

O1055 Lassa fever infection control availability and use of healthcare facilities in western NigeriaSaheed Usman¹, Ibiwumi Usman*²¹ Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital, Nnewi, Nigeria, ² Ladoko Akintola University of Technology, Ladoko Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomosho, Nigeria**Lassa Fever Infection & Prevention Control Availability & Use at healthcare facilities in Western Nigeria**

Background: Lassa fever is a zoonotic infection caused by arenavirus contracted primarily through contact with the contaminated excreta of *Mastomys natalensis* rodents. Secondary transmission of the virus between humans occurs through direct contact with infected blood or bodily secretions. The objective of this study was to assess the availability of infection & prevention control measures, consumables & their use in healthcare facilities in Western Nigeria.

Materials/methods: This study was a cross sectional study. Data was collected by trained volunteers and supervised by appointed supervisors and investigators, by a face-to-face interview using a pre-tested structured questionnaire on Lassa Fever. Frequency count was generated for all variables and statistical test of significance was performed with Chi-Square test.

Results: Eighty five healthcare facilities & workers were surveyed, out of which 80 (94.1%) had wash hand basins but only 48 (56.5%) had running water or any kind of water supply. Most, 55 (64.7%) & 49 (57.6%) of the healthcare workers do not practice hand washing before/after patient contact & had not been trained on infection control while only 48 (56.5%) were regularly using personal protective equipment such as white coat & gloves. There was no association between availability of personal protective equipment & its use ($\chi^2 = 3.02$, $df = 1$, $P = 0.403$).

Conclusions: Healthcare facilities do not meet the minimum standard for infection prevention & control measures. It is therefore recommended that government at all levels should immediately prioritize the infection prevention & control programs its health facilities to curb future spread of infectious diseases even in hospital premises among healthcare workers.

