



# Cultural Barriers and Behavioural Shifts in Urban Youth Vaccine Acceptance Post-COVID-19: Lagos, Nigeria's Experience

Olakunle Adekanye<sup>1,2</sup>, Femi Oladipo<sup>2</sup>, Bamidele Ogunmola<sup>1,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Babcock University

<sup>2</sup> University of Lagos

<sup>3</sup> Department of Advanced Studies, University of Lagos

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**Correspondence:** [oadekanye@gmail.com](mailto:oadekanye@gmail.com)

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## Author notes

*Olakunle Adekanye is affiliated with Babcock University and focuses on Law research in Africa.*

*Femi Oladipo is affiliated with University of Lagos and focuses on Law research in Africa.*

*Bamidele Ogunmola is affiliated with Babcock University and focuses on Law research in Africa.*

## Abstract

Urban youth in Lagos, Nigeria have shown varying levels of acceptance towards Covid-19 vaccines due to cultural and behavioural factors. A mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with a structured questionnaire among 200 urban youth participants aged 18-35, supplemented by focus group discussions. Urban youths in Lagos presented significant concerns about vaccine efficacy and side effects (46%), while 37% were undecided due to misinformation. Cultural norms also played a role with 29% citing traditional beliefs as a deterrent. The acceptance rate of vaccines among urban youth was significantly lower than the general population, highlighting the importance of addressing cultural barriers and improving vaccine education. Develop culturally sensitive communication strategies that address misinformation and integrate community leaders into health promotion campaigns.

**Keywords:** *African Geography, Urban Sociology, Behavioural Economics, Cultural Anthropology, Vaccine Hesitancy, Qualitative Research, Social Norms*

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