

Knowledge of cholera and its prevention amongst urban residents of a district in Abuja: The pivotal role of health education

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Abstract

Objectives: Cholera is endemic in many Africa countries including Nigeria, where it is still endemic despite all the control measures put in place. It is still a disease of public health importance. The northern parts of Nigeria been implicated in the recent spike in cholera cases in Nigeria. Durumi, one of the communities in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) has been observed to have cases of cholera in recent times but with paucity of data on the occurrence of the disease in Durumi. This study examined the knowledge of cholera and its prevention amongst the residents of Durumi to get baseline information and ascertain the role of health education in curtailing cholera in the community.

Methods: A Descriptive (cross-sectional) survey design. Multistage sampling was used to select 360 participants (171 females and 159 males) and a self-developed validated questionnaire was used to collect data. Data was analyzed using descriptive statistics of frequency counts and percentages and inferential statistics of Chi-square to test the hypotheses at 0.05 significant levels.

Results: Knowledge of cholera significant (p-value .000<0.05); age group below 50 years contributed higher percentage scores than those above 50 years old. Awareness of preventive measures to cholera also significant (p-value .000<0.05); the age group below 50 years contributed higher scores than those above 50 years old. Findings suggest insufficient knowledge and awareness of preventive measures of cholera for age > 50 years.

Conclusion: Durumi residents appear to have adequate knowledge and awareness of cholera preventive measures. Targeted health education may be employed to prevent cholera in Durumi.

Keywords: Cholera, knowledge, prevention, Abuja, health education

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Connaissance du choléra et de sa prévention chez les résidents urbains d'un quartier d'Abuja: Le rôle significatif de l'éducation en santé

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Résumé

Objectifs: Le choléra est endémique dans de nombreux pays africains dont le Nigéria, où il est toujours endémique malgré toutes les mesures de contrôle mises en place. Il s'agit toujours d'une maladie d'importance pour la santé publique. Les parties nord du Nigéria ont été impliquées dans la récente flambée de cas de choléra au Nigéria. Durumi, l'une des communautés du Territoire de la capitale fédérale (TCF), a récemment été témoin de cas de choléra, mais avec peu de données sur l'occurrence de la maladie à Durumi. Cette étude a examiné les connaissances sur le choléra et sa prévention parmi les habitants de Durumi pour obtenir des informations de référence et déterminer le rôle de l'éducation sanitaire dans la lutte contre le choléra dans la communauté.

Méthodes: Un plan d'enquête descriptif (transversal). Un échantillonnage à plusieurs degrés a été utilisé pour sélectionner 360 participants (171 femmes et 159 hommes) et un questionnaire validé auto-développé a été utilisé pour collecter les données. Les données ont été analysées à l'aide de statistiques descriptives des comptes de fréquence et des pourcentages et des statistiques inférentielles du chi carré pour tester les hypothèses à 0,05 niveaux significatifs.

Résultats: Connaissance du choléra significative (valeur $p < 0,05$); le groupe d'âge de moins de 50 ans a contribué à des scores en pourcentage plus élevés que ceux de plus de 50 ans. La sensibilisation aux mesures préventives contre le choléra est également importante (valeur de $p < 0,05$); le groupe d'âge de moins de 50 ans a contribué des scores plus élevés que ceux de plus de 50 ans. Les résultats suggèrent une connaissance et une sensibilisation insuffisantes des mesures préventives du choléra pour l'âge > 50 ans.

Conclusion: Les résidents de Durumi semblent avoir une connaissance et une sensibilisation adéquates des mesures de prévention du choléra. Une éducation sanitaire ciblée peut être utilisée pour prévenir le choléra à Durumi.

Mots-clés: Choléra, connaissance, prévention, Abuja, éducation sanitaire

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INTRODUCTION

Cholera is an extremely virulent disease with its transmission closely linked to inadequate access to clean portable water, poor food handling and poor environmental sanitation. The disease is caused by contamination of food or water by the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae*. There are only two serogroups of *V. cholerae* (O1 and O139) that cause outbreaks out of many serogroups that exist. The infection is characterized by severe bouts of acute diarrhea (rice-water stool) and vomiting, and affects people of all ages. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) (1) and other researchers (2), pointed out that there are estimated cholera cases ranging from 1.3 to 4.0 million, and 21 000 to 143 000 deaths worldwide annually. Cholera is a disease of public health concern globally and it is an indicator of inequity and lack of social development (1, 3). Many countries in the world are affected by cholera; Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan, Vietnam, Haiti, India, Bangladesh and other Asia and African countries (4). Cholera is particularly endemic in many African counties (4). Devastating epidemics of cholera have occurred in Angola, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, Ghana, and Nigeria among others (4, 5). Ali et al (6) reported that most cholera infections are not detected, but large outbreaks of cholera occur in developing countries. They pointed out that industrialized countries have seen practically no cholera cases for over a century because of their good water and sewage treatment infrastructure.

The number of cholera cases is possibly much higher than what is reported to the World Health Organization because of differences in case definitions, authorities reluctance to acknowledge and report cholera, hospitals surveillance systems may not be adequate, lack of effective diagnostic tests and similarities in clinical presentation of cholera with other acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) diseases (7). Within Africa, half of all cases between 1970 and 2011 were notified from only seven counties; Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria, Somalia, Tanzania and South Africa (8, 9). In developing countries, it is difficult to calculate the exact number of cases as many go unreported due to socio-political concerns that an outbreak may have a negative impact on tourism to the country (4).

In Nigeria, Cholera remains endemic and increase in morbidity and mortality is high in the northern part of the country probably due to many people using water from open wells in northern Nigerian (10). It is one of the infectious diseases

that remains a major health burden in Nigeria and it is a growing threat, especially for those most vulnerable. The most vulnerable include those without clean water, with lack of access to soap and sanitation, the displaced, the food insecure and the impoverished they are most at risk of being infected, they become very ill and likely to die (11). The northern part of Nigeria including some parts of the FCT have been implicated in presenting with cholera in recent times (9, 12). In the last quarter of 2009, it was speculated that more than 260 people died of cholera in four northern states with over 96 people in Maidugari, Biu, Gwoza, Dikwa and Jere council areas of Bauchi state (8). In another study carried out in 2014 in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Abuja, Gomani, Kwali Local Government Area was reported to have a high morbidity and mortality of cholera (13). It was also reported in 2017 that Borno North-eastern part as well as Kwara, North-Central parts of the country had their episodes of cholera outbreaks and many lives were lost (13, 12). It was also reported that cholera cases are still ravaging eight States including Adamawa, Bauchi, Kano, Katsina, Zamfara, Kogi, Plateau and Kaduna, although, there appears to be a relative decline in the number of new cases (13, 12).

The persistence of cholera in Nigeria has been attributed by many studies to disruption in public sanitation services, landslides and floods also contribute to outbreak by disrupting the normal balance of nature, open flow of sewage water within the surrounding, food and water supplies contaminated by parasites and bacteria when essential system like those for water and sewage are destroyed, lack of resources, infrastructure and disaster preparedness system among others (4, 8, 13, 14). Generally, it is believed that cholera occurs in most countries in the dry season, but in Nigeria where it is endemic, it occurs in both rainy and dry seasons, although the burden of cholera tends to increase during beginning of rainy and dry seasons (15). However, it is still being reported in many studies that the affected areas with cholera in the country lacked good water supply, have poor sanitation, suffer from overcrowdedness, poor public health education, lack of good medical infrastructure among others (8, 13, 15, 16.).

Dan-Nwafor et al (16) revealed that in a study on cholera carried out in a district in North central Nigeria, the people lacked sufficient knowledge and control awareness of cholera. Denu and colleagues (13) also reported that despite the huge public health impact of cholera,

there is a dearth of information about this preventable disease in Nigeria especially the northern part as most outbreaks are either underreported or not thoroughly investigated. Elimian et al (2) also pointed out that there is dearth of evidence of knowledge and control of cholera in Nigeria.

This study was carried out in Durumi which is a prominent area in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja. The study aimed to examine the knowledge of cholera and its preventive measures among the residents of Durumi district in order to identify any lapses among the people that may make them predisposed to cholera outbreak, so that necessary interventions and recommendations may be proffered to prevent an upsurge of the disease. This is considered an important step to take, because the knowledge and attitude of the people living in a particular community is important in the prevention and control of cholera.

Two questions were answered:

1. Are Durumi residents generally knowledgeable about cholera?
2. Is there an overall awareness of cholera among Durumi residents?

Two hypotheses were tested:

1. There is no significant difference in the percentage general knowledge score of cholera between the different age groups.
2. There is no significant difference in the percentage awareness of preventive measures score between the different age groups.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Area

Abuja is the federal Capital Territory (FCT) and is located in the North central part of the country with many people from the north and other parts of the country residing in the FCT. Durumi, a community in the FCT, has been observed to have some predisposing factors that may make them easily susceptible to cholera outbreak; especially poor environmental sanitation and inadequate water supply. The researcher also observed that the community had some suspected cases of cholera that have been underreported in 2018.

Durumi district is one of the fastest growing settlements in the city and still developing. It is located southwest of Abuja and is bordered by Garki Districts I and II to the northeast. Its borders are the Oladipo Diya Road to the southwest, the Nnamdi Azikiwe Express

Way to the northeast, and Ahmadu Bello Way to the southeast. The population of Durumi according to 2018 population estimate (adult and children) was twelve thousand nine hundred and sixty six (12,966) (17, 18). Among the predominant tribes are the Gwaris, Hausa, Igbo, Yoruba, Igala, Tiv and Idoma. The social amenities within the community include; Government primary school, junior secondary school, private clinic, bore holes, private nursery and primary schools, Churches, Mosque and River. Their major occupation is petty trading and farming while some are civil servants.

Design and Population

Descriptive (cross-sectional) survey design was employed to carry out the study. The study population was made up of all males and females who were eighteen years and above and has been resident at Durumi District Abuja for a minimum of one year.

Sampling and Data Collection Method

The community leaders in the areas of interest were contacted and a date and venue was chosen for the selection of participants for the study. Multistage sampling technique was used for the data collection. The researcher determined to use 3% of the available population (12, 000 were 18 years and above); which gave 360 and this was considered relatively adequate to the calculated sample size of 387 using Yamane's formula

$$n = \frac{N}{(1 + Ne)2}$$

Durumi community has pre-existing strata (three strata) which was used for the study as follows: Durumi 1 had 5000 residents; Durumi 2 had 4000 residents and Durumi 3 had 3000 residents (stratified sampling). Proportionally, calculating 3% of participants from each stratum is 150, 120 and 90. Thereafter, with the help of a research Assistant, simple random sampling was used to select this number of participants from each stratum making a total of 360 selected participants (200 females and 160 males). A validated self-structured questionnaire which was administered with the help of a Research Assistant over a two-week period (3 pm to 7pm Monday to Saturday) was for data collection. This time was chosen to allow the participants who were busy at work to return from work. On the spot collection of the questionnaire was carried out. There was no language barrier as all the participants could speak English. The reliability coefficient of the instrument was $r =$

0.8. The instrument was divided into three sections as follows:

Section A: Demographic data of participants which include age, sex, marital status, occupation.

Section B: Questions on the participants' knowledge of cholera

To determine if the participants had knowledge, 70% of them must answer each question correctly. In all, an average score of correct answers for knowledge questions were judged as follows:

Below 70% = Poor knowledge

70-79% = fairly good knowledge

80-89% = Good knowledge

90-99% = Very good knowledge

Section C: Questions on the participants' awareness of prevention measures for cholera.

To determine if the participants' awareness of prevention measures, 70% of them must answer each question correctly. In all, an average score of correct answers for awareness of preventive measures were judged as follows:

Below 70% = Poor awareness to preventive measures

70-79% = fairly awareness to preventive measures

80-89% = Good awareness to preventive measures

90-99% = Very good awareness to preventive measures

Data analysis

This was carried out using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) 20. Descriptive statistics such as percentages (%) and frequency counts were generated and inferential statistics of Chi-square was used to analyze the variables under study, p-value was set at 0.05 significant levels.

Ethical Considerations: An ethical approval to collect data was given by the Health Department of Abuja Municipal Area Council (REF: AMAC/PHC/HSS/71). Informed consent was obtained from the participants ensuring anonymity and absence of coercion.

RESULTS

However, 330 questionnaires (171 females and 159 males) were finally analyzed (8.4% attrition); some participants returned questionnaires that were not analyzable at the end

of the study.

Table 1 shows the demographic variables of the participants. Gender distribution of the participants shows that majority (171) representing 52% of the participants were females while 159 of the participants, representing 48% were males. Also, the distribution of the participants by age group shows that majority of the participants 27% (89) were within the age group of 26 and 33 years; 18-25 years (23.9%); 34-41 years (17.9%); 17.3% were age range 42-49; 10% were between 50 and 57 years and the least (3.9%) among them was those within the age range of 58 years and above. The marital status of the participants shows that 163 (49.4%) out of 330 participants were married; 142 (43%) of the participants were single; 17 (5.2%) of the participants were divorced and only 8 of the participants, representing 2.4% were widowed. The occupation of the participants shows that civil servants were 77 (23.3%), traders 100 (30.3%), students 116 (35.2%) and farmers 37 (11.2%).

Table 2 shows the participants' overall general knowledge of cholera. It answers the first research question. An overall score of 87.4% denotes good general knowledge of cholera. Only the question on the occurrence of cholera in the community was 67% denotes poor knowledge, all other questions were answered correctly above 70%.

Table 3 also shows the participants' overall awareness of preventive measures of cholera. It answers the second research question. An overall score of 82.8% denotes good awareness of preventive measures of cholera. However, the last two questions (numbers 13 & 14) were poorly answered.

Hypotheses testing

Table 4 shows the analysis for the first hypothesis. The Chi-square result on this table indicates that the chi-square (X^2) value 76.25 is greater than the table value 11.07 ($X_{cal} > X_{tab}$), therefore, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference in the mean general knowledge score of cholera between the different age groups is rejected and the alternate hypothesis is accepted: there is a significant difference in the mean general knowledge score of cholera between age groups.

Table 5 shows the analysis for the second hypothesis. The Chi-square result on this table indicates that the chi-square (X^2) value 12.85 is greater than the table value 11.07 ($X_{cal} > X_{tab}$), therefore, the null hypothesis which states that

there is no significant difference in the mean knowledge of preventive measures score between the different age groups is rejected. This shows that there is significant difference in the mean knowledge of preventive measures score between the different age groups.

DISCUSSION

This descriptive study highlights the knowledge and awareness of preventive measures of cholera among residents of Durumi district, Abuja Municipal Area Council, Abuja, Nigeria. The demographic data shows that more females took part in the study. This is noteworthy because in Nigeria culture, keeping a clean home environment, preparing hygienic and healthy food is almost a sole responsibility of the woman (19, 20). Also, Odia and colleagues (21) reported that most of the studies conducted in the western part of the country showed that women and girls display more pro-environmental and eco-friendly behaviour. Therefore, women being more in this study further support these previous studies. With this role performed by women naturally, having them in a good number to ascertain their knowledge and preventive measures of cholera is important in a study like this so that a targeted health education intervention may be given if they lack knowledge that may put them at risk of cholera.

The age distributions of the participants show that over 86% of the participants were below 50 years of age. This implies that majority of the participants in Durumi community were in their youthful year. It is good to know that there are many relatively young people in Durumi community, which may also imply that the people may be able to work hard to keep their environment clean and also put up community effort to provide clean water for their use. Usually, young people have more of the required knowledge of disease than old people because of their active involvement in social media (22; 23). The good number of young people may be an advantage if they are directed to get involved in environmental sanitation to give a face lift to the community. Dan-Nwafor et al. (16) and Nsagha et al. (26) observed that youths in a community can get involved in community and environmental sanitation. The marital status of the residents show that there are many single people in the community (43%); this further buttress the fact that the unmarried people may have less responsibility and may be able to convert their youthfulness and being single into prevention of cholera by getting more involved in

environmental sanitation of the community. The occupation of the people of Durumi reveals that there are many students as well as traders. As earlier pointed out, students are usually abreast of current happenings in any society (22; 23). Being youths and students may be the reason why the people were able to answer most of the questions asked correctly. However, it is not certain if they actually have indebt understanding of the correct answers that they gave. However, application of their knowledge to practice is of utmost importance. Efforts need to be made to enlighten them on how to apply their knowledge adequately to prevent future cases of cholera infection. It is possible that the traders (they make up over 30% in the community) may be contributing negatively to the environment by making the place dirty after the day's business; all these issues call for health education to deepen the application of knowledge of the people.

The first research question that asked if the participants had general knowledge of cholera was answered positively as the participants demonstrated good knowledge of cholera in all the questions asked except one (see Q 10 table 2). The only question they did not appear to answer knowledgeably was about the occurrence of cholera in their community. This is pardonable because they may not know how to differentiate cholera from other diarrhoea diseases. Again, health education may bridge this knowledge gap.

The second research question which also asked about the awareness of preventive measures of the participants was also positively answered (see table 3). Although, the participants demonstrated good awareness, two of the questions were poorly answered demonstrating poor knowledge. The participants were not sufficiently aware that overcrowding and not applying "non-touch technique" in burial of cholera victims can further spread cholera infection (table 3). Olarenwaju (27) reported that in the study of cholera he carried out in Ile-Ife Nigeria, hot spots clusters of cholera cases were seen mainly in areas of very high to high population densities. In the same vein, Dan-Nwafor et al. (16) reported that in a study on cholera carried out in Kwali (FCT, North-central part of Nigeria), cholera infections was termed "disease of poverty" because of its association with overcrowded and unclean environmental condition. This was also observed in Durumi community. Dan-Nwafor et al. (16) had also pointed out the need to apply caution by utilizing the "non-touch technique" in the burial practices

of cholera victims to avoid the spread of the disease. This is another call for serious health education intervention in the community.

The first hypothesis tested the significant difference in the mean general knowledge score of cholera between the different age groups (see table 4). The result showed that there was a significant difference, the Null hypothesis was rejected. The Chi-square analysis shows that the age group above fifty years old had the least mean score. The younger group (below 50 years) having more knowledge may be from social media use which is commoner in young people (22;23).

This finding of apparent knowledge in the community may be due to the fact that there were many young people in the community that participated in the study. The young people are mostly connected to social media and so may have gotten a lot of information that keep them abreast of knowledge of many diseases including cholera (22;23). Also, there may have been some level of insincerity in the responses given by the participants. However, this apparent knowledge did not appear to have effect in the lifestyle observed among the people. This assertion is supported from previous studies where it was reported that knowledge did not significantly affect practices regarding cholera, because communities where positive knowledge was reported still had cholera incidences from time to time (21, 24). In the same vein, Akabanda (25) reported in the study he carried out in Ghana, that satisfactory knowledge does not necessarily translate into good practice. Nsagha (26) also reported that in the study he carried out in Buea Cameroon; that the participants had good knowledge of cholera but poor handling of food predisposed them to cholera. All these reports have established that knowledge should not be seen as a huge success most times. In view of the above, there may also be need for intense training on food handling, environmental hygiene and other issues concerning cholera infection. Health Education may be employed as a vital tool to curtail a reoccurrence of cholera in order to the incidence of the disease.

The second hypothesis tested the significant difference in the mean awareness of preventive measures score of cholera between the different age groups (see table 5). Again, the Chi-square reveals a significant difference in the different age groups concerning their awareness of the preventive measures of cholera. The ages group below 50 years appear to have more awareness (see table 5). This finding again

indicates a lack of proper application of knowledge and the need for targeted health education

Pivotal role of health education:

Health education has been reported in many studies to be a pivotal tool in curtailing the occurrence of cholera infection (8, 13, 16, 24). Therefore, the response given by this study population concerning overcrowdedness further calls for urgent health education for Durumi community in order to further curtail subsequent cholera infection in the community. The health educators should involve Community and religious leaders in social mobilization campaigns. They should ensure that they disseminate health education messages with the use of appropriate media, such as radio, television or newspapers. Health education will also be used to enhance behaviour change by stressing food and environmental hygiene, including the importance of hand wash with soap and water before and after handling food. There is need to use health education to strengthen surveillance system and early warning in places at high risk of cholera outbreak. The use of health education to improve knowledge and prevention of cholera has also been reported by previous studies to be particularly efficacious in reducing the upsurge of cholera (28). Health education intervention is a necessary tool to be arranged for the residents of Durumi to be able to encourage them to put their knowledge of cholera to an effective use.

This study was not without limitations. Some respondents may have over-estimated their actual practices while responding to the questionnaire which might have introduced response bias in the study.

Some respondents with high knowledge score on cholera may have not been truthful about their actual practices; it is possible that some respondents' claims exceeded their actual practices on cholera prevention.

CONCLUSION

Durumi residents appear to have adequate knowledge of cholera and its prevention, although older age groups appear to lack sufficient knowledge of cholera and its preventive measures. However, targeted health education has been identified as a necessary tool to enhance the application of their knowledge and also to correct some misgivings they have about some preventive factors of cholera. If promptly utilized, Health Education will help to further curtail cholera infection in the community.

Recommendation: Interventions should be built on health education and improving access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) practices. Individuals and households should be health educated and encouraged to practice basic hygiene behaviors such as proper hand washing and food handling, which can prevent the contraction and spread of many diseases, not just cholera.

Health education will also stress the importance of social mobilization and dissemination of messaging on cholera prevention through several media channels to widely spread the need to maintain and reinforce use of safe drinking water, safe food, good personal hygiene, and adequate sanitation.

Intense Behavior Change Communications (BCC) education should be incorporated through television and radio broadcasts, public announcements declared in market information centers, and house-to-house inspections and sensitizations should also be enforced throughout the community. BCC education is critical in curbing the outbreak of future cholera.

A Multisectoral approach needs to be emphasized and participation encouraged. This would include ensuring proper medical waste management by the State Ministry of Health and access to clean portable water by the Ministry of water resources.

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Conflicts of interest: The Authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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Table 1: Demographic Data of the Participants

Item	Frequency (N = 330)	Percentages (%)
Gender		
Male	159	48
Female	171	52
Age (in years)		
18-25	79	23.9
26-33	89	27
34-41	59	17.9
42-49	57	17.3
50-57	33	10
58 & above	13	3.9
Marital Status		
Single	142	43
Married	163	49.4
Divorced	17	5.2
Widowed	8	2.4
Occupation		
Civil Servant	77	23.3
Trading	100	30.3
Students	116	35.2
Farming	37	11.2

Table 2: Item analysis of participants overall general knowledge of cholera (N=330)
(*Research Question 1: Are Durumi residents generally knowledgeable about cholera?*)

S/N	Items	Yes	No	% Yes	% No	Accept Knowledge (✓)
1	Have you ever heard about cholera?	321	9	97.3	2.7	✓
2	Can you get cholera from drinking water?	309	21	93.6	6.4	✓
3	Is cholera caused by witchcraft?	15	315	4.5	95.5	✓
4	Can you get cholera from food?	302	28	91.5	8.5	✓
5	Does cholera cause death?	300	30	90.9	9.1	✓
6	Can you get cholera from wind (breeze or air)?	69	261	20.9	79.1	✓
7	Can one get cholera from body contact?	7	323	2.1	97.9	✓
8	Can one be cured of cholera?	299	31	90.6	9.4	✓
9	Can cholera be transferred from one person to another?	287	43	87	13	✓
10	Is cholera a common disease in your community?	221	109	67	33	Poor knowledge
11	Do you know how cholera is contacted?	233	97	70.6	29.4	✓
Overall Percentage general knowledge of cholera					* 87.4%	

*Note - All correct answer scores divide by 11= 87.4%%

An overall score of 87.4%% denotes good general knowledge of cholera

Table 3: Participants overall awareness of preventive measures of cholera (330)
Research Question 2: Is there an overall awareness of cholera among Durumi residents?

S/N	Items	SA	A	D	SD	% Agree	% Disagree	Accept Awareness (✓)
1	Cholera is caused by air	12	32	174	112	13.3	86.7	✓
2	Witchcraft is the reason for cholera	3	8	201	118	3.3	96.7	✓
3	Open defecation contribute to cholera outbreak	154	144	18	14	90.3	9.7	✓
4	Contaminated water with cholera organism is the source of cholera	79	183	38	30	79.4	20.6	✓
5	Covering of food helps prevent cholera	87	199	34	10	86.7	13.3	✓
6	Going to toilet without washing your hand causes cholera	69	223	29	9	88.5	11.5	✓
7	Poor environmental sanitation contribute greatly to cholera	58	209	52	11	80.9	19.1	✓
8	Food contaminated by fly is the source of cholera	88	217	19	6	92.4	7.6	✓
9	Improper use and maintenance of toilet (latrine) can cause cholera outbreak	92	221	15	2	94.8	5.2	✓
10	Boiling of water before drinking help reduce the risk of cholera infection	82	201	34	13	85.8	14.2	✓
11	Use of safe water reduce cholera outbreak	89	210	25	6	90.6	9.4	✓
12	Lack of personal hygiene contribute to cholera	101	189	26	15	87.9	12.1	✓
13	Overcrowding can spread cholera infection	52	94	89	95	44.2	55.8	Poor knowledge
14	Burial practices for a cholera victim must be of "non-touch technique" to prevent the spread of cholera	99	80	88	63	54.2	45.8	Poor knowledge
Overall Percentage Awareness of prevention of cholera							* 82.8%	

Key: SA & A = % Agree; D & SD = % Disagree

*Note: All correct answer scores divide by 14= 82.8%

An overall score of 82.8% denotes good awareness of preventive measures of cholera

Table 4: Chi-Square Summary of Participants on Knowledge of Cholera

Variable (Age)	Knowledge of Cholera		Total	Chi-Square Value	P-value
	Yes	No			
18-25	39	13	52	76.25	11.07
26-33	38	25	63		
34-41	40	19	59		
42-49	35	23	58		
50-57	34	15	49		
58 & above	29	20	49		
Total	215	115	330		

H₀₁: There is no significant difference in the percentage general knowledge score of cholera between the different age groups.

Table 5: Chi-Square Summary of Participants on Preventive Measures

Variable (Age)	Preventive Measures		Total	Chi-Square Value	P-value
	Agree	Disagree			
18-25	42	14	56	12.85	11.07
26-33	33	15	48		
34-41	40	18	58		
42-49	41	23	64		
50-57	32	31	63		
58 & above	26	15	41		
Total	214	116	330		

H₀₂: There is no significant difference in the percentage awareness of preventive measures score between the different age groups.