

Assessment of Knowledge, Perception and Awareness of Rhesus Factor and Its Clinical Implications Among Female Workers in Bingham University, Karu Campus

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ABSTRACT

This study assessed the knowledge, perception, and acceptance of Rhesus (Rh) factor treatment among female staff of Bingham University, Karu Campus, Nasarawa State. The study adopted a descriptive cross-sectional design involving 270 distributed questionnaires, of which 192 were correctly completed and analyzed, yielding a 71.1% response rate. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, Chi-square, and logistic regression tests. Findings revealed that 90.6% of respondents had heard about the Rh factor, and 71.9% knew their own Rh status. However, only 50% knew the correct timing for Rhogam administration, with 34.4% demonstrating good knowledge, 42.7% fair, and 22.9% poor knowledge. The majority (91.1%) perceived Rh incompatibility as a serious health problem, 86.6% agreed that Rhogam prevents complications, and 80.2% believed it is safe. Despite this, only 31.3% considered the cost affordable, and 53.9% indicated that cultural or religious beliefs could influence acceptance. Although only 14.6% had previously received Rhogam, 83.9% expressed willingness to take it if required. Multivariate analysis showed that educational level and job category were significant predictors of good knowledge ($p < 0.05$), while marital status, education, knowledge, and perception significantly influenced acceptance ($p < 0.05$). The study concludes that while general awareness and perception toward Rhogam are high, detailed knowledge and utilization remain moderate. It recommends continuous health education, subsidization of Rhogam, and culturally sensitive advocacy programs to improve maternal and neonatal health outcomes among women of reproductive age.

Keywords: Rhesus Factor, Rhogam, Knowledge, Perception, Acceptance, Maternal Health

