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## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Length of Hospital Stay of COVID-19 Patients managed at the Lagos State Isolation Centres during the First Wave of the Pandemic

*Durée du Séjour à l'Hôpital des Patients COVID-19 Pris en Charge dans l'État de Lagos Centres d'Isolement Pendant la Première Vague de la Pandémie*

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#### ABSTRACT

**BACKGROUND:** Lagos State has the highest number of COVID-19 cases in Nigeria. We assessed the factors predicting the length of hospital stay of COVID-19 patients admitted in 15 isolation centres across the state.

**METHODS:** We reviewed the electronic medical records of all COVID-19 patients admitted and discharged between February 27, 2020, and September 30, 2020. Logistic and linear regressions were used to assess factors predicting the length of hospital stay.

**RESULTS:** A total of 3153 records were reviewed, of which 2623 (83.2%) met the inclusion criteria. The mean age of patients admitted was 40.5 (Sd 14.8) years. The age range was four days–97 years. A total of 1258 (48.0%) were symptomatic, while 2056 (78.4%) and 567 (21.6%) presented with mild and severe disease, respectively. Cough (22.0%), fever (17.3%) and breathlessness (12.3%) were the most common symptoms at presentation. Generally, the median length of hospital stay was 11 (IQR 9, 14) days. A total of 1609 (61.3%) had a prolonged length of hospital stay. The odds for prolonged hospital stay was higher among elderly patients (AOR 12.1 95%CI 7.6–19.4, p<0.001), male (AOR 1.2 95%CI 1.0–1.4, p=0.031) and patients with severe disease (AOR 1.3 95% CI 1.0–1.7, p=0.042). Age, hypertension and shortness of breath made the most significant contribution to predicting the length of hospital stay (P<0.05).

**CONCLUSION:** Age, gender, hypertension and breathlessness predicted the length of hospital stay. Proactive measures should be instituted in managing COVID-19 patients. **WAJM 2022; 39(3): 269–274.**

**Keywords:** COVID-19, clinical presentation, length of hospital stay, Lagos.

#### RÉSUMÉ

**CONTEXTE:** L'État de Lagos a le plus grand nombre de cas de COVID-19 au Nigeria. Nous avons évalué les facteurs prédisant la durée du séjour à l'hôpital des patients atteints de la COVID-19 admis en 15 centres d'isolement à travers l'État.

**MÉTHODES:** Nous avons examiné les dossiers médicaux électroniques de tous les Patients atteints de la COVID-19 admis et sortis de l'hôpital entre février 27, 2020 et 30 septembre 2020. Régressions logistiques et linéaire sont été utilisés pour évaluer les facteurs prédisant la durée de l'hôpital rester.

**RÉSULTATS:** Un total de 3153 dossiers ont été examinés, dont 2623 (83,2 %) répondaient aux critères d'inclusion. L'âge moyen des patients admis était de 40,5 ans (Sd 14,8). La gamme d'âge était de quatre jours–97 ans. Au total, 1258 (48,0 %) étaient symptomatiques, tandis qu'en 2056 (78,4 %) et 567 (21,6 %) ont présenté une maladie bénigne et grave, respectivement. Toux (22,0 %), fièvre (17,3 %) et essoufflement (12,3 %) étaient les symptômes les plus courants à la présentation. En général, la durée médiane du séjour à l'hôpital était de 11 (IQR 9, 14) Jours. Au total, 1609 (61,3 %) ont eu une durée prolongée d'hospitalisation rester. Les chances de séjour prolongé à l'hôpital étaient plus élevées chez patients âgés (AOR 12,1 IC à 95 % 7,6–19,4, p<0,001), hommes (AOR 1,2 IC à 95 % 1,0 à 1,4, p = 0,031) et patients atteints d'une maladie grave (AOR 1,3 IC à 95 % 1,0–1,7, p = 0,042). Âge, hypertension et l'essoufflement a apporté la contribution la plus significative à prédire la durée du séjour à l'hôpital (P<0,05).

**CONCLUSION:** Âge, sexe, hypertension et essoufflement prédit la durée du séjour à l'hôpital. Des mesures proactives devraient être institués dans la prise en charge des patients atteints de LA COVID-19. **WAJM 2022; 39(3): 269–274.**

**Mots-clés:** COVID-19, présentation clinique, durée de l'hôpital rester, Lagos.

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