



The Assessment of the Influence of Sensitization and Support Group Programmes towards the Uptake of Routine Immunization in Yobe State

¹Abdullahi Muhammad Jawa; ²Prof. Sabo Muhammad Abdullahi; ³Assoc. Prof. Yahaya Ibrahim Sale; ⁴Halilu Bello Rogo PhD; ⁵Aliyu Idriss Tikau; & ⁶Hashimu Umar

¹Department of Public Health, Maryam Abacha American University of Niger (MAAUN) Ministry of Health, Damaturu, Yobe State. ²Maryam Abatcha American University Kano. ³Kaduna State University. Kaduna. ⁴Policy Academy Wudil, Kano. ⁵Education Dept., Yobe State University Damaturu. ⁶Ningi College of Health Tech., Dept. of Comm. Health, Bauchi State.

Abstract

The researcher investigate the assessment of the influence of Ssensitization and Support Group Programmes towards the uptake of Routine Immunization in Yobe State, with the objectives to assess the influence of sensitization programmes towards the uptake of routine immunization and the influence of support group programmes towards uptake of routine immunization in Yobe State. This objective were turn to research question and hypothesis to guide the study, related literature were reviewed. 402 were the population of the study and 380 as the sample, mean and standard were used to answer the research question. Pearson correlation were used to test the hypothesis. The study revealed that sensitization programmes increases, there is a corresponding increase in the uptake of routine immunization among the respondents and support group programmes increase in the uptake of routine immunization in Yobe State. Also conclude that there is an increases acceptance of uptake of routine immunization with the effort of increases sensitization programmes and use of support groups to enhance smooth uptake

routine immunization in the study area. Recommend that relevant authorities should ensure that there is continues sensitization programmes and utilization of support groups to enhance uptake of routine immunization.

Keywords: Sensitization, Support Group, Routine Immunization, National Primary Health Care Development Agency.

Introduction

Increased immunization coverage can be achieved through increased education and awareness about the importance of vaccination. Anne et al. (2016) argue that rising service utilization can be achieved through the provision of high-quality services and the development of stronger relationships between the community and health workers. A more responsive healthcare system can be attributed in part to the efforts of facility health committees that have worked to forge closer ties between the facility and the community also Men, elders, and religious and traditional leaders in the community should be actively involved in Community Engagement projects. Social acceptance of health messages and uptake of services were both boosted when they were disseminated by influential men. Anne et al (2016) found that communities were helped to remember messages and alter their behaviour by a variety of information sources (the media, religious leaders, and informal networks). Integration with Community Engagement activities

helped spread and reinforce information, which was helpful because information alone did not have a significant impact on behaviour change. Reaching out to socially isolated and underserved young women was facilitated by youth support groups and home visits by community volunteers or community health workers (Anne et al. 2016). These groups of young women had in some instances higher levels of education and service utilization than their peers.

As community volunteers were essential to the success of Partnerships for Reviving Routine Immunization in Northern Nigeria-Maternal Neonate Child Health (PRRINN-MNCH) in lowering maternal, infant, and child mortality (Anne et al. 2016). increasing use of health facilities, and increasing routine immunization knowledge, coverage, and uptake, so too are community mobilizers essential to the success of the Polio Eradication Initiative, as stated by (Anne et al. 2016). Akwataghibe, (2019) In his study title Factors Influencing Childhood

Immunization Service Utilization, revealed that it was discovered that 46.5% of the 467 children were fully immunized, 52% were partially immunized (171 completed all doses and 72 did not), and 1.5% were un-immunized with no vaccination, while Polio I and DPT I had more than 95% coverage and Polio III and DPT III had more than 74% coverage, and measles had 63% coverage, also drop-out rate for Polio and DPT is 24%, and for Measles, 25% of the vaccine administered outside of the immunization schedule, both male and female children are covered equally and sex of the family's head, the Scheduled Caste, and the Scheduled Tribe all have a significant impact on immunization status, although the education of mother and father plays a significant role in fully immunization, the program has reached 98.5% of the population. Only 46.5% of people are fully immunized. The head of the family, as well as the caste of community and ST, play an important role in partial immunization. Both parents must be educated in order for their children to be fully immunized.

Funmilayo, (2013) conducted a study, entitled determinants of Full Child Immunization among Children Aged 12-23 Months in Nigeria. Learn that only about 22% of the children received complete immunization. The significant determinants of full child immunization were religion, residence, and place of delivery, antenatal visit, mother's occupation, mother's education, as well as mother's age, household wealth, and region of residence, resulting in the conclusion that full child immunization coverage is low but has increased in Nigeria, with children in low-income households, where the mothers were single, where the mothers were Muslims, and where the mothers had no formal education benefiting the most.

Olakanmi-Falade et al., (2020), Nigeria, in a study titled "Factors Influencing the Acceptance of Routine Immunization among selected Areas of Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State." Maintain that the vast majority of respondents (96%) used routine immunization for their children. It was discovered that a significant number (97%) of husbands agreed to have their children immunized. Also concludes that a greater number of women do not only accepted but also used routine immunizations.

Support Group Programmes towards Uptake of Routine Immunization

The government will take charge and full ownership of routine immunization services, as well as look into new funding opportunities, if adequate resources are allocated to the country's immunization program (Uzochukwu, 2014). In an efforts to promote group program towards uptake routine immunization in the country, National Primary Health Care Development (NPHCDA) launched an Act on Community Health Influencers, Promoters, and Services (CHIPS) programme in 2018 with the goal of

increasing access to and ensuring equitable coverage of essential health services, particularly those pertaining to maternal and improved routine Immunization in rural and urban communities, and building on the success of the Village Health Worker (VHW) model, the launched program aims to strengthen the community component of the system, improve health outcomes, and bridge gaps in access to PHC services, the continuum of care, household links, national data systems, and health outcomes. A community engagement system approach seeks to empower communities to work together with the aim of finding solutions to overcome common health barriers, and it does so by involving the communities and the health workers in line with the principles of health facilities.

Routine and project-specific data were analysed to assess shifts in the uptake of childhood vaccinations and antenatal care, and the results are presented and the Pentavalent-3 coverage rose from 63% in to 84% by December 2016 and from 78% in Bambasi to 93% over the same time period. Assosa saw an increase in measles vaccination coverage from 77% to 81%, and Bambasi saw an increase from 59% to 86%. Increased uptake of immunizations and a few other perinatal health services in two word as of BGRS is likely attributable to the "Fifth Child" project (Shiferaw et al., (2020).

Anne, et al (2016) There is a lack of health care access, which leads to high rates of maternal mortality, infant mortality, and child mortality, extreme poverty, low literacy, a lack of trained health workers, and community opposition to immunization and government services characterize the environment in Northern Nigeria, however, routine immunization and other primary health care services are often overlooked in favour of the ongoing and intensive effort toward polio eradication and frequent supplemental immunization activities, community support and understanding of health programs was highlighted by a polio vaccine boycott in Northern Nigeria in 2003–2004 and to counteract the effects of the boycott, the Polio Eradication Initiative organized a massive community mobilization effort, involving thousands of volunteers.

In the words of Anne and company: (2016) The United Kingdom's Department for International Development and Norway's government supported PRRINN-MNCH during its duration from 2006 to 2014. The goal of the project is to improve maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) services in the states of Jigawa, Katsina, Yobe, and Zamfara by working with local communities and strengthening existing primary health care infrastructure. In 2008, funding for intensive MNCH activities and operations research was established to address the urgent problems of maternal, infant, and child mortality.

Purpose of the study

1. To assess the influence of sensitization programmes towards the uptake of routine immunization in Yobe State.
2. Find out the influence of support group programmes towards uptake of routine immunization in Yobe State.

Research Questions

1. How do support group programmes influence the uptake of routine immunization in Yobe State?
2. What is the influence of implementing partners programme on uptake of routine immunization in Yobe State?

Hypotheses

1. There is no significant association between support group programmes and uptake of routine immunization in Yobe State.
2. Implementing partners programme will not be significantly associated with the uptake of routine immunization in Yobe State.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

The instrument for the research is structured questionnaire. The questionnaire was developed by the researcher after reviewing extensive literature focusing on the research constructs/variables. The instrument is made up of two (2) sections; section A elicited information on the demographic data of the respondent, Section B measured the main research constructs made up of 6 and 8 items respectively classified into the item was patterned using a 5 point Modified Likert scale of strongly agree (5), agree (4), disagree (3), strongly disagree (2) and undecided (1). The Instrument was validated in line with Wagner, et al (2012), states that the research instrument to be used for data collection must be both reliable and valid.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The table below is the Responses of the respondents on Sensitization and Support Group programmes toward answering the study research questions.

Responses of the respondents on Sensitization programmes

SN	Items	M	SD	Remark
1	Mothers learn so much about uptake of routine immunization schedules when they are taught	4.37	.84	Agreed
2	Wrong perception and impression of routine immunization are removed/corrected when mother are given adequate information	4.23	.86	Agreed
3	Individual mothers who have obtain adequate information on routine immunization to have more confidence	4.28	.83	Agreed
4	Mothers who have learn about uptake of routine immunization know how to reduce risk of vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs)	4.21	.98	Agreed
5	Mothers who have obtained adequate information on routine immunization know how to reduce infant morbidity and mortality	4.32	.85	Agreed
6	Provision of routine immunization information will enhance positive attitude leading to full uptake compliance.	4.23	.86	Agreed
Grand Mean		4.27	0.87	Agreed

The table above shows the responses to sensitization programmes by respondents in Yobe state as it relates to uptake of routine immunization among mothers of (0-23 months). It is found that the grand mean of 4.27 and SD of 0.87 is greater than the cut-off point of 3, implying that the respondents generally agreed with the sensitization programmes related to uptake of routine immunizations. Item-by-item analysis indicates that item No 1 (Mothers learn so much about uptake of routine immunization schedules when they are taught) tends to have the highest mean score (M=4.37, SD=.84) while item No 4 (Mothers who have learn about uptake of routine immunization know how to reduce risk of vaccine-preventable diseases) (VPD) had the lowest mean score (M = 4.21, SD = .98) among the respondents.

Responses of the respondents on Support Group Programmes

SN	Items	M	SD	Remark
1	It is possible to obtain current information on uptake of routine immunization through support groups	4.14	.89	Agreed
2	Support groups tend to provide services beneficial towards uptake of routine immunization	4.20	.86	Agreed
3	Support groups are the easiest medium to reach out to mothers on routine immunization	4.16	.91	Agreed
4	Outreach activities carried out by support groups help to increase uptake of immunization	4.25	.91	Agreed
5	Support groups provide psychological support to mothers on routine immunization	4.13	.92	Agreed
6	Reaching out to the poor and needy mothers makes them feel strong and reliable on routine immunization	4.19	1.01	Agreed
7	Skills acquisition training organize by support groups empower mothers on routine immunization	4.20	.96	Agreed
8	Visitation of mothers who missed routine immunization helps ensuring full compliance	4.30	.79	Agreed
Grand Mean		4.20	0.91	Agreed

Analyzed research data contained in Table above shows that the grand mean of 4.20 and SD of 0.91 is greater than the specified cut-off-point of 3, indicating the respondents have agreed on the Support Group Programmes related to uptake of routine immunization in Yobe State. Item by item analysis reveals item No 8 had the highest mean ($M=4.30$, $SD=.79$), which states that visitation of mothers who missed routine immunization helps ensuring full compliance while item No 5 with the lowest mean score of (4.13 , $SD=.92$) which states that support groups provide psychological support to mothers on routine immunization as it relates to routine immunization.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Based on the findings, the researcher concluded that there is an increase in acceptance of uptake of routine immunization with the effort of increasing intensive sensitization programs and use of support groups to enhance smooth uptake of routine immunization in the study area. The researcher recommends that the relevant

authorities should ensure that there is continues sensitization programmes and utilization of support groups to enhance uptake of routine immunization.

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