

# Investigation on the Storage Stability of Packaged Water Commonly Produced in Ilorin Metropolis, Kwara State, Nigeria

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## Research Article

**Keywords:** Sunlight, Ilorin, Health Risk, storage condition, Microbial Analysis

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1 **Investigation on the Storage Stability of Packaged Water Commonly Produced in Ilorin**  
2 **Metropolis, Kwara State, Nigeria**

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4

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10 **ABSTRACT**

11 This study investigated the effects of storage conditions on the physicochemical parameter, microbial  
12 loads and health risks assessment of randomly 30 selected sachet and bottle water brands (A, B and C)  
13 in Ilorin Metropolis. Random sampling procedures were used to collect samples from three different  
14 brands and subjected to three different storage conditions; immediately (initial), mild sunlight and intense  
15 sunlight condition. The heavy metals (Cr, Pb and Fe) investigated in this study were above the  
16 permissible limits (WHO, SON). The presence of TBC, TCC, FCC and TFC in all the water samples  
17 analyzed showed no effective quality control system. Incremental lifetime cancer risk (ILCR) assessment  
18 revealed a carcinogenic health risk to the populace drinking this water. It can be deduced from this study  
19 that water stored under sunlight for a long period of time is not good for human consumption and  
20 therefore adequate monitoring by the appropriate agencies are emphasized.

21

22 **Key Words:** Sunlight, Ilorin, Health Risk, storage condition, Microbial Analysis.

23  
24 **INTRODUCTION**

25

26  
27 Water is an essential liquid for human day to day activities which contain two atoms of hydrogen  
28 and one atom of oxygen. It is a basic need for human existence that is require to maintain personal  
29 hygiene, prevention of diseases and food production (Oparaocha et al. 2010; Edema et al. 2011;  
30 Adegoke et al. 2012). Water fall as rain and can be found in lakes and rivers which are the primary  
31 sources of fresh water for agriculture, human consumption, and industrial uses (Chapagain and  
32 Hoekstra 2007) Portable water is a source of water that is properly treated and free of contaminants  
33 such as heavy metals, microorganisms, nitrates, sulphates among others (Singh and Mosley 2003).  
34

35 Previous researchers have estimated that over 1.8 million people in most of the developing  
36 countries lack adequate good water supply as a result of increase in population (Oyelude and

37 Ahenkorah 2012; Akinde et al. 2011) and this pave way for packaged water as a fast-growing  
38 business in most developing countries which is very lucrative due to the rate at which consumers  
39 buy this packaged water (sachet and bottle). Sachet and bottle water can come from a variety of  
40 sources, including groundwater from a well, water from a protected spring, or water from a public  
41 water supply. However, there is a great risk associated with water produced in an unsafe and  
42 unhygienic environment (Tortora et al. 2002) and this often resulted into several health challenge  
43 s among children and infants especially water borne diseases like diarrhea, typhoid, cholera, hepa  
44 titis and dysentery among others (WHO 2011)

45  
46 Similarly, several researchers reported that the main source of problem associated with production  
47 of sachet and bottle water is the way of handling during the production process, storage for several  
48 weeks and contamination which can also be attributed to the use of pipe for a longer period  
49 (Tambeka et al. 2006; Kendall 2007). In most of the cities and towns in Nigeria, sachet and bottle  
50 water is often stored and exposed to direct sunlight without any knowledge on the effect of the  
51 quality of this packaged water on the populace buying it. However, there is need to investigate the  
52 effect of exposing both sachet and bottle water to sunlight under different conditions.

53  
54 The aim of this research is to determine the physicochemical, heavy metal concentrations and  
55 microbial quality and human health risk assessment of some sachet and bottle water sold within  
56 Ilorin city, Kwara state, Nigeria, and compared the results obtained from the analysis with Standard  
57 Organization of Nigeria (SON) and World Health Organization (WHO) permissible limits

## 58 59 **EXPERIMENTAL**

### 60 **Sample Collection and Preparation**

61 A 30 randomly selected sachet and bottle water of three different brands (A, B and C) were  
62 obtained from three factories in Ilorin, Kwara state. The samples from each brand were divided  
63 into three (3) groups which includes 1, 2 and 3. Group 1 samples were analyzed immediately  
64 (initial) after purchased from the factories. Group 2 samples were stored in a container and exposed  
65 to sunlight for six weeks (mild condition). While Group 3 were stored and exposed directly (intense  
66 condition) to the sunlight without a container for six weeks.

### 67 68 **Physicochemical Parameters**

69 The pH was measured using a pH meter Ino Lab Tech 7310 digital multimeter which give direct  
70 value of pH and it was calibrated with buffer solutions (pH 4 and 7). Thermometer was used to

71 measure the temperature of the water samples in-situ. Electrical conductivity (EC) and total  
72 dissolved solid (TDS) were determined by HANNA Digital multimeter and it was calibrated with  
73 potassium chloride solution. Alkalinity, hardness, chloride and calcium contents were determined  
74 titrimetrically. The concentration of magnesium contents was determined by subtracting the  
75 concentrations of calcium from total hardness. Sulphate contents were determined  
76 turbidimetrically and Nitrate contents were determined by Brucine method (APHA 2017).

77  
78 **Heavy Metals Determination**

79 50 mL of each water samples (sachet and bottle) were digested by aqua regia method of digestion  
80 using HNO<sub>3</sub>/HCl in 1:3 ratio and was later analyzed for presence of heavy metals (Chromium Cr,  
81 lead Pb and Iron Fe) in triplicates using Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer ((Buck Scientific  
82 Model 210 VGP, USA).

83  
84 **Microbiological Parameters**

85 Total bacteria count (TBC), Total coliform count (TCC), Faecal coliform count (FCC), and Total  
86 fungal count were also determined in each of the water samples using multiple tube fermentation  
87 and membrane filtration methods (APHA 1998).

88  
89 **Human health risk assessment**

90  
91 The association between the concentration of the toxic metals (Fe, Pb, and Cr) and their apparent  
92 risk to human health is generally appraised by the human health risk assessment models established  
93 by the USEPA (2004) (2009) (2011) and UNC (2011). This technique is accessible by means of  
94 the risk assessment information system (RAIS) (USEPA 2004) and the toxicological profiles  
95 presented by the United State Environmental Protection Agency’s Integrated Risk Information  
96 System (IRIS) (Orosun et al. 2020; Orosun 2021; USEPA 2007), in collaboration with the United  
97 State Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry – Toxicological profiles (ATSDR 2007).  
98 In this current research, the risk evaluation of the toxic elements (Cr, Pb and Fe) was initiated by  
99 primarily evaluating the chronic daily intake (CDI) of each of the metals through the possible  
100 exposure pathways (in this case, ingestion pathway).

101  
102 For the ingestion pathway of exposure, the chronic daily intake (CDI) (mg/L/day) was evaluated  
103 by the following equations set by USEPA (2001).

104 
$$ADI_{\text{ing-water}} = \frac{Cw \times IngRw \times EF \times ED}{BW \times AT} \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

105 Where  $C_w$  is the concentration of the given heavy metal in the sampled drinking waters. BW is  
106 bodyweight of the exposed person (70 kg), ED is the lifetime exposure period (average life  
107 expectancy of Nigerians is 55 year), EF is the exposure frequency (365 day/year), AT is the time  
108 period through which the dose is averaged (ED x 365 days) and  $IngR_w$  is the ingestion rate of the  
109 drinking waters (2 L/day).

110

### 111 **The Carcinogenic and Non-Carcinogenic Risk Assessment**

112 The calculated Chronic daily intake (CDI) in proportion to oral reference dose ( $RfD_{oral}$ ) of  
113 the selected heavy metals branded as target Hazard Quotient (HQ) (Orosun et al. 2020; USEPA  
114 2001), is generally utilized to highlight the severity of the non-carcinogenic risks. The formula is  
115 given by USEPA as;

116

$$117 \quad HQ = \frac{ADI}{RfD} \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

118 where CDI is the chronic daily intake of a given toxic constituent and RfD is the persistent  
119 reference dose for the element i.e. for the Cr, Fe and Pb, we have 3.0E-03, 9.0E-02, 3.5E-03 mg/L-  
120 day (USEPA 2001). If the  $HQ > 1$ , however, there is an increased probability of unfavorable health  
121 effects to the exposed populace. Conversely, if  $HQ < 1$  subsequently there is no possibility of  
122 negative health effects (Rinklebe et al. 2019).

123

124 The hazard index (HI) is the sum of the HQ calculated using equation (11) (Rinklebe et al.  
125 2019; USEPA 2001; Orosun 2021).

126

$$127 \quad HI = \sum HQ \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

128

129 According to the risk classification system assembled by International Agency for Research on  
130 Cancer (IARC) and WHO, among the heavy metals analyzed in this study, Pb and Cr were human  
131 carcinogens, and their carcinogenic slope factors are  $8.5 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $0.5(\text{mg/L/day})^{-1}$  respectively  
132 (Orosun et al. 2020). The carcinogenic risk estimation gives an index of risk or possibility of an  
133 aimed people to develop cancer of several types as a result of the ingestion of the carcinogens in  
134 the drinking waters over a projected lifetime (Orosun et al. 2020; Isinkaye2018). Incremental  
135 Lifetime Cancer Risk (ILCR) that presents the carcinogenic risk was calculated using equation  
136 (13) (Orosun et al. 2020; Isinkaye2018).

137

$$138 \quad ILCR = ADI \times SF \dots\dots\dots(4)$$

139

140 Where CDI (mg/L/day) and SF (mg/L/day)<sup>-1</sup> are the mean daily consumption of the heavy metals  
141 and the carcinogenic gradient factor. Cancer risk higher than  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  are considered high as they  
142 pose higher cancer threat while values below  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  are assumed not to cause any cancer risk  
143 to the populace; the suitable range is flanked by  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  and  $1 \times 10^{-6}$ .

144

145

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

146 The physicochemical parameters, heavy metals and microbiological analysis examined showed  
147 considerable variations in the sachet and bottle water samples analyzed as shown in the figs. (1 -  
148 5) below. The pH value of all the water brands analyzed ranged from 6.56 - 8.22. Bottle water pH  
149 recorded 6.65- 7.28 while sachet water recorded 7.78 - 8.22 as shown in fig. 1 and 2 below. This  
150 is similar to the previous report by some researchers (Sulaiman et al. 2011; Uwah et al. 2014; Duru  
151 et al. 2017). Water samples stored at mild sunlight exposure (Group 2) ranged from 6.79 - 8.01.  
152 While those stored at intense sunlight exposure ranged 6.62 - 8.00 (Group 3). Brand C water  
153 samples in both sachet and bottle water recorded the highest pH value of 8.22 and 7.28 (Group 1)  
154 respectively. Increase in pH of water can lead to an increase in bacteria population (Sunday et al.  
155 2011). Brand A recorded the lowest pH in both sachet (7.78) and bottle water (6.56). There was  
156 an increase in the pH values which could be due to the different mode of storage as shown in table  
157 5 below. The pH values of all the water brands were within the recommended pH range (WHO  
158 2006; SON 2007; WHO 2011) as shown in table 1 below.

159

160 The mean temperature value ranged from 28.6 °C - 30.6 °C for all brands water samples analyzed  
161 in both bottle (fig. 1a) and sachet water (fig. 1b) in initial, mild and intense group of storage  
162 conditions. Samples of water analyzed immediately (initial) after purchased from the factories  
163 ranged between 28.7°C - 29.03 °C (Group 1) While samples water stored and exposed to mild and  
164 intense sunlight ranged 29.8 °C - 30.6 °C (Group 2 and 3) as shown in fig. 1 below. This is similar  
165 to the previous report elsewhere (Anake et al. 2013). Increase in warmness of an environment  
166 favours the growth of microorganisms and this can affect the taste and odour of the water samples  
167 (Sunday et al. 2011).

168

169 Turbidity values in all the brand of water samples analyzed (Bottle and Sachet) were found to be  
170 less than 5 NTU for all the water samples exposed to different conditions of storage (initial, mild  
171 and intense). This is similar to the results obtained in the previous work (Anake et al. 2013). The  
172 turbidity values recorded were all within acceptable limits of 5 NTU (WHO 2011; SON 2007) as  
173 shown in table 1 below.

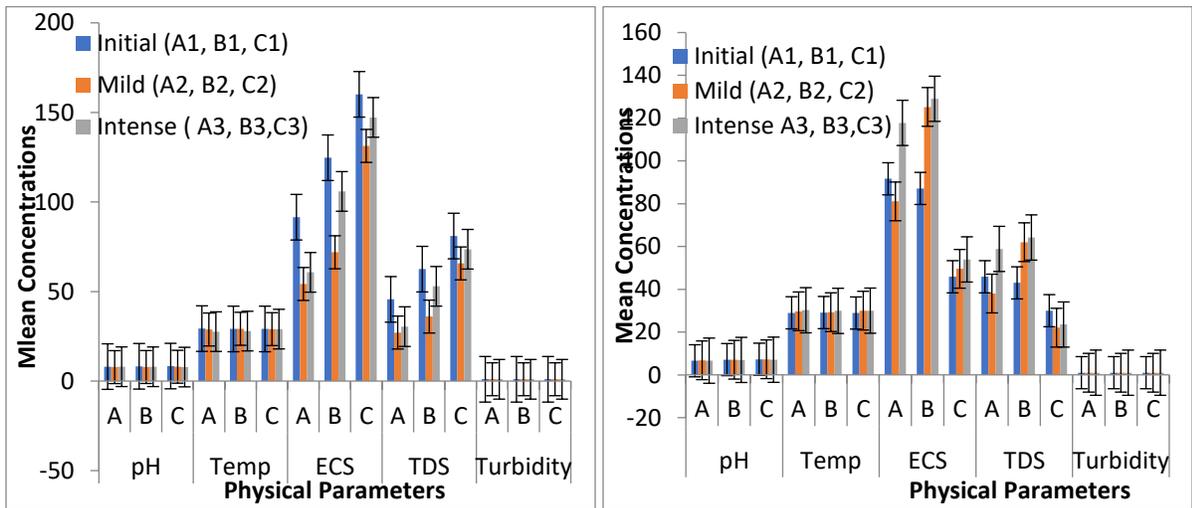
174  
175

176 Conductivity values in different brands of water samples (sachet and bottle) ranged from  
177 45.33 $\mu$ S/cm - 160.1 $\mu$ S/cm. Water samples analyzed immediately (Group 1) ranged from 89.9 -  
178 146.90  $\mu$ S/cm. While water samples exposed to mild (group 2) and intense sunlight exposure  
179 ranged (group 3) ranged from 49.551 $\mu$ S/cm - 131.301 $\mu$ S/cm and 53.941 $\mu$ S/cm - 147.201 $\mu$ S/cm  
180 respectively. This is similar to previous work reported in the literature (Sheshe and Magashi 2014;  
181 Shalom et al. 2011). Sample A and C (Group 1) recorded the lowest in both sachet and bottle  
182 water respectively. While sample B and C (intense) recorded the highest conductivity value. It was  
183 observed from these results that there is an increase in conductivity values of water brands exposed  
184 to intense sunlight for six weeks.

185

188 The TDS concentrations of the water samples in all the brands ranged from 22.03 mg/L – 81.00  
189 mg/L as shown in fig.1 below. Water samples analyzed immediately (group 1) recorded 30.00  
190 mg/L - 81.00 mg/L for both sachet and bottle water brands. A similar result was reported elsewhere  
191 (Shalom et al. 2011). While water samples (sachet and bottle) stored under mild (group2) and  
192 intense (group 3) sunlight exposure ranged from 22.03mg/L - 65.7 mg/L and 23.51 mg/L - 73.60  
193 mg/L respectively as shown in fig. 1 below. TDS was found to be within the permissible limit of  
194 500 mg/L as shown in table 1 below. The highest TDS concentration was recorded in A (sachet  
195 water) and B (bottle water) brands. While the least TDS concentration was recorded in A (sachet)  
196 and C (bottle) water brands.

197



198 **Fig. 1.** Showing Variation of Physical Parameters in sachet water (a) and bottle water groups (b)

199  
200  
201  
202

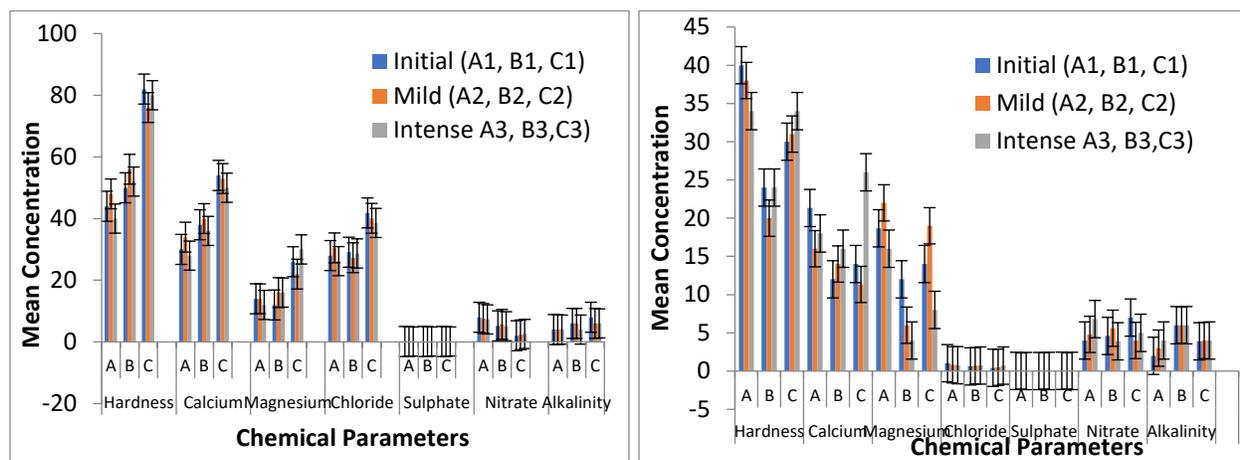
Parameter	Maximum Permissible limits	
	WHO <sup>a</sup>	SON <sup>b</sup>
pH	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5
Temperature	35-40	Ambient
Electrical Conductivity	1000µs/cm	1000µs/cm
Total Dissolved Solids	500mg/L	500mg/L
Turbidity	5NTU	5NTU
Total Hardness	100mg/L	150mg/L
Calcium	200mg/L	
Magnesium	-	-
Chloride	100mg/L	250mg/L
Sulphate	100mg/L	100mg/L
Nitrate	10mg/L	50mg/L
Alkalinity	200mg/L	NA
Chromium	0.10mg/L	0.05mg/L
Lead	0.015mg/L	0.01mg/L
Total bacteria count	0	0
Total Coliform Count	10	10
Faecal Coliform Count	0	0
Total Fungal Count	0	0

205 \* WHO<sup>a</sup> ( 2006, 2011) \*SON<sup>b</sup> (2007) \*NA= Not available \*NA=Not Available

206 Total hardness concentration (TH) ranged from 20.0mg/L - 80.0 mg/L for all the three brands of  
 207 water (sachet and bottle) stored under different conditions. The hardness values recorded were all  
 208 within WHO acceptable limits (100 mg/L). TH of the water samples (sachet and bottle) stored  
 209 under mild sunlight exposure (Group 2) ranged 20.0mg/L – 76.0 mg/L while those stored at intense  
 210 sunlight condition (Group 3) ranged from 24.00mg/L – 80.0mg/L. A similar result was obtained  
 211 elsewhere (Sheshe and Magashi 2014). The highest value was also recorded in sample A (sachet)  
 212 and C (bottle water) and the least value was recorded in sample A (sachet water) and C (bottle  
 213 water) as shown in fig. 2 below. There was an increase in the value of hardness when subjected to  
 214 both mild and intense sunlight conditions.

215  
 216 Chloride concentration ranged from 0.43 mg/L - 41.83 mg/L for all the three brands of water stored  
 217 under different sunlight exposure. The highest concentration value of 41.83 mg/L Chloride was  
 218 recorded in sample C and A of sachet water (fig.2a) While 1.03 mg/L of Chloride was recorded in  
 219 bottle water (fig. 2b). While the least value recorded 26.2 mg/L (sachet) and 0.43mg/L (bottle) in  
 220 sample B and A respectively. The chloride values of water samples stored under mild (Group 1)  
 221 and intense sunlight condition (Group 2) ranged from 0.50 mg/L - 40.1 mg/L and 0.72 mg/L – 38.6  
 222 mg/L respectively.

223  
224 Calcium (Ca) concentration ranged from 11.33 mg/L – 54.00 mg/L for all the three brands of water  
225 samples in all the groups (initial, mild and intense) for both sachet and bottle water. This result  
226 followed a similar trend previously reported (Anuonye et al. 2012) The highest value of calcium  
227 was recorded in sample C with concentration of 54.00 mg/L and the lowest was recorded in sample  
228 B (11.33 mg/L). The concentration of Calcium was found to be lower than permissible limit set  
229 by WHO as indicated on the table 1 above. The concentration of magnesium in all the water  
230 samples analyzed ranged from 6.00 – 30.00 mg/L in all the three brands of water used for this  
231 study. The results obtained were found to be higher than the previous reports elsewhere (Afolabi  
232 et al. 2012; Orosun et al. 2016). Higher concentration of magnesium is known to cause water  
233 hardness, cathartic and diuretic effect in human body (APHA 1985)  
234  
235 The concentration of Sulphate was found to be lower in bottle water (0.01 mg/L - 0.038 mg/L)  
236 than the concentration of sulphate in sachet water (0.013 -0.148 mg/L). The concentration of  
237 sulphate reported in a similar work is higher when compared to what is obtained in previous work  
238 (Sulaiman et al. 2011; Ojekunle et al. 2015). The concentration of sulphate was found to be lower  
239 than permissible limit (100 mg).  
240  
241 Alkalinity values ranged from 2.00 mg/L - 8.00 mg/L for all the water brand samples investigated.  
242 It was observed that there is a variation in concentration of the water samples exposed to various  
243 condition (mild and intense sunlight exposure). High values of Alkalinity were observed in a  
244 similar work when compared to the alkalinity values reported in this work (Ojekunle et al. 2015;  
245 Toma et al. 2013). The values of nitrate obtained in water samples ranged from 2.1 mg/L- 8.0  
246 mg/L. The nitrate value recorded ranged from 3.9 -7mg/L - 7.0 mg/L and 2.0 mg/L – 8.0 mg/L  
247 respectively in sachet (fig. 3a) and bottle (fig. 3b) water. This is similar to the previous work in  
248 the literature work (Ojekunle et al. 2015; Toma et al. 2013). The nitrate contents in all the brands  
249 of water investigated were below the permissible limits (WHO 2006; SON 2007; WHO 2011) as  
250 shown in table 1 above.



251

252 **Fig. 2.** Showing Variation of Chemical Parameters in sachet water (a) and bottle water groups (b)

253

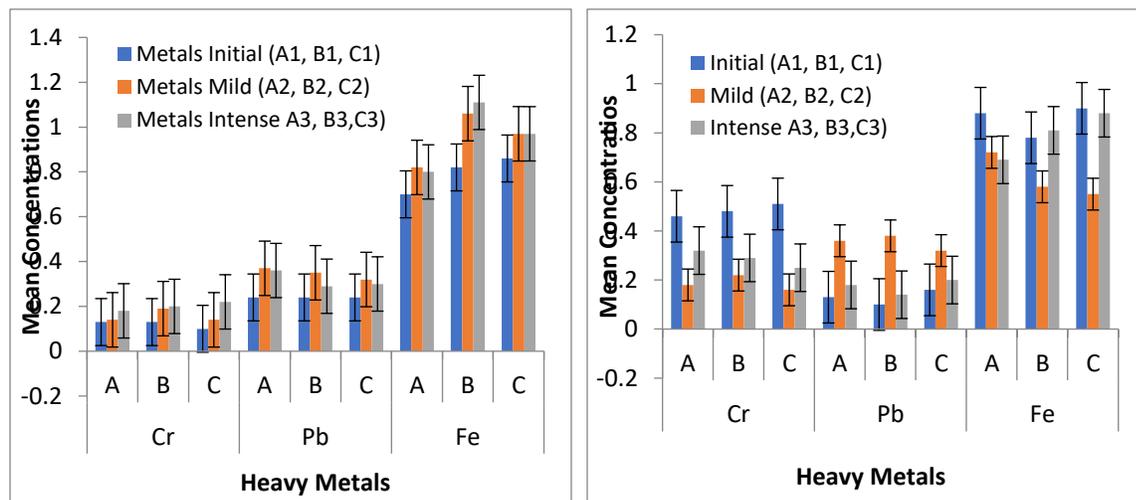
254 Chromium value ranged from 0.15 mg/L - 0.51 mg/L for all the water samples analyzed under  
 255 different conditions of storage which was found to be higher than the permissible limit set by both  
 256 SON and WHO (Table 1). Cr contents ranged from 0.14 mg/L – 0.22 mg/L and 0.16 mg/L – 0.51  
 257 mg/L) in both sachet (fig. 3a) and bottle water samples respectively (fig. 3b). This result followed  
 258 a similar trend by previous researcher (Muhammad and Fanan 2012). Chromium (Cr) at a very  
 259 high concentration is known to be toxic to human and can cause cancer. Lead value ranged from  
 260 0.13mg/L - 0.38mg/L for all the brand of water samples. The highest concentration of Pb was  
 261 found in sample A (sachet) and sample C (bottle) with the least. The concentration of Lead  
 262 increases gradually when exposed to various conditions as compared to that of the initial analysis.  
 263 The presence of Lead in high concentration can damage nervous connection (especially in young  
 264 children), cause blood and brain disorder, it is also a cumulative poison and a possible human  
 265 carcinogen (Wani et al. 2015). The concentration of lead in all samples from different brand was  
 266 found to be higher than the acceptable limits of 0.015mg/L and 0.01 mg/L respectively (WHO  
 267 2006; SON 2007; WHO 2011) as shown in table 1 above.

268

269 The mean concentrations of Iron obtained in all the water samples ranged from 0.55 mg/L - 1.11  
 270 mg/L (F. This result is similar to the results earlier reported in the literature (Anake et al. 2013;  
 271 Akuffo et al. 2013). Highest concentration recorded in sample B (sachet) and the least  
 272 concentration in sample A (bottle). Iron concentrations ranged from 0.55 mg/L - 1.06 mg/L and  
 273 0.69mg/L - 1.11mg/L respectively for samples stored under mild and intense sunlight condition  
 274 (fig. 3). There is a variation in the values of all the parameters checked on all the brand of water  
 275 samples stored under different condition of storage (initial, mild and intense exposure to sunlight).

276 This could be as a result of the geochemistry of the soil of the water samples and water treatment  
 277 methods employed.

278

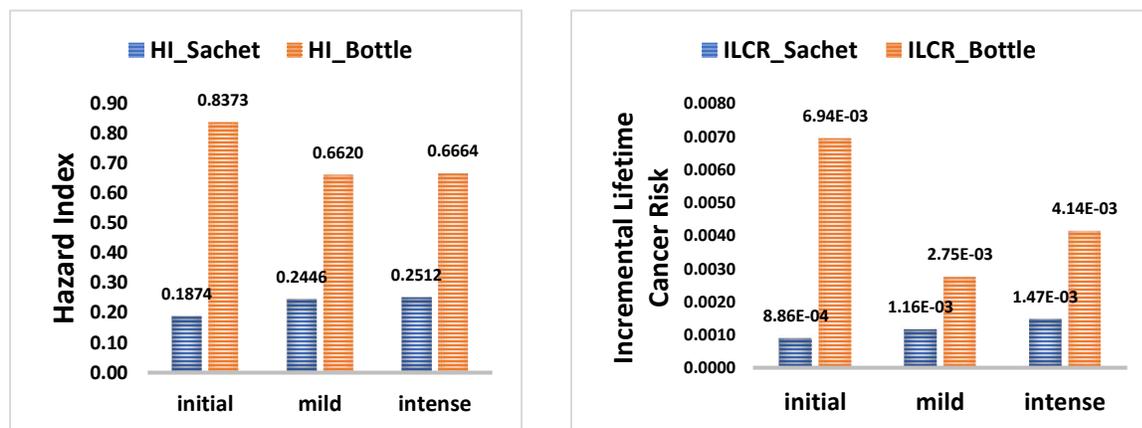


279  
 280 **Fig. 3.** Showing Variation in Heavy Metal Analysis of sachet Water (a) and bottle water groups (b)

281  
 282  
 283 The Hazard Quotient (HQ) estimated for all the heavy metals in all the three (3) water groups (i.e.  
 284 initial, mild and intense condition) are within the recommended safe limit (<1) set by USEPA  
 285 (2001). The total HI for initial, mild and intense condition group are 0.8373, 0.6620 and 0.6664  
 286 respectively for bottle water and 0.1874, 0.2446, and 0.2512 respectively for sachet water (Fig.  
 287 4a). These values are within the recommended safe limit (<1) set by USEPA (2001) and therefore  
 288 means that the general populaces are not in great danger of non-carcinogenic health effects of these  
 289 heavy metals. While the mean HI value for the initial conditioning appears to be greater than mild  
 290 and intense conditioning category for the bottle water, reverse is the case with sachet water where  
 291 the mean HI value for the intense conditioning is greatest.

292 The Incremental Lifetime Cancer Risk (ILCR) was estimated and the mean values for  
 293 initial, mild and intense condition group are: 6.94E-03, 2.75E-03, and 4.14E-03 respectively for  
 294 the bottle water and 8.86E-4, 1.16E-3 and 1.47E-3 respectively for the sachet water (Fig. 4b), with  
 295 Cr contributing most to the cancer risk in both cases. Owing to the fact that cancer risks greater  
 296 than 1.00E-4 are considered high since they pose higher cancer risk and values below 1.00E-6 are  
 297 considered not to pose any cancer risk to humans, it follows that the cancer risks are high for the  
 298 three (3) water groups (i.e. initial, mild and intense condition) for both sachet and bottle water.  
 299 Since the result reveals values of ILCR that are 100% higher than the recommended limit, the  
 300 general populace are in danger of carcinogenic health effect. However, it is noteworthy that the  
 301 reported carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic risk values in this study may be undervalued because

302 the appraisals did not capture intakes from other metals like arsenic, cadmium, nickel, etc. and the  
 303 exposure parameters (i.e. EF, AT, BW and ED) used were adopted from USEPA, so might not  
 304 ineludibly represent a typical Nigerian case.



305  
 306 **Fig. 4.** Showing Hazard Index (a) and Incremental Lifetime Cancer Risk for all the water groups (b)  
 307

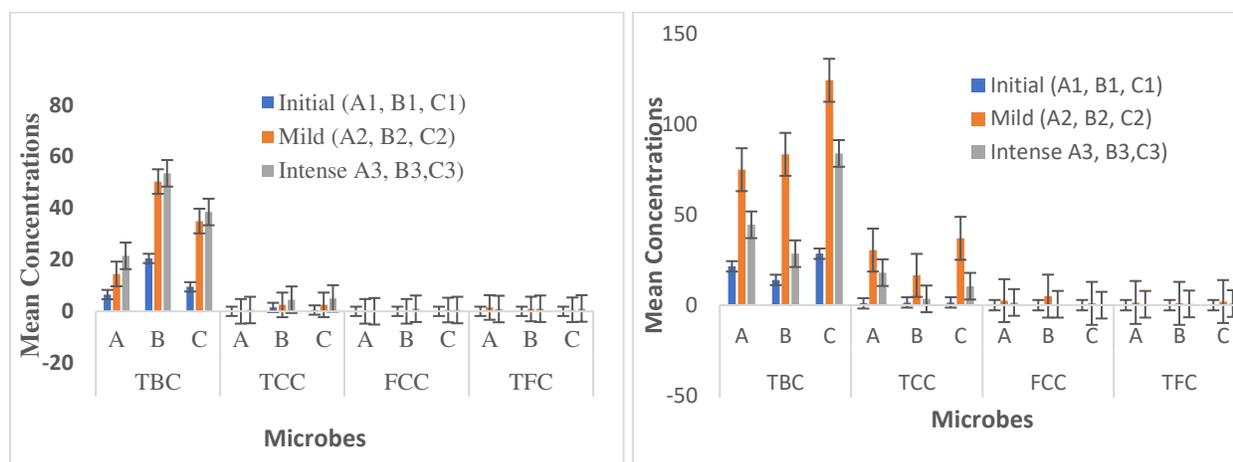
309 The value of Total bacteria count (TBC) ranged from 6.5 CfU/100ml - 124.5 CfU/100ml for all the  
 310 water samples. The highest value was recorded in sample C (sachet) and the least value was  
 311 recorded in sample A (bottle). TBC value for samples under mild and intense sunlight condition  
 312 ranged from 14.5 CfU/100ml – 124.55CfU/100ml and 21.55CfU/100ml – 84.0 CfU/100ml  
 313 respectively. This follows a similar trend to reported elsewhere (Anuonye et al. 2012). This is  
 314 because a warm environment favours the growth of bacteria and very high temperature reduces  
 315 the growth of this bacteria. The TBC found in all the water samples were found to be higher than  
 316 permissible limits (WHO 2006; SON 2007; WHO 2011) as shown in table 1 above.

317  
 318 The value of Total coliform count (TCC) ranged from 0.5 CfU/100ml - 37.5 CfU/100ml for all the  
 319 water samples. TCC values ranged from 0.5 CfU/100ml – 5.0 CfU/100ml and 1.0 CfU/100ml - 37.5  
 320 CfU/100ml in both bottle and sachet water respectively. The result obtained in this study is higher  
 321 than previous report in assessment of the quality of water before and after storage in the Nyankpala  
 322 Community of the Tolon-Kumbungu District, Ghana (Akuffo et al. 2013). Brand A water samples  
 323 has no TCC value in bottle water when compared to other brand water samples and the highest  
 324 value was recorded in bottle water. This is indicating that most of the bottle water analyzed were  
 325 below the limit while sachet water analyzed were found to be above limits.

326  
 327 Faecal coliform values ranged from 0.5 CfU/100ml - 2.5 CfU/100ml and 0.5 CfU/100ml – 1.0  
 328 CfU/100ml in both bottle and sachet water respectively. It was observed that samples of water

329 analyzed immediately (Brand A, B C) has no FCC and as the temperature increases there is an  
 330 increase in FCC of the water samples exposed to mild and intense temperature. Most of the water  
 331 samples investigated were above the threshold limit sets as indicated in the table 1 above.

332  
 333 Total fungi count (TFC) was not detected in all the brand of bottle water samples stored under  
 334 different conditions (initial, the mild sunlight and intense condition). TFC found in all the sachet  
 335 water samples ranged from 0 Cfu/100ml - 2.0 Cfu/100ml which are higher than the permissible  
 336 limit by WHO and SON. TFC done on all the brands of water analyzed at zero day (initial) has 0  
 337 Cfu/100ml for all the brand water samples but those water samples stored at mild sunlight exposure  
 338 has higher TFC (0.6 Cfu/100ml - 2.0 Cfu/100ml) than those stored under intense sunlight exposure  
 339 (0.5 Cfu/100ml - 1.1 Cfu/100ml This is because microbes will not survive at higher temperature.



340  
 341 **Fig. 5.** Showing the Variation of Microbial Analysis in sachet water (a) and bottle water groups (b)

### 342 CONCLUSION

343 Water is a liquid needed at all time for several human activities. This study revealed that the  
 344 samples taken to the laboratory were operating within the WHO limits for physicochemical  
 345 guidelines for drinking water regardless of the mode of storage. Heavy metal concentrations were  
 346 found to be above the limits set by WHO/SON in all the water samples analyzed. While the  
 347 corresponding carcinogenic risks revealed values that are higher than the recommended safety  
 348 range, the non-carcinogenic risk assessment reveals values within the acceptable limits. This  
 349 reveals that the general populace is in danger of carcinogenic health effect. TFC was found to be  
 350 present in both mild and intense storage condition of both sachet and bottle water but absent in  
 351 initial storage condition which proved that water stored under high temperature increases microbial  
 352 growth in water. TBC and FCC counts were found to be higher in the permissible limits set by

353 WHO and SON for all the water samples analyzed (sachet and bottle) irrespective of the storage  
354 condition which makes the samples of water analyzed not safe for human consumption. However,  
355 proper monitoring and compliance to drinking water standards is adequately required by various  
356 agencies.

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