high proportion of inadequate self-reported hand hygiene practice (Martins & Osiyemi, 2017). Lassa fever studies conducted in Edo State reported inadequate handwashing practices, while a similar study in Kaduna State, Nigeria reported good handwashing practices among respondents (Tobin et al., 2019;). The similarities of most of these findings with ours imply the wide acceptance of the practice of handwashing in the management of infectious diseases.

We found that COVID-19 poses significant threat to local economy, resulting in low income and resultant hunger. This is likely due to the increased cost of purchasing goods or a result of the lockdown which has denied many individuals the opportunity to earn their income. Denial of opportunities to engaging in money-making ventures was experienced and impacts such as hunger was greatly felt among many persons (Chukwuorji & Iorfa, 2020). This explains the need for the provision of palliatives to fight hunger and reduce susceptibility to other infections during the COVID-19 outbreak. Similarly, decreased productivity and job losses and an unprecedented



economic disaster have been reported (Atalan, 2020). Contrary to the finding in this study, other studies have reported stress and anxiety as psychological reactions due to the Coronavirus pandemic (Atalan, 2020). Other psychological reactions such as boredom, anger, and loneliness have been notably identified as resultant threats during the COVID-19 pandemic (Aluh & Onu, 2020). This calls for the provision of psychosocial support for individuals during the COVID-19 lockdown. Interestingly, a recognition of the significance of essential staff has also resulted from the COVID-19 outbreak (The National, 2020).

Pertaining to suggestions to the government concerning COVID-19 containment, the provision of medical supplies and palliatives received highest recommendation among respondents. Most Nigerian households depend on daily earnings of breadwinners, and difficulty in survival was experienced during the COVID-19 lockdown which lasted for three months in Nigeria (Chukwuorji & Iorfa, 2020). Also, health education, the enforcement of preventive measures, and free testing and treatment received much recognition. These imply two things. Firstly, health education concerning COVID-19 should be done by public health officials in simple, unambiguous languages which will facilitate the understanding of community members. Secondly, the availability of medical supplies and palliatives would enhance the adherence to safety measures for COVID-19, such as the use of face masks among community members. Similar suggestions have been made in previous studies (Kebede et al., 2020)

Strengths of the Study

Up to date, most studies on perception and practices regarding COVID-19 have used electronic sources for data collection, and such results may have been biased. Our study is a community-based physical study that used a semi-structured interviewer-administered questionnaire. To the best of our knowledge, it is the first to study the perception and practices of adult population in urban communities in Nigeria. The study also made use of a adequate sample size (360 adults).

Limitations of the Study





368	As this study was limited to the perception and practices regarding COVID-19, the knowledge of
369	community members on the illness was not addressed. The assessment of factors influencing
370	COVID-19 practices among community members was obscure in this study.
371	
372	Conclusions
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374	The adoption of preventive measures depends on an individual's perception of the risk of an
375	illness. Adequate and correct risk perception for COVID-19 is needed to forestall onward
376	transmission of COVID-19. We hereby recommend enhanced sensitization and health education
377	sessions for all community members about COVID-19 in Ibadan metropolis regardless of their
378	sociodemographic characteristics. Also, health campaigns should be more focused on practices
379	such as regular handwashing with soap and water, physical and social distancing, which protect
380	against transmission of COVID-19.
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382	Acknowledgements
383	The authors express their gratitude to all community members for their willingness and
384	cooperation to participate in this study.
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Figure 1

Practices of Ibadan residents to COVID-19 symptoms

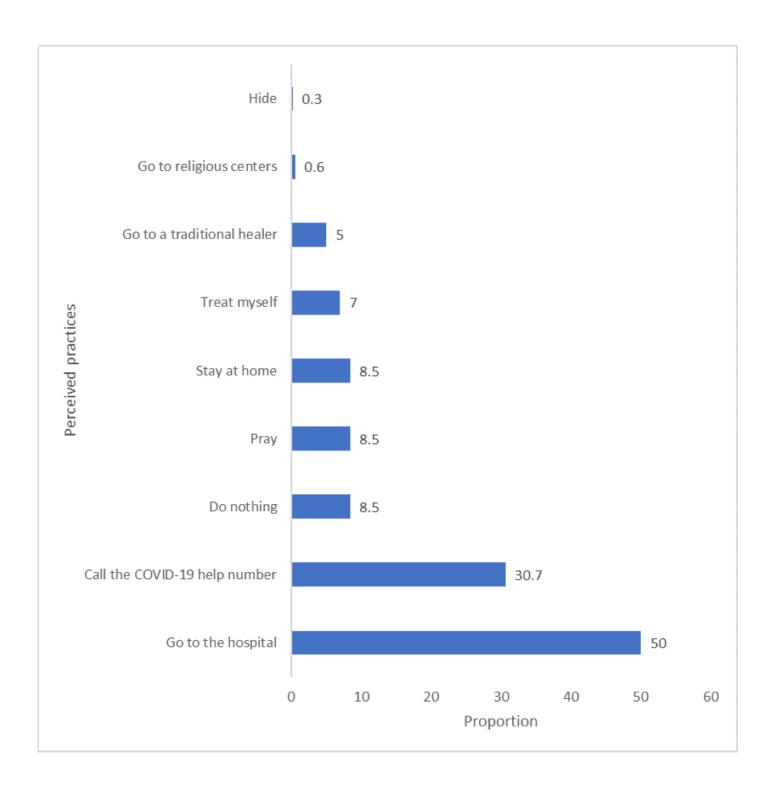




Figure 2

Practices of COVID-19 prevention among respondents

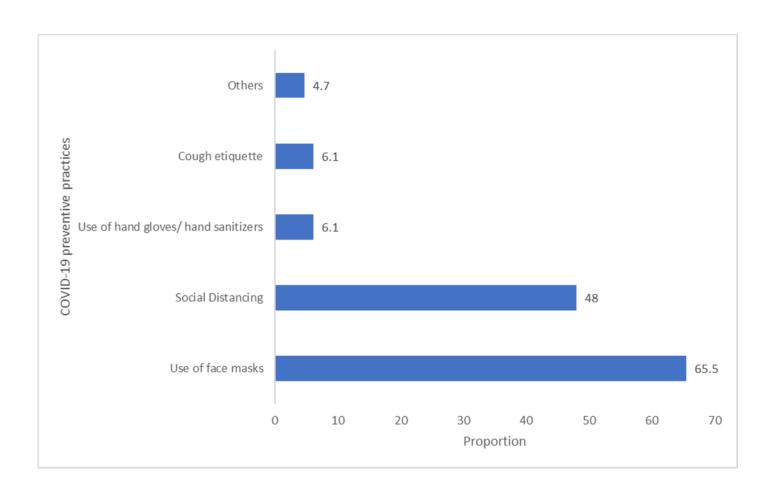




Figure 3

Points scored in handwashing demonstration

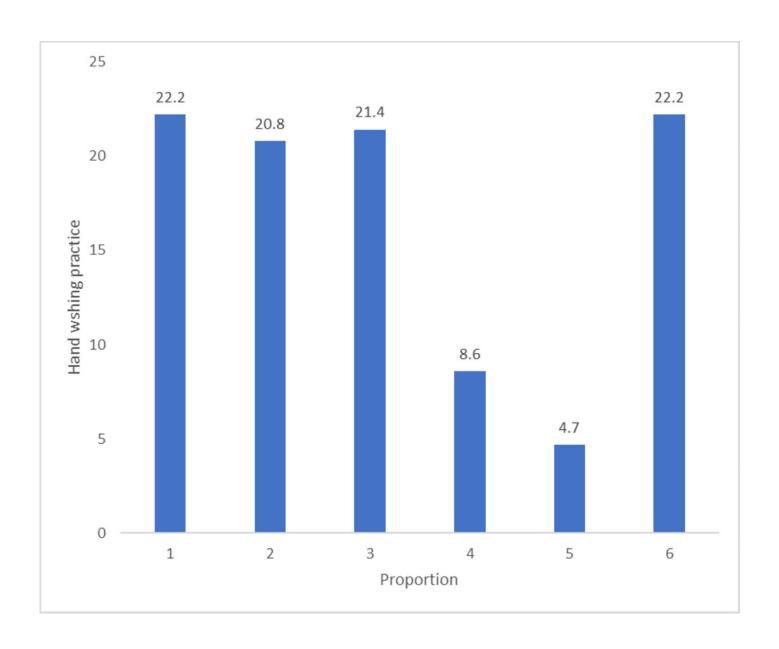




Table 1(on next page)

Sociodemographic characteristics of respondents among Ibadan residents, 2020



Socio-demographic Characteristics	Frequency	%
Age group (Years)		
<25	70	19.4
25-34	136	37.8
35-44	106	29.4
≥45	48	13.3
Sex		
Male	135	37.5
Female	225	62.5
Highest level of Education		
Primary and below	28	7.8
Secondary and above	332	92.2
Ethnicity		
Yoruba	314	87.2
Ibo	31	8.6
Hausa	8	2.2
Others	7	1.9
Occupation		
Business/Trader	171	47.5
Artisans	110	30.6
Professional/Civil Servant	30	8.3
Unemployed/housewife/student	49	13.6



Table 2(on next page)

Perceptions and effects of COVID-19 and suggestions to government by community members in Ibadan, 2020



Variables	n (%)
Perception on COVID-19	
It creates a lot of panic	122 (35.7)
It is a deadly disease	94 (27.5)
I am at risk of COVID-19 infection	89 (26)
It is highly infectious	72 (21.1)
It is an attack by the Western World	68 (19.9)
It is just being exaggerated	41 (12)
It has no cure	33 (9.6)
Don't believe it exists	28 (8.2)
An intention for corruption	23 (6.7)
Effects of COVID-19	
Hunger/Low income	167 (48.8)
Academic delay	30 (8.8)
Restricted movement/No going to work	25 (7.3)
No gatherings	20 (5.8)
Suggestions to Government	
Provide medical supplies/Palliatives/Seek cure	108 (31.6)
Health Education/Enforce preventive measures	70 (20.5)
Free testing/Free treatment	68 (19.9)
Stop reporting false figures/Lift lockdown and bans	44 (12.9)
No idea/Do anything	27 (7.9)



Table 3(on next page)

Association between sociodemographic variables and practice of handwashing among community members who have heard of COVID-19 in Ibadan 2020



Sociodemographic Variable	Practice of hand washing		Chi-square	p-value
	Good	Poor		
Age	n (%)	n (%)		
<25	16 (23.5)	52 (76.5)	3.890	0.274
25-34	22 (16.9)	108 (83.1)		
35-44	19 (19.6)	78 (80.4)		
>44	14 (29.8)	33 (70.2)		
Sex				
Male	22 (17.3)	105 (82.7)	1.451	0.228
Female	49 (22.8)	166 (77.2)		
Highest level of Education				
Primary and below	7 (26.9)	19 (73.1)	1.109	0.775
Secondary and above	64 (20.3)	252 (79.7)		
Ethnicity				
Yoruba	62 (20.8)	236 (79.2)	0.592	0.898
Ibo	6 (20.7)	23 (79.3)		
Hausa	1 (12.5)	7 (87.5)		
Others	2 (28.6)	5 (71.4)		
Occupation				
Business/Trader	31 (19.3)	130 (80.7)	0.915	0.822
Artisans	24 (23.1)	80 (76.9)		
Professional/Civil Servant	5 (17.2)	24 (82.8)		
Unemployed/housewife/student	11 (32.9)	37 (77.1)		



Table 4(on next page)

Multivariate analysis of the determinants of good handwashing practices



Sociodemographic Variable	AOR	95%CI of AOR		p-value
		Lower	Upper	_
Age				
<25	0.764	0.276	2.116	0.605
25-34	0.534	0.248	1.151	0.109
35-44	0.595	0.271	1.306	0.196
>44	1			
Sex				
Male	0.725	0.418	1.259	0.253
Female	1			
Highest level of Education				
Primary and below	1.146	0.451	2.911	0.775
Secondary and above				
Ethnicity				
Yoruba	1.279	0.534	3.065	0.581
Ibo	0.750	0.083	6.735	0.797
Hausa	1.279	0.534	3.065	0.581
Others				
Occupation				
Business/Trader	0.933	0.358	2.434	0.888
Artisans	1.619	0.546	4.804	0.385
Professional/Civil Servant	0.869	0.219	3.448	0.842
Unemployed/housewife/student	1			