

# Socio-economic Determinants, Behavioural Risk Factors for Cardiovascular Diseases and Nutritional Anthropometry of Students of Public Tertiary Institutions in Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria.

**Akinbule Oluwafunke<sup>1\*</sup>, Ayoola Ayotunde<sup>1</sup>, Oladoyinbo Catherine<sup>1</sup>, Omidiran Adebukola<sup>2</sup> and Omonhinmin Imoetin<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, <sup>2</sup>Department of Food Science and Technology, Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta, PMB 2240

**Corresponding author\*:** olufunkeakinbule@gmail.com; opeyemiegr8king@gmail.com

## **ABSTRACT**

**Background:** Cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk is becoming common among younger age-groups and both socio-economic and behavioural risk factors play major role in CVDs development.

**Objective:** To assess socio-economic determinant, behavioural risk factors for CVDs and nutritional anthropometry of students in public tertiary institutions in Abeokuta.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional study was conducted on 350 respondents using stratified random sampling. Data on socio-economic and behavioural risk factors (smoking, alcohol consumption and physical activity status) were collected using a semi-structured questionnaire. Dietary habit was assessed using a validated adapted questionnaire, nutritional anthropometry (body weight, height, waist and hip circumferences) were measured using standard procedures. Data were analysed for descriptive statistics. Chi-square and Pearson's correlation were used to test for association among variables using statistical package for social science, version 20.

**Results:** Only 4.9% respondents smoke, 40.9% consume alcohol, 65.5% engage in physical activity 90.3% skipped meal, 65.9% consumed carbonated beverages (CB) for >2 days/week, 28.6% snacked on fried and sweet foods for >2 days/week, 64.5% consumed fried foods for >2 days/week. Underweight and overweight were more prevalent in females (16.1% and 16.4%) than male (6.1% and 13.7%), while obesity was more prevalent in males (9.2%) than females (5.9%). Estimated monthly income was associated with dietary habit, consumption of CB and alcohol were associated with BMI, smoking and dietary habit were associated with abdominal obesity (AO).

**Conclusion:** Socio-economic and behavioural risk factors significantly contribute to overweight and obesity which are risk factors for CVDs and other non-communicable diseases.

**Keywords:** Diet, Lifestyle, Socio-Economic, Obesity

## **Introduction**

Diet related non-communicable chronic diseases are the single largest contributor to global deaths compared to other causes which is anticipated to continue to dominate mortality trends in the future [1, 2]. Major NCDs accounted for about 60% deaths and 43% morbidity globally. In 2016, cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) accounted for

31% global death and more than three-quarter of which occurred in developing countries [1].

The risk factors for developing cardiovascular diseases include: age, gender, unhealthy diet, smoking, alcohol consumption, physical inactivity, obesity (particularly abdominal

obesity), and genetics among others [3, 4]. However, many of these risk factors are modifiable i.e. they can be prevented or delayed by behavioural changes favouring a healthy diet and lifestyle. The rise in cardiovascular diseases is largely driven by these modifiable risk factors. Studies have revealed association between unhealthy diet and increased prevalence of cardiovascular diseases [5,6,7]. The nutrition transition experienced by many developing countries has greatly influenced their diet making, as a result, many developing countries population now consume diet high saturated fat, cholesterol, sodium, simple sugar and low in fruits and vegetable, which have been associated with overweight and obesity. These unhealthy dietary practices are accompanied by reduced physical activity, the combination of which may lead to increased body weight and hence predispose consumers to diet related non-communicable diseases [8,9].

In addition, alcohol consumption and tobacco use have greatly increased, especially among Nigerian adolescents and young adults. Most of them, especially students in tertiary institutions now consume alcohol and smoke frequently to keep themselves active, especially during examination period. The prevalence of pure alcohol consumption among Nigerian males is 12% with the consumption of about 10.1 liters of pure alcohol per person per year [7]. The prevalence of smoking any tobacco product among Nigerian men is 10% [7]. The world health organisation projects 10% reduction in alcohol consumption, 30% relative reduction in prevalence of current tobacco use, 10% relative reduction in prevalence of insufficient physical activity and halt the rise in obesity as part of the global targets for reduction and prevention of non-communicable diseases by 2025 [7, 8]. This suggests that smokers and high alcohol consumers may be at risk of cardiovascular diseases. Smoking was reported to be the second leading cause for cardiovascular mortality and a major risk factor for cardiovascular diseases [9, 10, 11]. Findings from previous studies have shown that CVDs results from interrelationship between multiple factors such as: genetic, socio-demographic and economic factors [12, 13]. Efforts to tackle the problem of NCDs should involve combination of these factors.

Nutritional anthropometry has been shown to be strong predictors for development of

cardiovascular diseases. Overweight, Obesity and particularly abdominal obesity have been strongly implicated in the development of cardiovascular diseases [14, 15]. Body mass index is one of the strong predictors of overweight and general obesity [16, 17]. However, waist-hip ratio (WHR) and waist circumference, predict the risk of serious adverse metabolic outcomes better than body mass index (BMI) [18]. Among the indices for assessing central obesity, WHR measures body fat distribution [19], because it integrates the adverse metabolic risk associated with increasing waist circumference with the more protective role of gluteal fat deposition [15, 20]. However, WHR may over or under-estimate risk in tall and short individuals with similar waist circumference. Another finding suggests waist-to-height ratio as a suitable index for assessing abdominal obesity, even in tall and short individuals with similar waist circumference [21, 22]. This was based on the argument that, waist and hip circumferences decreases with weight reduction and hence may give inappropriate ratios with reduction in weight of individuals [23, 24]. Several studies revealed that abdominal obesity have a superior role over BMI in predicting mortality and cardiovascular disease risks [22, 23]. Although, the WHO still recommends BMI as the universal criterion for determining obesity, with the additional use of waist circumference and waist-to-hip ratio [25]. Basically, efforts to prevent cardiovascular diseases should address all the various factors associated with it.

The risk of CVDs is becoming common, even among adolescents and young adults. Studies on the risk factors for cardiovascular conducted in this region are focused on adults, as such there is little information on the prevalence of the risk factors, particularly behavioural risk factors for developing cardiovascular diseases among adolescents and young adults in this region. Such information will promote the healthy dietary choices, increased physical activity, reduced alcohol consumption, as well as other behavioural factors that can be modified to prevent or reduce the prevalence of cardiovascular diseases, as well as mortality resulting from cardiovascular diseases among this population group. This study therefore assessed the socio-economic determinants, behavioural risk factors for cardiovascular diseases and nutritional anthropometry of adolescents and young adults attending public

tertiary institutions.

### **Materials and Methods**

A descriptive and cross-sectional study was carried out among 350 students in three public tertiary institutions (Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta; Moshood Abiola Polytechnic; and Federal College of Education, Osiele) in Abeokuta using a stratified random sampling technique. Data on personal and socio-economic characteristics and some behavioural risk factors (smoking, alcohol consumption and physical activity status) of respondents were collected using a structured questionnaire. Dietary habit was assessed using a validated dietary habit questionnaire, scored and classified as poor ( $\leq 54\%$ ), fair (55-69%), good (70-84%), excellent (85 – 100%) dietary habit while nutritional anthropometry: body weight, height, waist and hip circumferences were measured using standard procedures. Body mass index (BMI), waist-to-hip (WHR) and waist-to-height ratios (WHtR) were calculated as weight (kg) divided by height square (m), waist circumference (cm) divided by hip circumference (cm) and waist circumference (cm) divided by height (cm) respectively. BMI-for-age of respondents below twenty years of age was analysed using WHO anthroplus. Data was analysed for descriptive statistics. Chi-square and Pearson's correlation analysis was used to test for association among variables.

**Informed consents:** Respondents' consent was sought before data collection and respondents' information were kept confidential and used strictly for research purpose.

**Ethical approval:** Ethical approval for the study was obtained from the Institutional Review Board of the College of Food Science and Human Ecology, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta.

### **Results**

#### **Bio-data and Socio-Economic Characteristics of the respondents**

Table 1 shows the bio-data and the socio-economic status of undergraduates in tertiary institution in Abeokuta. Most (62.9%) of the respondents were female and within the age-range of 20-24 years. About 44.9% were students of Moshood Abiola Polytechnic Abeokuta, 38% were students of Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta while 17.1% were students of Federal College of Education, Abeokuta. About half (48.9%) of the respondents' fathers were public servants while 44.9% of their mothers were teachers, 38% fathers and 29.4% mothers completed secondary education while 42% fathers and 32.9% mothers completed tertiary education. In addition, majority (76.6%) of the undergraduates got finances from their parent with majority (90.3%) of the parents earning above the minimum wage monthly.

**Table 1: Bio-data and Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Undergraduates**

Variables	F	%	Variables	F	%
<b>Sex</b>			<b>Marital status</b>		
Female	219	62.6	Single	323	92.3
Male	131	37.4	Married	27	7.7
<b>Age range</b>			<b>Institution</b>		
15-19 years	38	10.9	FUNAAB	133	38
20-24 years	230	65.7	FCE	60	17.1
25-29 years	80	22.9	MAPOLY	157	44.9
<b>Father's educational level</b>			<b>Father's occupation</b>		
No formal education	6	1.8	Trading	66	18.9
Primary education	57	16.3	Farming	19	5.4
Secondary education	143	40	Public servant	171	48.9
Tertiary education	147	42	Artisan	54	15.4
			Jobless	40	11.5
<b>Mother's educational level</b>			<b>Mother's occupation</b>		
No formal education			Trading	157	44.9
Primary education	8	2.3	Teaching	68	19.4
Secondary education	96	27.4	public service	101	28.9
Tertiary education	131	37.4	Full housewife	15	4.3
	115	32.9	Others	9	2.6
<b>Major income source</b>			<b>Father's estimated monthly income</b>		
Self			<₦20000	34	9.7
Parent	49	14	₦ 20,000- ₦ 50,000	89	25.4
Spouse	268	76.6	₦ 50,001- ₦ 100,000	82	23.4
Others	32	9.1	>₦ 100,000	145	41.4
	1	0.3			
<b>Estimated monthly stipend</b>			<b>Mother's estimated monthly income</b>		
<₦5000			<₦20000	34	9.7
₦ 5,000- ₦ 10,000			₦ 20,000- ₦ 50,000	113	32.3
₦ 10,001- ₦ 20,000	59	16.9	₦ 51,001- ₦ 100,000	88	25.1
>₦ 20,000	141	40.3	>₦ 100,000	115	32.9
Total	111	31.7			
	39	11.2			

\***FUNAAB**- Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, \***FCE**- Federal College of Education, Osiele, **MAPOLY**-Moshood Abiola Polytechnic, Abeokuta

### Behavioural risk factors for cardiovascular diseases among respondents

Table 2 shows the behavioural risk factors for cardiovascular diseases among respondents. Majority (95.1%) of the respondents did not smoke but 40.9% drinks alcohol. Among the smokers, almost half (47.1%) smokes two sticks of cigarette per day and a quarter smokes three sticks of cigarette per day. Also, among the alcohol drinkers, about 18.3% drink alcohol at least three times/day and 15.2% drink at least three bottles of alcohol/day. About 65.1%

engaged in physical activity with 70.2% of them engaging in physical activity for at least 30 minutes a day. Also, only 3.1% and 12.9% had excellent and good dietary habit. About 68.8% respondents skipped meal for at least 3 days/week with 11.1% skipping breakfast. Snacking was also prevalent among respondents with 28.6% snacked on sweet foods and 68.6% snacked on carbohydrate-based meal for at least 3 days/week. In addition, about 74.5% consumes fast food for at least 3 days/week.

**Table 2: Behavioural risk factors for cardiovascular diseases among respondents (n=350)**

Variables	F	%	Variables	F	%
<b>Smoking status</b>			<b>Frequency of consuming carbonated beverages</b>		
Current Smokers			None	35	10.0
Non-smokers	17	4.9	1-2 days	84	24.0
	333	95.1	3-4 days	153	43.7
<b>Frequency of smoking</b>			5-7 days	78	22.3
Once	7	2	<b>Frequency of Fast food consumption</b>		
Twice	10	2.9	None	37	10.6
Never	333	95.2	1-2 days	87	24.9
<b>Number of sticks of cigarette smoked per day (n=17)</b>			3-4 days	173	49.4
One	5	29.4	5-7 days	53	15.1
Two	8	47.1	<b>Frequency of snacking on fried and sweet foods</b>		
Three	4	23.5	None	31	8.9
<b>Alcohol consumption status</b>			1-2 days	219	62.6
Current consumers	143	40.9	3-4 days	79	22.6
Non-consumers	207	59.1	5-7 days	21	6.0
<b>Type of alcohol (n=350)</b>			<b>Frequency of snacking on carbohydrate-based meal</b>		
None	207	59.1	None	17	4.9
Beer	50	14.3	1-2 days	93	26.6
Alcoholic wine	34	9.7	3-4 days	112	32.0
Spirit	4	1.2	5-7 days	128	36.6
Herbal mixtures	56	15.7	<b>Frequency of alcohol intake per day (n=143)</b>		
<b>Dietary habit score</b>			Once	60	41.9
Poor	53	15.1	Twice	19	13.3
Fair	241	68.9	Thrice or more	64	44.8
Good	45	12.9	<b>Bottles of alcohol consumed per day (n=350)</b>		
Excellent	11	3.1	None	29	8.3
<b>Meal skipping (n=350)</b>			One	54	15.4
Yes	316	90.3	Two		
No	34	9.7	Three or more	228	65.1
<b>Frequency of Meal skipping</b>			<b>Do you Exercise?</b>		
Not at all	34	9.7	Yes	122	34.8
1-2 days	75	21.4	No	68	29.8
3-4 days	83	23.7	<b>Duration of exercise per day (n=288)</b>		
5-7 days	158	45.1	<30 minutes	26	11.4
	39	11.1	30 minutes		
<b>Frequency of eating breakfast</b>			60 minutes		
None	116	33.1	>60 minutes		
1-2 days	73	20.9			
3-4 days	122	34.9			
5-7 days					

### **Nutritional anthropometry of the respondents**

Table 3 shows the nutritional anthropometry of the respondents. The median weight of respondents were 60.30kg (Male) and 57.20kg (female), median height was 160.00cm (male) and 163.00cm (female), median BMI was 22.94kg/m<sup>2</sup> (male) and 22.07 kg/m<sup>2</sup> (female), median waist circumference was 76.00cm (male) and 74.00cm (female), median hip circumference was 86.20cm (male) and 88.10cm (female), median waist to hip ratio was 0.87 (male) and (0.85) while the median waist to height ratio was 0.40 (male) and 0.45 (female). About 6.1% and 16.1% of the male and female respondents were underweight, 13.7% and 16.4% respondents were overweight while 9.2% and 5.9% respondents had general obesity. Also, 1.5% and 14.3% male and female respondents had high waist circumference, while 1.5% and 10.0% male and female respondents had very high waist circumference. The prevalence of abdominal obesity was 27.5% and 26.9% among the male and female respondents. About 69.4% females were at increased disease risk, 9.9% males and 12.7% females were at high disease risk and only 1.0% female had extremely high disease risk.

### **Association of socio-economic characteristics and behavioural risk factors for cardiovascular diseases.**

Table 4 shows the association between socio-economic and behavioural risk factors for cardiovascular diseases among respondents. Gender and marital status had significant association with alcohol drinking status ( $p=0.00$ ;  $0.00$ ). Age had significant association with consumption of carbonated beverages (CBs) ( $p=0.00$ ), alcohol consumption status ( $p=0.00$ ), physical activity ( $p=0.04$ ) and dietary habit score ( $p=0.00$ ). Father and mother's educational level had significant association with respondents' consumption of CBs, ( $p=0.03$ ,  $0.00$ ), alcohol consumption status ( $p=0.00$ ,  $0.02$ ) and dietary habit ( $p=0.03$ ,  $0.00$ ). Also, father and mother's estimated monthly income had significant association with respondent's alcohol consumption status ( $p=0.00$ ,  $0.00$ ) and physical activity status ( $p=0.00$ ,  $0.04$ ). In addition, there is significant relationship between consumption of CBs and body mass index ( $p=0.02$ ), tobacco smoking status and waist circumference ( $p=0.00$ ) and abdominal obesity ( $p=0.03$ ). Also, frequency and alcohol drinking status a significant correlation with BMI ( $p=0.00$ ,  $p=0.00$ ). Number

of bottles of alcohol consumed had significant association with BMI ( $p=0.02$ ) but not with WC ( $p=0.96$ ) and abdominal obesity ( $p=0.29$ ). WC and abdominal obesity had significant relationship with dietary habit of the respondents ( $p=0.02$  and  $0.04$  respectively).

### **Discussion**

This study assessed the behavioural risk factors of cardiovascular diseases among students in tertiary institutions in Abeokuta. This study revealed that most of the respondents were female and within the age-range of 20-24 years. Also, most of the respondents' parents were public servants and earned well above the minimum wage monthly. Majority of the undergraduates got finances from their parent and almost half of them had estimated monthly stipend above ten thousand naira.

The prevalence of smoking was low in this study; however, alcohol consumption prevalence was high with about a quarter consuming alcohol once daily and about one-fifth consuming alcohol three times or more daily (Table 2). Smoking and alcohol consumption have been associated with the risk of developing several non-communicable diseases including: cardiovascular diseases, cardiometric diseases, coronary heart diseases among others [11], as well as increased mortality and disability adjusted life years [7]. Quantity of tobacco smoked, quantity of alcohol consumed have also been associated with increased risk of developing cardiovascular diseases and death from cardiovascular diseases [7].

Among the respondents who smokes, about one-quarter smoke one stick of cigarette per day, almost half of them smoke two cigarettes per day and a quarter smoke three cigarettes per day. Also, about one-third of the respondents consumes at least one bottle of alcohol per day (Table 2). Physical inactivity, inadequate physical activity as well as poor dietary habit may lead to obesity and increase the risk of hypertension and other cardiovascular diseases [7, 26, 27, 28]. In this study, about one-third of the respondents do not engage in physical activity. Among the respondents who engaged in physical activity almost one-third engaged in physical activity for less than thirty minutes. Also, about two-third of the respondents had a fair dietary habit, about one-tenth had poor dietary habit and only one-tenth had good dietary habit (Table 2). Respondents in this study may be at increased risk of obesity and hypertension which are risk factors

**Table 3: Nutritional anthropometry of the respondents**

Variables	Male Median $\pm$ S.E	Female Median $\pm$ S.E	Total Median $\pm$ S.E	Variables	Male F (%)	Female F (%)	Total F (%)
Weight (kg)	60.30 $\pm$ 0.77	57.20 $\pm$ 0.58	59.30 $\pm$ 0.48	<b>Body mass index</b>			
				Underweight	8 (6.1)	35 (16.1)	43 (12.3)
				Healthy weight	93 (71.0)	135 (61.6)	228 (65.0)
				Overweight	18 (13.7)	36 (16.4)	54 (15.4)
				General obese	12 (9.2)	13 (5.9)	25 (7.3)
				Total	131 (100)	219 (100)	350 (100)
Height (cm)	160.00 $\pm$ 0.60	163.00 $\pm$ 3.36	1.63 $\pm$ 0.28	<b>Waist circumference</b>			
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	22.94 $\pm$ 0.32	22.07 $\pm$ 0.35	22.60 $\pm$ 0.30	Low	129 (98.5)	197 (90.0)	326 (93.1)
				High	2 (1.5)	22 (10.0)	24 (6.9)
				Total	131 (100)	219 (100)	350 (100)
WC (cm)	76.00 $\pm$ 0.62	74.00 $\pm$ 4.94	75.05 $\pm$ 0.46	<b>Abdominal Obesity</b>			
HC (cm)	86.20 $\pm$ 0.54	88.10 $\pm$ 0.67	88.10 $\pm$ 0.46	Yes	36 (27.5)	59 (26.9)	95 (27.1)
WHR	0.87 $\pm$ 0.05	0.85 $\pm$ 0.60	0.85 $\pm$ 0.00	No	95 (72.5)	160 (73.1)	255 (72.9)
WHtR	0.46 $\pm$ 0.00	0.45 $\pm$ 0.03	0.46 $\pm$ 0.02	Total	131 (100)	219 (100)	350 (100)
				<b>Disease risk classification</b>			
				No risk	100 (76.3)	37 (16.8)	137
				Increased risk	18 (13.7)	152 (69.4)	170
				High risk	13 (9.9)	28 (12.7)	41
				Very high risk	0.0 (0.0)	2 (1.0)	2
				Extremely high risk	0.0 (0.0)	0.0 (0.0)	0
				Total	131 (100)	219 (100)	350 (100)

S.E – standard error



**Table 4: Association of socio-economic characteristics and behavioural risk factors for cardiovascular diseases among respondents**

Variables	Consumption of CBs		Smoking		Alcohol drinking status		Physical activity		Dietary habit score		BMI/BMI -for- age R (p-value)	Abdominal obesity R (p-value)
	$\chi^2$	p-value	$\chi^2$	p-value	$\chi^2$	p-value	$\chi^2$	p-value	$\chi^2$	p-value		
Gender	0.00	0.99	1.28	0.26	17.94	0.00*	4.43	0.11	7.72	0.05	0.11 (0.02)*	0.06 (0.15)
Age	18.98	0.00*	4.87	0.18	20.69	0.00*	13.53	0.04*	30.84	0.00*	0.06 (0.15)	1.33 (0.03)*
Marital status	0.83	0.36	0.31	0.58	13.21	0.00*	0.41	0.81	6.91	0.75	0.01 (0.70)	-0.23 (0.59)
monthly stipend	2.55	0.86	7.62	0.27	13.78	0.32	27.63	0.01	32.43	0.02*	-0.16 (0.00)*	-0.01 (0.76)
Father's education	14.05	0.03*	4.40	0.62	45.80	0.00*	15.28	0.23	31.55	0.03*	-0.14 (0.00)*	-0.05 (0.29)
Mother's education	32.96	0.00*	10.61	0.10	23.47	0.02*	18.63	0.10	43.49	0.00*	0.10 (0.02)*	0.00 (0.96)
Father's occupation	1.96	0.92	8.68	0.19	43.99	0.00*	23.06	0.03*	17.61	0.48	-0.01 (0.75)	-0.02 (0.70)
Mother's occupation	13.71	0.00*	40.10	0.00*	25.81	0.00*	19.40	0.01*	22.37	0.03*	0.03 (0.49)	-0.02 (0.60)
Father's estimated monthly income	2.20	0.90	4.94	0.55	41.10	0.00*	29.45	0.00*	23.96	0.16	-0.05 (0.27)	-0.09 (0.04)*
Mother's estimated monthly income	6.77	0.24	2.07	0.84	26.84	0.00*	18.47	0.04*	42.95	0.00*		
Major source of income	2.87	0.41	0.55	0.91	37.75	0.00*	25.09	0.00*	4.52	0.87		
Consumption of CBs												
Tobacco smoking												
No. of sticks smoked												
Alcohol consumption												
Frequency of alcohol drank												
No. of bottles drank												
Physical activity												
Minutes of physical activity												
Dietary habit												

$\chi^2$  – Chi-Square value, R – Correlation coefficient; CBs – carbonated beverages



for many cardiovascular diseases.

In this study, the prevalence of underweight in female is almost thrice that of male respondents (Table 3). Previous findings have reported similar findings owing to the fact that females are more conscious of their preventing increased body weight because of the desire to maintain thinner figure, keep fit and anxiety of becoming overweight. As a result, they tend to engage in dieting activities than their male counterpart [29].

Interestingly, overweight is also predominantly higher in female than male respondents. This finding is in contrast with previous findings where overweight was reported to be higher in male than female university students [30, 31]. On the contrary, general obesity was predominantly higher in male than female respondents (Table 3). This is similar to the findings of Arroyo et al [30] but contradicts the findings of Olusanya and Omotayo, [31]. The prevalence of abdominal obesity is quite high and almost the same in both male and female respondents (Table 3). Abdominal obesity has been implicated in the development of cardiovascular diseases [32, 33]. This suggests that the respondents in this study may be at risk of cardiovascular diseases.

Although, the World Health Organisation recommends the use of body mass index with the additional use of waist circumference to determine general obesity [25]. However, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Obesity Education Initiative Expert Panel [34] recommends that waist circumference should be used to classify overweight and obesity, estimate risk for disease, and identify treatment options in adults aged 18 years and older. This was based on the fact that individuals may have a healthy body weight and high waist circumference which puts the person at increased disease risk. Among the respondents who participated in this study, about ten percent male and two-third females had increased risk of disease, about ten percent males and females had high risk of disease, only few females had extremely high risk of disease while more than two-third males and about sixteen percent females had no disease risk. This imply that some respondents who had normal weight had high waist circumference which puts them at higher risk of diseases (Table 3).

Authors have revealed that income, educational level and age have significant impact on health

[35] and lifestyle behaviours and hence pose the risk of developing obesity [36]. In this present study, association between socio-economic and behavioural risk factors for cardiovascular diseases among respondents. Findings from this study revealed significant association between gender and alcohol consumption status of the respondents. Also, increase in age significantly increased respondents' consumption of CBs, alcohol, physical activity and dietary habit score. Also, marital status had significant association with respondents' alcohol consumption status. Respondents' estimated monthly income had significant association with dietary habit score. This suggests that alcohol consumption is predominant in males than their female counterparts and as respondents increase in age, they increase their CBs and alcohol consumption, become more physically inactive and tend to poor dietary habit. Also, as respondents' income increases, they tend to a poorer dietary habit (Table 4).

In addition, Father and mother's educational level had significant association with respondents' consumption of CBs, alcohol consumption status and dietary habit score. Father and mother's occupation had significant association with respondents' alcohol consumption status ( $p=0.00, 0.00$ ), physical activity while only mothers' occupation had significant association with respondents' consumption of CBs, smoking status and dietary habit score. Also, father and mother's estimated monthly income had significant association with respondent's alcohol consumption status and physical activity status, only mother's estimated monthly income had significant association with respondents' dietary habit. In addition, respondents' major source of income had significant association with respondents' alcohol and physical activity status. This suggests that the more learned respondents' parents are, the more the reduction in consumption of CBs, alcohol consumption and poor dietary habit and parents' occupation also play important role in respondents' alcohol consumption status and physical activity and mothers' occupation influences respondents' consumption of CBs, smoking status and dietary habit. Furthermore, parents' income influences respondents' alcohol consumption and physical activity while mother's income influences respondents' dietary habit. Findings from this study also imply that respondents who gets their major income from their parents had higher

alcohol consumption status and physical inactivity (Table 4).

The relationship between behavioural risk factors for cardiovascular diseases risk and nutritional anthropometry were evaluated in this study. There is positive correlation and significant relationship between consumption of CBs and body mass index, tobacco smoking status and waist circumference as well as abdominal obesity. However, a negative correlation although not significant was observed among number of sticks of tobacco smoked, waist circumference, and abdominal obesity. This imply that increase in CBs consumption significantly increase respondents' body mass index, while increase in tobacco smoking increased respondent's chances of having abdominal obesity. Conversely as respondents increased number of sticks of cigarette smoked, their chances of abdominal obesity reduce (Table 4). Previous finding suggests that unhealthy diet, excess alcohol consumption, smoking and physical inactivity significantly raised cardiovascular disease risk [3, 10, 11]. Keto et al [11] reported no clinically significant difference among smokers and non-smokers with regards to risk for cardiovascular diseases, however, smokers had significantly higher blood pressure, blood glucose level and total cholesterol levels than non-smokers. Also, a study conducted revealed inverse association between physical activity, moderate alcohol consumption and type 2 diabetes while smoking was positively associated with type 2 diabetes [9]. This imply that smoking, alcohol consumption and physical inactivity, as well as unhealthy dietary lifestyle may predispose respondents to non-communicable diseases, particularly cardiovascular disease.

Also, increase in frequency of alcohol and alcohol consumption had significant negative correlation on BMI, but does not significantly influence waist circumference and abdominal obesity of respondents. This suggests that alcohol consumption may have positive influence on body fat. Also, number of bottles of alcohol consumed had significant relationship with body mass index of respondents while increase in physical activity had negative correlation with respondents BMI, WC and abdominal obesity, although not significantly. This suggests that increased physical activity may have positive impact on respondents' body weight and abdominal obesity. In addition, there was negative

correlation between dietary habit, body mass index, WC and abdominal obesity, however, only WC and abdominal obesity had significant relationship with dietary habit of the respondents (Table 4). This agrees with the previous findings of where there was association between unhealthy diet, smoking, alcohol consumption and physical activity and obesity [37, 38, 39]. This suggests consumption of diets that increases respondents' body weight and body fat which may predispose them to the risk of cardiovascular diseases.

### Conclusion

Although, the prevalence of smoking and physical inactivity is low, however, there is high prevalence of alcohol drinking, poor dietary habit, increased frequency of alcohol drinking and number of sticks of cigarette smoked among respondents. Also, underweight, overweight and disease risk were predominantly higher in females than males but abdominal obesity is high in both male and female respondents. There is significant association and relationship among socio-economic and behavioural risk factors of the respondents.

### Recommendations

Behavioural lifestyle of respondents should be modified to ensure healthy lifestyle in order to reduce the risk of cardiovascular diseases among university students, particularly healthy dietary practices and reduction in number of bottles of alcohol consumed. Also, increase in physical activities for at least thirty minutes per day will promote reduction in respondents' body weight and abdominal obesity.

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