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## Assessment of the Awareness of Hiv/Aids Among the Rural Dwellers in Ife Zone of Osun State Nigeria

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**ABSTRACT** The study investigated the level of awareness of HIV/AIDS among the rural dwellers in Ife zone, Osun State. Factors influencing the awareness of the disease, problems associated with its awareness and the sources of information to the respondent were also identified. Two rural communities were chosen from each of the four Local Government Areas in Ife zone based on their higher relative degree of rural ness. A total of 240 respondents from different age categories were selected through systematic random sampling technique from the chosen communities, and interviewed using structured interview schedules. Data collected were subjected to both descriptive and inferential analyses. It was found that the level of education ( $P= 0.02$ ) and marital status ( $P = 0.02$ ) were significantly related to the awareness of HIV/AIDSs, by the respondent. A small majority (67.1%) indicated their awareness of the diseases, among which 36.3% indicated radio, while 14.1% indicated television, as their sources of awareness. In conclusion, there was an average level of awareness about HIV/AIDSs in the studied rural areas, indicating the need for more campaigns against the disease, especially in the rural areas.

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