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Seroprevalence of hepatitis B among HIV infected patients attending Specialist Hospital Sokoto, Nigeria

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Hepatitis *B-virus* (HBV) is of public health importance globally. Viral hepatitis, especially B forms a considerable percentage of liver disease worldwide. This study aims to determine the seroprevalence of hepatitis B virus among HIV infected patients attending Sokoto Specialist Hospital with a view to establish prevalence rate in the state. Serum samples were collected from HIV infected patients, and analyzed to determine the presence of hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) using Biorex ELISA Kit (HBV). Out of 140 HIV patients tested for hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg), only 19 individuals were found positive given the prevalence rate of 13.6% (19/140) among HIV patients. The statistical analysis showed that there was no observable statistical significant difference between demographic data, clinical characteristics and risk factors with respect to HBV infection. Two of the 140 HIV patients were in the chronic stage of the infection giving a prevalence of 1.43% and two of the patients were at the acute stage of the infection with a percentage prevalence of 1.43% while the remaining 15 patients were in the active stage of the infection. There was no statistically significant relationship between the mean CD4 counts (428 cells/µl of blood) in HIV mono-infected patients and the mean CD4 counts (391.1579 cells/µl of blood) in HBV/HIV co-infected individuals (t=22.1351, df=1, p-value=0.02874, 95% confidence interval: 174.435-644.5648, mean=409.5). Therefore, HIV patients should be screened for HBV during their clinical visit in order to inform clinical management, also adequate care and support programs should be organized to help people living with both infections.

## **Biography**

Basiru Aliyu has completed his BSc in Microbiology and MSc in Medical Microbiology from the prestigious Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Nigeria. He is presently an Assistant Lecturer with Federal University, Nigeria. His keen research interest was in the field of molecular virology with much emphasis on HBV molecular epidemiology. He has attended one international conference and three local conferences. He has published about four papers in reputed journals, both international and local.

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