

Review of: "Correlates of Nicotine Dependence Among Current Cigarette Smokers in Nigeria"

Ming-Chou Ho¹

¹ Chung Shan Medical University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The research titled "Correlates of Nicotine Dependence Among Current Cigarette Smokers in Nigeria" investigated the influences contributing to nicotine dependence among habitual cigarette smokers in the region. The study hypothesized that specific demographic and behavioral factors—namely age, gender, and perceptions of smoking harm—are linked to increased nicotine dependence levels.

To examine this hypothesis, researchers conducted a cross-sectional survey at the Smoking Cessation Clinic in the Preventive Dentistry clinic of Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, focusing on adult cigarette smokers. Nicotine dependence levels were measured using the Fagerström Test for Nicotine Dependence (FTND), with factors such as demographics, perceived smoking harm, binge alcohol consumption, and mental distress (via internalizing and externalizing symptoms) serving as independent variables.

Findings revealed that older age, being male, and having diminished perceptions of smoking risks significantly correlated with moderate to severe nicotine dependence. Specifically, males and individuals with less concern about the dangers of smoking were more likely to exhibit higher levels of dependence. These results support the initial hypothesis that demographic and perceptual variables are significant predictors of nicotine dependence among smokers.

In summary, the study confirms the proposed hypothesis and provides valuable insights into the factors that contribute to nicotine dependence in Nigeria, which could guide more effective smoking cessation strategies aimed at high-risk demographic groups.

1. There may be an over-reliance on older studies, with insufficient citation of recent research that could provide updated insights or newer methodologies relevant to the study of nicotine dependence.
2. This study does not provide further specific information regarding the calculation of sample size and the statistical power. Please provide this information.
3. The use of a single Smoking Cessation Clinic for participant recruitment may not provide a sample representative of the broader population of smokers in Nigeria, potentially limiting the generalizability of the findings.
4. Limitations of the cross-sectional design: Since this is a cross-sectional study, it can only capture data at a single point in time and cannot assess causal relationships, only associations between variables. This means that we cannot determine whether smoking leads to high nicotine dependence or if high nicotine dependence influences smoking behavior.

