

**WOMEN VULNERABILITY TO VESCO VAGINAL FISTULA AND
CONTRIBUTING INFLUENCES IN NORTHERN NIGERIA**

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ABSTRACT

This study investigated women vulnerability to Vesco Vaginal Fistula and contributing influences in Northern Nigeria: The research design used for this study was the descriptive research design of the survey type. Two hundred and fifty two Vesco Vaginal Fistula otherwise known as VVF patients selected through purposive sampling technique formed the sample for the study. The samples were taken from seven purposively selected centres in six different states in Northern Nigeria. The research instrument used in this study was a self-constructed instrument. Face and content validities of the instrument were ensured by the researchers and other experts in the field and the instrument is reliable to measure what it was supposed to measure. The inferential statistical technique used for data analysis in this study was mean and simple percentile, the result of the analysis revealed that all the cultural and psychosocial variables taken together significantly contributed to the causes of Vesco-Vaginal Fistula in Northern Nigeria. Based on the findings, it was recommended that hence it has been found out that the major cause of Vesco-Vaginal Fistula is obstructed labour' expectant mothers should not labour, too long before they decide to go to the hospitals / health Care Centres for delivery. Pregnant women should be at liberty to take decision to go to the hospital for delivery rather than waiting for their husbands to decide for them, women should equally embark on their journey to the hospital for delivery early enough to prevent prolonged labour and finally adequate and efficient means of transportation should be provided for pregnant women to get to the designated

Keywords: Health-seeking, treatment, consequences, Vesco-Vaginal Fistula, Northern Nigeria, cultural and psychosocial factors, VVFAIFI.