

# THE PREVALENCE OF FOOD INSECURITY AMONG PREGNANT WOMEN ATTENDING ANTENATAL CLINIC IN GENERAL HOSPITALS OF THREE SELECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS IN LAGOS STATE

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**T**his descriptive cross-sectional study involved a multi-stage sampling technique. Data for this study were collected using an interviewer-administered semi-structured questionnaire. The food security status was determined using three food security survey tools which include Household Food Insecurity Access Scale (HFIAS), Household Hunger Scale (HHS) and Six-item Short Form Food Security Module. 51.5% of the participants were food secure while 12.5% were mildly food insecure, 21.3% were moderately food insecure and 14.7% were severely food insecure. The overall prevalence of food insecurity in this study was 48.5% (using the household food insecurity access scale) and 40% (using the six-item short form food security survey module). The severity of food insecurity measured by the household hunger scale revealed a prevalence of 5.3%. This result shows that about 2 in every 5 pregnant woman was food insecure and about 1 in every 20 was in a state of food deprivation and severe hunger. An unacceptably large number of people still lack food they need for an active and healthy life.

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