

## Factors associated with self-medication of antibiotics among university students in Kampala

**Sulayman Ademola A**  
Islamic University in Uganda, Uganda

**S**elf-medication in Kampala-Uganda is becoming alarming, it is imperative to assess the associated factors. The objective of this study was to determine the prevalence and factors associated with self-medication among University students in Kampala. Descriptive cross-sectional study design was used in this study, employing quantitative method of data collection. Convenient sampling was used in selecting the three universities, namely; Kampala International University, Cavendish University and Islamic University in Uganda and the universities students were sampled randomly with a total sample size of 392 students. The results reveal that the prevalence of self-medication was found to be 69.4%, which indicated that 7 out of every 10 Uganda students practice self-medication of antibiotics. Ampiclox 108(31.5%), Septrin 103(30%), Flagyl 51(15%), Tetracycline 35(10%), and other types of antibiotics such as Cefuroxime 2(0.5%), Erythromycin 17(5%) and Amoxicillin 14(4%) were found to be among a common antibiotic that were self-medicated by the students. Skin diseases 116(31.5%) were found to

be the most common ailments treated and sore throat 16(4.3%) being the less common ailments treated with antibiotics without prescriptions among the university students. Marital status ( $X^2=8.236$ ,  $P\text{-value}=0.041$ ), residence of the student ( $X^2=12.854$ ,  $P\text{-value}=0.005$ ), religion ( $X^2=17.967$ ,  $P\text{-value}=0.001$ ) and students' faculty ( $X^2=14.824$ ,  $P\text{-value}=0.001$ ) were the socio-demographic factors associated with self-medication of antibiotics among the university students in Kampala. In conclusions, the prevalence of self-medication among university students in Kampala is high which indicates that 7 out of every 10 Uganda students practice self-medication of antibiotics. Factors such as religion, marital status, residence and faculty of the student were found to be associated with self-medication. Establishment of accessible and affordable health facilities, implementations of policies to ensure compliance and discourage self-medication were among the recommended ways to overcome self-medications.

### Biography

Sulayman Ademola A is a Pharmacist by profession and completed his Master's in Pharmacology and Public Health. He is a Senior Lecturer and the Head of Pharmacology Department at Islamic University in Uganda. He has served as a practicing Pharmacist for several years before going in to academics. He has trained numerous students at various medical schools. He is also a fellow of West Africa College of Postgraduate Pharmacists (Clinical Pharmacy).

khamaphor@gmail.com

 Notes: