NEWCASTLE DISEASE VIRUS DETECTION IN VACCINATED AND UNVACCINATED LOCAL BIRDS IN ABEOKUTA

Oni, O.O., Otesile, E.B., Oyekunle, M.A., Adebowale, O.O., Kehinde, O.O. and OJO, E.O.

Department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta,
Department of Microbiology and Parasitology, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta,
Department of Veterinary Public Health and Reproduction, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria
Correspondence: Email: *writewole@Yahoo.com*, *Tel: +234-8033506443*

ABSTRACT

Detection of Newcastle disease virus was carried out using the antigen rapid test kit (Antigen R Animal genetics, Inc. Korea) in *vaccinated* and unvaccinated local chickens, ducks and ducklings of varying age's 2-52weeks. These comprised of adult *vaccinated* local chickens (32) and unvaccinated adult local chickens (24), ducks (8) and ducklings (3). Result showed one of the unvaccinated grower chickens and four (4) of the vaccinated adult local chickens were positive for Newcastle disease virus without clinical signs of the disease. None of the unvaccinated ducks and ducklings was *positive* for the virus. The virus strain infecting birds are *however varied* in the clinical signs they produce. A comprehensive study and characterization of virus strains infecting birds in Nigeria is hereby advised as Newcastle has a potential for *very* serious economic impact and international trade restriction -for poultry Industry. This coupled with Seroprevalence in unvaccinated bird population would give a reflection of endemicity of Newcastle disease in our environment.

Key Words: Newcastle disease virus, Vaccinated, Unvaccinated, Local birds.