

## **SAFETY IN SCHOOL LABORATORY: AN ASSESSMENT OF LABORATORIES IN PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN OBIO/AKPOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF RIVERS STATE**

**OKEY, I. F. & AVWIRI, E.**

Curriculum and Educational Technology Department, University of Port Harcourt, Choba, Port Harcourt

### **ABSTRACT**

The study adopted a descriptive survey design in order to access safety in Laboratories in public secondary schools in the research area where sixty three (63) science teachers were randomly sampled to provide information based on the laboratory. Research findings revealed that in spite of students guided inquiry through experimentation, 60.9% are ignorant of the potential danger associated with storage of chemicals with worn-out labels. 95.7% of the assessed laboratories do not have fire extinguishers and 62.2% had no safety sign posts. 91.3% of the laboratories have inadequately equipped First Aid facilities, Therefore, there exists high susceptibility of student's and teachers to chemical burns and fire accidents. Based on these findings, it is recommended that teachers should provide operational safety rules and signs to guide practice in various laboratories and in order to encourage students guided inquiry in practical works. The government should assist in redeeming the poor condition of the laboratories in the research area.

**KEYWORDS:** Safety in School Laboratory, where Sixty Three (63) Science Teachers