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Effects of peer-health-education on STIs, HIV and AIDS knowledge and attitudes of tertiary institution students in Imo State Nigeria

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This study was designed to determine the effects of peer-health-education on STIs, HIV and AIDS knowledge and attitudes of tertiary institution students by comparing the mean gain scores. Quasi-experimental (pre-test-post-test) research design was employed. Two hundred students drawn from the University, Polytechnic and College of Education, using a multi-stage sampling technique participated as subjects in the peer sessions. Data were analysed using ANCOVA and Z-test. Factorial design was used for the interaction effects. Findings revealed improved knowledge and attitudes on STIs, HIV and AIDS, as depicted by positive mean gain scores. Age group 16-20 years had highest mean gain score ($X=22.31$) of STIs, HIV and AIDS knowledge than the rest, while age group 26-30 years had the highest mean gain score ($X=10.59$) of STIs, HIV and AIDS attitudes. Males had higher mean gain score ($X=26.05$) of STIs, HIV and AIDS knowledge, while females had higher mean gain score ($X=9.77$) of STIs, HIV and AIDS attitudes. The first years (100 level students) had highest mean gain score ($X=25.71$) of STIs, HIV and AIDS knowledge and also had the highest mean gain score ($X=14.12$) of STIs, HIV and AIDS attitudes. Level of study was significant both for knowledge and attitudes ($P<0.01$). There was no significant interaction effect of age, gender and level of study. It is recommended that peer-health-education be explored further as a method of communicating STIs, HIV and AIDS to tertiary institution students and youths generally.

Biography

Ibe Salome N O has a PhD in Public Health Education from Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Master of Public Health Degree, Bachelor of Science (Nursing) degree from University of Ibadan, Master of Science Degree (Sociology of Development) from Imo State University, Certificate in Population and Health Promotion from Nuffield Institute, University of Leeds United Kingdom in addition to other diplomas and certificates in related areas. She has worked with different health agencies such as World Bank and European Union funded health and development programs/projects. Currently, she lectures at the Department of Public Health, Federal University of Technology Owerri and has several publications to her credit.

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