

Poultry vaccines and vaccination practices among farmers in Wukari, Taraba State Nigeria

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Abstract

Poultry enterprise is increasingly gaining viability owing to successful preventive measures of vaccination protocols for various diseases of economic importance. A cross-sectional study involving 45 poultry farms across the 6 wards in Wukari, local government area, Taraba State Nigeria; were surveyed to determine the vaccination practices and the vaccines used by poultry farmers. Purposive sampling was employed by Interviewer administered structured questionnaires in the course of the study. Fisher's exact test was used to test for association between categorical variables. A total of 8 (17.8%), 3 (6.7%), 3 (6.7%), 8 (17.8%), 6 (13.3%) and 17 (37.8%) farms were visited in Avyi, Bantaje, Chonku, Hospital, Jibu and Puje wards respectively. The 45 respondents were 57.8% male and 42.2% female farmers. A total of 26.7%, 40% and 33.3% fell within the age categories; 19-29 years, 30-39 years and ≥ 40 years respectively. Majority of the respondents never administered Marek's (82.2%), LaSota (51.1%), Komarov (75.6%), fowl cholera (75.6%) fowl typhoid (73.3%) and coccidiosis (68.9%) vaccines. Only 42.2% of the respondents had vaccination records while 51.1% had vaccination schedules. There was a significant association between disease outbreak and the use of infectious bursal disease, fowl typhoid, fowlpox and coccidiosis vaccines respectively. The association between the handling of vaccines and disease outbreaks were significant ($p < 0.05$) for Marek's, infectious bursal disease, fowl typhoid and coccidiosis. The result of the association between vaccine administration against vaccine failures was significantly different ($p < 0.05$) in all vaccines used. In conclusion, poultry farmers in Wukari are aware of routine vaccinations although a majority of them do not administer the vaccines and the few that use these vaccines have poor record and storage practices.

Biography

Gbeminiyi R Otolorin is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and holds a Master of Science degree in Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine. He is a Prolific Researcher currently lecturing at the Department of Veterinary Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria where he mentors young undergraduate veterinary medical students. His interests include viral, bacterial and parasitic zoonoses, environmental health, neglected tropical diseases, emerging and re-emerging zoonosis and human-animal disease interface. He has numerous academic publications to his credit and has mentored young veterinarians in agricultural business, entrepreneur and self-empowerment.

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