

COVID-19 Hesitancy and Vaccine Attitudes among African American and Nigerian College Students

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Abstract

This cross-sectional study examined COVID-19 attitudes and vaccine hesitancy among African American and Nigerian college students ($N = 189$). African American and Nigerian college students were sampled from regional universities within the United States and Nigeria. Participants completed the World Health Organization (WHO) Vaccine Hesitancy Scale (VHS; 2014) and sociodemographic questions to assess attitudes, primarily vaccination hesitancy, toward COVID-19 vaccination. Independent t tests revealed no significant differences between the nationalities and any hesitancy in taking the COVID-19 vaccine ($t(167) = .334$, $p = .739$). However, there was a significant effect for trust in the COVID-19 vaccine ($t(174) = -3.42$, $p = <.001$), with American students ($M = 0.59$; $SD = 0.50$) showing more trust than Nigerian students ($M = 0.34$; $SD = 0.48$). In addition, there was a significant effect for the overall general support of vaccines, $t(176) = 2.43$ $p = .016$, with Nigerian students ($M = 0.86$; $SD = 0.35$) showing more favor than American students ($M = 0.71$; $SD = 0.46$). Additional analyses associated with the cross-cultural comparisons were conducted and discussed.

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