

## Assessing the Need for School Clinic During an Outbreak of Covid-19 Pandemic in Nigeria

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### Abstract

School clinic provides the strongest pillar for academic activities and it strengthen health care system of the nation. This study was to assessing the need for school clinic during an outbreak of covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria. The target populations of study were students of primary and secondary school in Nigeria. A descriptive of non-experimental survey approach was used to select hundred (100) respondents using convenience non-probability sampling technique. Assessing the Impacts of the School Clinic on Academic Performance on Selected Secondary Schools (AISCAPS) questionnaire was used to collect data for the study. Tables of Frequency and percentage scores were used to describe data findings while the research questions were analyzed. The findings showed that treatment that the students received in school clinic promote their academic performance (71%), drugs stocked in the school clinic cupboard are used for immediate treatment of emergency situation (66%), and drugs were available for sick students for effective teaching and learning process (66%). The result also showed that students gained access to a good source of health information (59%), students' concords that health needs influence their academic performance (57%), and the students who stayed in good physical health (59%). The study equally showed that the students utilized the school clinic for an illness (78%), students received adequate health information from the school clinic (75%). The study recommended that government should ensure establishment of school clinic in all government school both in rural and urban area and government should ensure regulation standard of school clinic.

**Keywords:** School, clinic, school clinic, academic, performance and secondary schools.

### INTRODUCTION

School clinic provides the strongest pillar for academic activities and it strengthen health care system of the nation. School clinic is a health care facility located within the school premises intended to provide basic health care services for students and refer them to the specialist or primary health center if it is necessarily important, School clinic is an ideal and unique building located in the school to focus on health of child and adolescents by providing quality clinical care on campus. The new COVID-19 virus is belongs

to same family of viruses as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and other types of common cold (UNICEF &WHO&IFRC, 2020). This new COVID-19 virus is a disease cause by novel strain of corona-virus and it is abbreviated as follow 'CO' stands for Corona, 'VI' mean Virus, while 'D' for Disease and 19 represent 2019 (year discovered). It was formerly known as 2019 novel corona-virus (2019-nCoV).

According to CDC (2020), symptoms of covid-19 range from fever, cough, and shortness of breathing which may appear within 14 days of incubation period

after being exposed to the disease, some people are asymptomatic while some others are symptomatic with effect ranging from mild to severe and life threatening. This virus can be contacted through direct and indirect means, elderly people and people with chronic health status such as heart disease, diabetes, asthma, cancer and HIV patient are more risk to develop severe symptoms. Studies are ongoing to know how it affects children and this new virus can affect people of any age on daily basis.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is combating with outbreak of cluster respiratory disease occurred as a result of COVID – 19 in the world, it was first detected in Wuhan City, China in December 31st, 2019 and CDC is following this rapidly new health challenging situation across the globe (CDC, 2020). On January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, the United States declared a public health emergency to facilitate the health care community in fighting COVID-19. According to WHO (2020), this disease was declared as a global pandemic by World Health Organization (WHO) on March 11, 2020. The world began to panic when the number of this virus increased significantly and death toll globally. Nearly all governments around the globe temporarily shutdown borders, social activities, religious, offices and schools activities closed, the non contact thermometer and hand sanitizers became custom practice in public spaces and homes in the process to contain the increase of the globally ravaging COVID-19 virulent disease. According to UNESCO (2020), these nationwide closures have affected over 91 percent (91%) of the world's student populace and many other country implement localized national activities restrictions which further affected millions of additional learners.

Since this new (COVID-19) has been declared as a ravaging pandemic diseases by the World Health Organization, most countries across the world including Nigeria has been battling to contain and mitigate the disease. According to Nigeria Center for Diseases Control (NCDC, 2020), the Federal Government of Nigeria restricted flights activities from high risk countries into the nation's airports and shortly followed with total closure. Total lockdowns were forced by the Federal Government on Ogun states, Lagos state and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). Many states have subscribed to health advice of lockdowns, border closure and restriction of movement. New isolation centers

have been established and existing center are being upgraded. New laboratories are being built and others upgraded by the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) to carry out testing on samples of suspected individuals to be having COVID-19 disease. Donations in varieties and cash have poured in from individuals, companies, organizations and communities to help the governments combat the globally ravaging pandemic diseases.

Nigeria is efficiency and effectively functioning relatively well in terms of COVID-19 policy, isolation centers, laboratories, contact tracing and strengthening of some tertiary health facilities however another critical strategy and opportunity is available to fight against COVID-19 pandemic diseases especially in education sector. Incorporate school clinic into education sector will provide the strongest pillar for academic activities across the Nigeria and it will strengthen health care system of the nation, with majority of young Nigeria's population living in the school environment and strong indications of transmission of the disease within the school community, school clinic should serve as an important link in dissemination of essential information on prevention and mitigation of the COVID-19, Schools are mostly located in communities and School Health Clinic (SHC) should be encouraged and established as one of essential health facilities within the school premises, To defeat COVID-19 within the school environment, school clinic are strong enough to provide both preventive and referral services from education sector to health sector at any level and provide essential inflammation to appropriate health authority on school health related issues (Nigeria health watch, 2020). Nigeria plan to combat COVID-19 and reduce fatalities by using lockdowns standard principle, promoting social distance and encouraging good personal hygiene, although vaccines is under trial but studies shown that frequent hand washing with soap and water, the use of hand sanitizers, coughing into a tissue or elbow, and staying at home when sick can stop the spread of the virus (NCDC, 2020).

Education can encourage students to become advocates for infection prevention and control at home, schools and community, reopening schools after a closure requires maintaining safe school operations and if it is done well, it can promote public health in Nigeria education system. World Health Organization (WHO) and public health authorities across the world

are taking different actions that help to forestall outbreak of this COVID-19 pandemic. However, all sections of our society must play their roles if we are to stop the spread of this ravaging pandemic disease while the individual roles are not negotiable. National Association of School Nurses (NASN, 2020) opined that school nurses are indispensable care giver in the school environment working on the front lines of the health emergency and infection prevention in schools, as schools is planning to re-open, establishment of school clinic should be consider by administration because it is closest health facilities to the people within the school environment, school nurse can be trained by expert and partners with appropriate health authorities to maintain high index of suspicious cases while attending to students, teaching and non-teaching staff. They will be able to detect suspicious cases early enough even before identified person will enter school premises and this will prevents community spreading within the school premises. Disease Surveillance and Notification Officers (DSNOs) at local government level could be alerted early enough, and the suspected individual could be tested and isolated. In the event the test results are positive, the school nurse could assist in conducting contact tracing in the school communities.

The nurse working in the school environment is an indispensable member on pandemic awareness, reentry and reopening planning teams. School nurses are the first contact to learner who are sick or asymptomatic but infectious. School clinic help families and communities act in accordance with safety regulations that protect them from COVID-19 pandemic. School nurse provide timely information on prevention and care for vulnerable people at risk in school communities National Association of School Nurses (NASN, 2020). According to National Association of State School Nurse Consultants (NASSNC, 2020), school nurses are specialists in public health care service and leads health care services in schools setting, it engages in a holistic dynamic approach to tackle students' needs. The standards of Modern practice allow students to receive optimal basic health care in the school especially during the COVID-19 pandemic and school nurse expert should be included in the planning team in both state and local level when planning for schools reopening. School clinic is a health care facility located within the school premises intended to provide basic health care services for

students and refer them to the specialist or primary health center if it is necessarily important, the present of School-Clinic Healthcare Services in academic environment may increase and promote educational goal. Crosnoe (2006) explained that health disparities are sources of educational stratification, which mean that reducing health inequality could help to reduce educational discrepancy as well.

Sherwood-Samuel (2016) maintained that school based treatment center provide medical and health care services to students in the school premises and competent health personnel such nurses with her assistant should be in the school clinic the whole day. Several efforts has made by School-based health clinic (SBHCs) to promote the health and wellness of children as well as adolescents by incorporate an interdependent health care services and health support activities, including primary care, curative care, mental care, substance abuse counseling, dental care, case management, and referral service within the school environment. According to National Association of School Based Healthcare (2007) stated that school-based health centers (SBHCs) operate in nearly two thousand schools in the United States, normally provides some integrated health services which including essential health, immunization, malnutrition prevention, reproductive health, dental care, hygiene, infection prevention, and mental care services, SBHCs are projected to promote accessibility of these health component to children and young ones who are under served within public health and community mental health settings. SBHCs play some role by increased care access to high-risk groups, such as those living in high-poverty environment, no health insurance, and ethnic challenge group. In addition, it facilitate access to health and mental health services, school clinic involve in physical and emotional rehabilitation outcomes and this school clinic has all the necessary equipment needed for the optimum health service for the students including basic drugs, oxygen, and nebulizer. The efforts to promote hand-washing, hands sanitizing and good hygiene in the school to stop the spread of this contagious diseases are some of major goals of school health. Routine check up on nails, hair and personal hygiene is performed on a regular basis and in consideration to save your children from harm and other children whom they come in contact.

As instituted by UNICEF, (2008), there has been a consistent disagreement over the uninterrupted fall

in standard and quality of education in Nigerian, excellence education promote sound, creative, innovative, insight, healthy and useful workforce. In Nigeria, about 45 million children and adolescents attend primary and secondary schools. The young people contribute a significant proportion (percentage) of the national population and they should be given individual consideration because the future of the country relied largely on them. To be able to produce quality and standard education, young people have to be in state of wellbeing or best physical, mental and social health. High-quality health promotes growth, maturation, development, and critical learning ability in young people. Education Encyclopedia, (2012) proved that education process of young people have found the health risk behaviors which have negative impact on them in various ways such as: learning outcomes, graduation rates, performance on consistent tests and class grades, learning behaviors such as attendance, withdraw rate, failure rates, learning problem, and extent of contribution in school activities such as homework and extracurricular involvement; and students attitudes together with aspirations for post secondary school education, positive individual attitudes, and feelings in relation to safety at school.

Center for Diseases Control (2009 & 2012) provided that a large diversity of research has established relationship between health and learning which are mutually reinforcing each other. In simple words, healthy students are better learners. Likewise strategies on educational reforms would not be efficient and effective until health barriers to education are address adequately. The present of school clinic with qualified health personnel boast the facility to promote effective teaching-learning process, regular attendance, prevent vicious actions, and promote extensive long-term healthy knowledge, attitude and practices among students. The practice of promoting health care services within the school premises was embraced by the World Health Organization (WHO) in line with the philosophy of Ottawa Charter of 1986 with assertion of "Health Promoting School" concept. WHO, (2012) explained further that a health promoting school is one that continuously strengthens its facility as a healthy setting for learning, working and living. In St Leger and Young, (2009) opinion, based on this global scheme, it was seen as the most positive approach in achieving both standard and quality education as well as health outcomes, this educated and guided in the

development of the Nigerian National School Health Policy in the year 2006. Likewise, Federal Ministry of Education (FME, 2006) mentioned one of the goals of this policy was to support the health of learners in order to accomplish the goals of 'Education For All'

### Objective of study

#### *The specific objectives are to*

1. To know the important of school clinic to students and staff during the emerge of COVID-19 pandemic
2. To know the roles of school nurse during COVID-19 pandemic within the school community
3. To know the usefulness of health education on students in preventing COVID-19 pandemic
4. To know the action of school nurse when any of school community members contract COVID-19
5. To know the extent of school clinic in improving teaching – learning process during COVID-19 pandemic outbreak

### Research questions

1. Does an activity in school clinic combat the spreading of COVID-19 within the school community?
2. Does the role of school nurse help to contain spread of COVID-19 pandemic?
3. Does health education play key roles to curb the spread COVID-19 pandemic?
4. Does school clinic improve teaching – learning process during COVID-19 pandemic outbreak?

### METHODOLOGY

The study adopted cross-section descriptive research design of correlation type and the population consisted of total number of one thousand and twenty six (1026) secondary schools in Oyo State. The sample comprised total number of 100 students using Taro yamane's formula in determining the sample size used. The Taro yamane's formula is  $n = N / [1 + (Ne^2)]$  (where, n=Sample size N=Total population, e=0.05 (constant)) (Yamane, 1967). Convenience non-probability sampling technique was used to select five Local Government Areas (L.G.As) from thirty three local governments in Oyo State. From each LGA, one secondary school were selected, 20 students were selected from each school using simple random

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sampling technique. Assessing the Need of School Clinic During an Outbreak of Covid-19 Pandemic In Nigeria Questionnaire (ASCDCINQ) of 100 copies consisting of five (5) sections was used to collect data for the study. Section A contains three (3) items on socio demographic of respondents; section B contains five (5) items on school clinic activities, student health information and clinical practice facilities, section C contains seven (7) items on Effect of covid-19 related problem on academic activities, section D contains five (5) items on roles of school nurse during COVID-19 pandemic, section E contains four (4) items on school clinic improve teaching – learning process during COVID-19 pandemic outbreak, while section F contains four questions on roles of health education in curbing the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. Face and content validity of the instrument were established through experts' review, and test re-test method of reliability was adopted to achieve the Cronbach's Alpha reliability coefficient of 0.82. The data collected was coded and analyzed using the Pearson Moment Correlation Coefficient. A value of reliability coefficient was obtained for the study. The respondents used for the reliability was excluded from the study population. Frequency tables and percentage scores were used to describe the data findings while the research questions were analyzed

### DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

This chapter presents the results of the data analysis as an outcome of a research field. Frequency tables and percentage scores were used to describe the study

findings. All of 100 questionnaires distributed were retrieved and found suitable for entry and analysis.

Socio demographic information of the students

**Table 1.** showing the demographic data of the students

Variables	Categories	Frequency	Percent (%)
Gender	Male	53	53
	Female	47	47
Age	Below 10 years	12	12
	10-20 years	78	78
	21 years and above	10	10
Level of Education	Primary/Basic	12	12
	JSS	7	7
	SSS	81	81

Table 1 shows 53% of the students were male while 47% of the students were female, this means that majority of the students were female. According to the table, 12% of the students were in age below 10 years, 78% of the students were between 10-20 years, while 22% was in the age range of 21 and above years. This affirms that majority of the students sampled belong to age category of 10-20 years. In the table, 12% of the students claimed to be in Primary/Basic, 7% of the students were in JSS2, while 81% of the students claimed to be in SSS3. This means that most of the students were in SSS3.

**Research questions 1:** does an activity in school clinic combat the spreading of COVID-19 within the school community?

**Table 2.** Percentage scores of school clinic combat the spreading of COVID-19 within the school community

Items	Yes	No	Total (%)
Is there school clinic in your school	33(33)	67(67)	100
Does your school clinic provide administration of medications	33(33)	67(67)	100
Is there isolation unit in your school clinic	29(29)	71(71)	100
Since beginning of coronary virus pandemic, have you received clinical service in the school clinic	16(16)	79(79)	95
Do you know any students who left school before the closure of school activities by federal government covid-19 guidelines policy	74(74)	15(15)	89
School sent the students home due to illness	28(28)	65(65)	93
Families ask students to return home due to covid-19	35(35)	58(58)	93

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Table 2 depicts the need for school clinic during an outbreak of covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria. According to the table, 67% of students do not have school clinic. About 67% of respondents do not received basic medication within the school premises. Likewise 79% of students do not received essential and basic health care within the school premises. Also 71% of students claimed that they do not have isolation unit in the school. Equally 74% of respondents affirmed that they know students who left school before the

closure of school activities by federal government covid-19 guidelines policy. Meanwhile 28% of learner claimed that school sent them home due to illness. About 35% students strongly agreed that family ask them to return home due to outbreak of covid-19. It can be concluded that the availability of school clinic help to combat the spreading of COVID-19 pandemic within the school community in Nigeria.

**Research questions 2:** Does the role of school nurse help to contain spread of COVID-19 pandemic?

**Table 3.** Percentage scores of the role of school nurse help to contain spread of COVID-19 pandemic

Items	Great Influence	Some Influence	Little Influence	No Influence	Total
Helps to increase access to health care need during covid-19 pandemic	89(89)	0(0)	0(0)	5(5)	94
Helps to create safe school environment during novel corona virus by implement covid-19 policy within the school such as checking temperature before gained entry to school premises	95(95)	5(5)	0(0)	0(0)	100
Ensure students and staff use mask, hands washing, use sanitizer and cough to elbow	88(88)	5(5)	7(7)	0(0)	100
Gave appropriate and effective health education on covid-19	88(88)	12(12)	0(0)	0(0)	100
Notified and referral to local authority	52(52)	34(34)	7(7)	7(7)	100

Table 3 depicts the role of school nurse in preventing the spread of COVID-19 pandemic within school community in Nigeria. According to the table, 89% of students concord that school nurse helps to increase access to health care need during covid-19. About 95% of the respondents agreed that school nurse helps to create safe school environment during novel corona virus by implement covid-19 policy within the school such as checking temperature before gained entry to school premises. Also 88% of the students accepted that school nurse ensure students and staff use mask, hands washing, use sanitizer and cough to elbow in the school. Likewise 88% respondents strongly agreed that school nurse gave appropriate and effective health education on covid-19. Also 52% of learner believed that school nurse notified and referral to local authority for suspicious cases. This is an indication that, the roles of school nurse is highly demanded during the ravaging outbreak of covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria. Therefore, the need for school clinic during an outbreak of covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria is necessary and important.

**Research questions 3:** Does health education play key roles to curb the spread COVID-19 pandemic?

**Table 4.** Percentage scores of health education play key roles to curb the spread COVID-19 pandemic

Items	Yes	No	Total
I have received useful health education from the school clinic.	49(49)	51(51)	100
I was aware that the use mask, sanitizer, hands washing, and cough to elbow prevent covid-19 pandemic diseases	89(89)	11(11)	100
I was health educated professionally by the staff upon arrival at the school clinic	70(70)	30(30)	100

Table 4 depicts the health education play key roles to curb the spread COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria. According to the table, 51% of students disagreed that they have received useful health education from the school clinic due to lacked of school clinic in their school. About 89% of the respondents agreed that they aware the use mask, sanitizer, hands washing, and cough to elbow to prevent covid-19 pandemic diseases. Also 75% of the students accepted that they received adequate health information from the school clinic. Likewise 70% respondents believed that they received health educated professionally by the staff upon arrival at the school clinic. This is an indication that, the school clinic gives room for good health because prompt attention were given to the students on their health, therefore, the school clinic has good relationship and also contributed to the students' academic performance.

**Research questions 4:** Does school clinic improve teaching – learning process during COVID-19 pandemic outbreak?

**Table 5.** *Percentage scores of school clinic improve teaching-learning process during COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.*

school clinic improve teaching – learning process during COVID-19 pandemic outbreak	F	Percentages
High (7>)	61	61
Low (<6)	39	39
Total	100	100
Field work, 2020		

Evidence from the table four depicts that the school clinic improveteaching – learning process during COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in Nigeriawas generally high, as 61% of the respondents rated school clinic improve teaching – learning process highwhile only 39% of the respondents rated school clinic improve teaching – learning processas low. It concluded that school clinic in Nigeria improve teaching – learning process high.

**DISCUSSION**

This section gives detailed explanation of the various findings from the research questions as indicated from the study area. The findings of the study showed that availability of school clinic helps to provide essential

and basic medication, set isolation unit within the school premises where suspicious cases can be kept, give appropriate basic clinical services to the people in school environment, also it prevent students from leaving school untimely and it reduce administration activities on sending learners home on primary and preventable public health challenges likewise it reduce the demand of parents for their children to return home over anxiety diseases outbreak (such as cholera, ebola and coronavirus). The study concurred with the study of National Association of School Nurses (NASN, 2020) who opined that school nurses are indispensable health care giver in the school settings, working on the frontlines of the health emergency and infection prevention in schools. They are able to detect suspicious cases early enough even before identified person will enter school premises and this prevents spreading cononavirus within the school premises.

The findings of the study equally indicated that the role of school nurse help to control spread of COVID-19 pandemic within the school environment in Nigeria. This could be from the fact that the school nurse helps to increase access to health care needed during covid-19 pandemic, create safe school environment during novel corona virus by implement covid-19 policy within the school such as checking temperature before gained entry to school premises, ensure students and staff use mask, hands washing, use sanitizer and cough to elbow, school nurse also gave appropriate and effective health education on many school health challenges such as covid-19 more so school nurse notified and referral to appropriate authority on notifiable infections including covid-19. The study corroborates with the study of National Association of State School Nurse Consultants (NASSNC, 2020), school nurses are specialists in public health care services, and the school nurse leads health care teams in schools setting and involve in practices of holistic dynamics approach to tackle students' needs. The standards of Modern practice allow students to receive optimal basic health care in the school especially during the COVID-19 pandemic and school nurse expert should be included in the planning team in both state and local level when planning for schools reopening, but where such is not available or effective. According to Africa Center for Diseases control (ACDC, 2020) Mask wearing has reduced infectious rate of this new virus per contact by reducing spread of contaminated droplets in public, clinical and laboratory contexts.

Public mask wearing is most helpful and efficient strategies to stop the spread of novel corona virus when strictly compliance rate is high. In a cohort study of 50 health care workers with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infections in King County, Washington, stated that screening people only for symptoms such as cough, shortness of breath, fever and sore throat might have missed 17% of people with symptomatic at the time of illness started; increasing strategies for symptoms test to include chills, common cold and myalgias may still have missed 10%. Results recommend face mask use by all healthcare personnel and public for primary prevention of covi-19 transmission from mildly symptomatic and asymptomatic of effected person. Sherwood-Samuel (2016) maintained that school based clinics provide medical services and health care to children and adolescents in school premises and competent health personnel such nurses with her assistant should be in the school clinic the whole day. According to National Association of School Based Healthcare (2007) stated that school-based health centers (SBHCs) operate in nearly two thousand schools in the United States, naturally providing some integrated health services which including essential health, immunization, malnutrition prevention, reproductive health, dental care, hygiene, infection prevention, and mental care services, SBHCs are planned to improve accessibility of health care services to childhood age and young ones who are underserved within public health care services and community mental health settings. SBHCs has played major role by increased care access to high-risk groups, such as those living in high-poverty environment, no health insurance, and ethnic challenge group. The efforts to promote hand-washing, hands sanitizing and good hygiene in the school to prevent the spread of communicable diseases are some of major goals of school health. Routine check up on nails, hair and personal hygiene is performed on a regular basis and consideration to protect the health of your children and other children whom they come in contact.

The study further showed that health education play key roles to curb the spread COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria. This could be as a result that staff in the school clinic provides professional and useful health education to learners on awareness of covid-19, uses of mask, proper hands washing, uses of hands sanitizer, effect of social distance, avoid touching surface object and cough to elbow during the *outbreak*

*of covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria.* Present of school clinic with qualified health personnel have the ability to promote effective education, regular attendance, prevent destructive behavior, and cultivate long lasting healthy knowledge, attitude and practices among learners. This study concurred with the study of Study conducted by Austrian K, Pinchoff J, Tidwell JB, White C, Abuya T, KangwanaB, et al. (2020) on COVID-19 related knowledge, attitudes, practices and needs of households in informal settlements in Nairobi, Kenya, a mobile phone was used survey. Participants were sampled from two study cohorts across five urban slums in Nairobi, Kenya. Findings showed that 2,009 individuals (63% female) participated. Knowledge of fever and cough as COVID-19 symptoms was high, but only 42% listed difficulty breathing. Most (83%) knew anyone could be infected; younger participants had lower perceived risk. High risk groups were correctly identified (the elderly - 64%; those with weak immune systems - 40%) however, 20% incorrectly stated children. Handwashing and using hand sanitizer were known prevention methods, though not having a personal water source (37%) and hand sanitizer being too expensive (53%) were barriers. Social distancing measures were challenging as 61% said this would risk income. Government TV ads and short message service (SMS) were the most common sources of COVID-19 information and considered trustworthy (by >95%) but were less likely to reach less educated households. **Conclusion** Government communication channels should continue with additional efforts to reach less educated households.

The study also disclosed that the school clinic improve teaching-learning process during COVID-19 pandemic outbreak in Nigeria, the availability of school clinic promote academic activities before, during and post infection outbreak through provision of preventive and protective service that promote learning during covid-19 pandemic, provides students with a safe and conducive learning environment. The study concurred with the study of Li et al (2020) carried out research in Washington with the purpose: Public health education for parents during the outbreak of COVID-19, out of 1,067 papers found, 24 cross-sectional studies with a total population of 35,967 participants were included in the study and the result showed that the general public lacked adequate knowledge of SARS and MERS at the early stage of epidemics. Some people's knowledge, attitude and practice



(KAP) of COVID-19 had been improved, but the health behaviors of some special groups including children and their parents need to be strengthened. Negative emotions including fear and stigmatization occurred during the outbreaks. Reliable health information was needed to improve public awareness and mental health for infectious diseases. Health information from nonprofit, government and academic websites was more accurate than privately owned commercial websites and media websites. Education Encyclopedia, (2012) proved that education process of young people have found the health risk behaviors which have negative impact on them in various ways such as: learning outcomes, graduation rates, performance on consistent tests and class grades, learning behaviors such as attendance, withdraw rate, failure rates, learning problem, and extent of contribution in school activities such as homework and extracurricular involvement; and students attitudes together with aspirations for post secondary school education, positive individual attitudes, and feelings in relation to safety at school. Center for Diseases Control (2009 & 2012) provided that a large diversity of research has established relationship between health and learning which are mutually reinforcing each other. In simple words, healthy students are better learners. Likewise strategies on educational reforms would not be efficient and effective until health barriers to education are address adequately. The present of school clinic with qualified health personnel boast the facility to promote effective teaching-learning process, regular attendance, prevent vicious actions, and promote extensive long-term healthy knowledge, attitude and practices among students. The practice of promoting health care services within the school premises was embraced by the World Health Organization (WHO) in line with the philosophy of Ottawa Charter of 1986 with assertion of "Health Promoting School" concept. WHO, (2012) explained further that a health promoting school is one that continuously strengthens its facility as a healthy setting for learning, working and living. In St Leger and Young, (2009) opinion, based on this global scheme, it was seen as the most positive approach in achieving both standard and quality education as well as health outcomes, this educated and guided in the development of the Nigerian National School Health Policy in the year 2006.

### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Based on the finding of this study, the resumption of face-to-face teaching activities should be seen as an opportunity to rethink and, redesign the teaching and

learning processes, taking advantage of the school clinic to strengthen health care system within the school community and paying special attention to equity and inclusion for reopening of schools. The need for school clinic during an outbreak of covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria was high to combat the spreading of communicable diseases such as COVID-19 within the school community, and inculcate roles of school nurse to school health. Also, the school clinic curbed the spread COVID-19 pandemic because it increasing access to health care need, provision of health information, provision of good medical counseling service, create safer school environment, referral system, good access to health education, and provision of psychotherapy

Base on the outcomes of the findings analyzed and conclusion reached in the study, the follow recommendations were made: The study recommended that each school should have school clinic with registered nurse, mental health and health education should part of service deliver by the school nurse, Government should ensure establishment of school clinic in all government school both in rural and urban area and government should ensure regulation standard of school clinic.

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**Citation:** OLOWOLAFE Abiodun Samuel, OYEBADE Omolade Oluwaseun et al. *Assessing the Need for School Clinic During an Outbreak of Covid-19 Pandemic in Nigeria. Open Access Journal of Nursing. 2020; 3(2): 08-18.*

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