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Influence of Covid-19 Pandemic Disease on Educational Scheme as Express by Undergraduates

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ABSTRACT

The Covid-19 pandemic disease has modified the education system in Nigeria to distance learning using online platforms to stop and reduce the chain of distribution of coronavirus which highly contagious disease among students. This study objectives are to investigate whether Covid-19 pandemic result to; (1) change in university academic calendar, (2) difficulty in coping with online class, (3) inability to concentrate with online education tools. The population of the study comprised all undergraduates in the Faculty of Education, University of Ilorin, Nigeria. The study adopted a descriptive research design of survey type which involved the use of three-stages sampling techniques to choose two hundred and fifty-seven undergraduates from the five selected departments out of nine departments in the study area. The researcher developed a questionnaire validated by three experts in the related field was used as an instrument for the study. The findings of the study indicated that the Covid-19 pandemic disease has influence on changes in University academic calendar, has influence on the difficulty in coping with online class and also, has influence on inability to concentrate with online educational tools among Undergraduates. The researcher recommends among others that the lecturers should use appropriate techniques and teaching aids that will make online lessons interesting for learners.

INTRODUCTION

At present, the Covid-19 virus has spread throughout the world. This virus was identified in Wuhan, China, in early January 2020 after cell culture and particle isolation (Lee & Hsueh, 2020; Zhu et al., 2020; Lutfi & Novri, 2020), but the aetiology is unknown. Many victims in various parts of the world have been positive and died due to contracting this Covid-19. On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced that this outbreak had constituted a public health emergency of international concern. The novel coronavirus was initially named 2019-nCoV and is official as severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).

As of February 26, COVID- 19 has been recognized in 34 countries, with a total of 80,239 laboratory-confirmed cases and 2,700 deaths (WHO, 2020). Globally, during the week of 7 to 13 February 2022, the number of new COVID-19 cases decreased by 19% as compared to the number reported during the previous week, while the number of new deaths remained similar to that of the previous week. Across the six WHO regions, just over 16 million new cases and just under 75 000 new deaths were reported. As of 13 February 2022, over 409 million confirmed cases and over 5.8 million deaths have been reported globally. At the regional level, the Western Pacific Region reported an increase of 19% in the number of new weekly cases while all other regions reported decreases: the South-East Asia Region (37% decrease), the Region of the Americas (32% decrease), the African Region (30% decrease), the European Region (16% decrease) and

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