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## Diagnostic Markers for HBsAg in a community based study

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**Background:** Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) infection is a major health problem and may lead to chronic hepatitis, cirrhosis and Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC). Detecting hepatitis B virus variants and antigenic variation of the HBsAg in relation to different geographic areas and process of treatment is fundamental for laboratory assay design, vaccine formulation, and prediction of progression of disease to chronic hepatitis and HCC.

**Methods:** HBV markers were assessed using serum from apparently healthy subjects. HBV markers included hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg), hepatitis B surface antibody, and hepatitis B core antibody (HBcAb).

**Results:** Samples from 200 volunteer subjects were tested. 17 out of 200 (8.5%) showed evidence of HBV infection. Prevalence of various markers was also assessed among the population of study. Outcome of the Aminotransferase assays conducted showed high level of Transaminase.

**Conclusion:** HBV seroprevalence is high amongst study population. Routine screening for HBV is needed while an urgent public enlightenment is highly encouraged, alongside a regular vaccination schedule.

**Keywords:** HBV, Markers, Apparently Healthy Subjects.

## Biography

Festus Chukwuemeka Onwuliri got his Ph.D. at the age of 35 years from the University of Jos. He has previously had his B.Sc., M.Sc. and AIML from the University of Nigeria Nsukka, University of Jos and Medical Laboratory College Vom, Nigeria respectively. He has acquired a wide range of administrative experience. He is currently serving as the Head of Department of Plant Science and Technology, University of Jos and Director of Victory Medical Laboratory Services, Jos Nigeria. Professor F. C. Onwuliri has published about 65 papers in both national and international journals. He has supervised 54 Post Graduate students both at Ph.D. and M.Sc. levels in the area of Microbiology and Biotechnology. He has also supervised over 150 undergraduate students. He has held several other positions and served in several committees, both ad-hoc and statutory, within the University of Jos and other Universities in Nigeria. He has several memberships including memberships in Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists of Nigeria, Nigerian Society for Microbiology, Nigerian Mycological Society, Botanical Society of Nigeria, Nigerian Society for Parasitology, Biotechnology Society of Nigeria, International Biotechnology. Professor Onwuliri participated in the 4th world congress on Biotechnology in North Carolina, USA and registered for 5th world congress on Biotechnology scheduled for 25th to 27th of June this year in Valencia, Spain. He has many Scholastic Honours and Awards. Professor Onwuliri is happily married to Dr (Mrs.) Edith A. Onwuliri and are blessed with 6 Children.

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