

# **Original Research Article**

## **Impact of Leachate from a Dumpsite on Groundwater Quality**

### **Adverse Impacts of Leachate Seepage on Groundwater Quality, Local Ecosystem and on Biodiversity -Awotan Solid Waste Dumpsite, in Ibadan, Oyo State Nigeria**

**Comment [I1]:** Please consider this modified / edited study theme, which make this study more meaningful & conclusive

#### **Abstract**

**Abstract:** Leachate migration seepages into ground water aquifer from solid waste dumpsites into groundwater releases pollutants is likely to release toxic pollutants in ground water which are hazardous to human health and local ecosystem into the water thereby renders the water hazardous for human consumption. A study was conducted on the physico-chemical parameters of dumpsite leachate and surrounding groundwater from Awotan Solid Waste Dumpsite, in Ibadan, Oyo State. The study was aimed at assessing the impact of the leachate from the dumpsite. The physico-chemical analyses of the water samples were carried in accordance to with standard analytical methods. The results obtained were compared with WHO (World Health Organization) permissible limit of those parameters in drinking water. The Physico-chemical values obtained for the dumpsite leachate were generally higher than those of groundwater samples, suggesting that a source of contamination could be from the dumpsite leachate. The pH of groundwater samples ranged between 5.03 to 6.94, indicating that the ground water was acidic. Results of Physico-chemical parameters of dumpsite leachate for  $Cl^-$ ,  $NO_3^-$ , TH, Alk, BOD, COD exceeded the WHO limits for drinking water. The BOD and COD of dumpsite leachate and groundwater samples exceeded the WHO limits and hence not safe for drinking. Concentration of  $Cl^-$  and TH in the groundwater closer to the dumpsite were higher than WHO permissible limits for drinking water. Also, concentrations of the analyzed parameters decreased with increasing distance from the dumpsite, thus implicating leachate migration seepage from the dumpsite into the groundwater. It is therefore recommended that dump sites be located away from the human settlements to avoid drinking water contamination and local ecosystem & biodiversity degradation. human settlement close to the dumpsite should be discouraged to prevent groundwater contamination and reduce health risks associated with poor drinking water quality.

**Keywords:** Groundwater contamination, leachate, water quality, Awotan Dumpsite.

#### **Introduction**

##### **1.0 Introduction**

Groundwater pollution is often caused by anthropogenic factor activities. In areas where population growth and human use of land is high, groundwater quality is especially threatened. Virtually all activities where chemicals or wastes may be discharged into an environment indiscriminately, has the possibility to contaminate groundwater. In developing countries like Nigeria open dump system of waste is very common and recognized as a major damage to ground water resources (Abdus-Salam *et al*, 2011, Beyode *et al*,2012, Ekeocha *et*

43 *al*, 2012 and Charles *et al*, 2013). The Municipal solid Waste (MSW) generated are  
44 intentionally or accidentally dumped on open dumps untreated (Chatherjee, 2010). The solid  
45 wastes deposited on the open dumps often contain residential, municipal, commercial,  
46 industrial and agricultural wastes which degrades and are leached out by rain water and  
47 humid weather conditions. The leachate contains, organic and inorganic chemicals, heavy  
48 metals as well as pathogens that pollute the underground water (Ikem *et al*, 2002). The  
49 leachate follow defined topography from recharge areas to discharge areas. Soils that are  
50 porous and permeable tend to transmit water and certain contaminants with relative ease to an  
51 aquifer below ground level. Contamination of groundwater often result in poor drinking  
52 water quality, degraded surface water systems, high clean -up cost, high cost for alternative  
53 water supplies and potential health problems such as diarrhea, cholera and dysentery arising  
54 from the pollution potential of the leachate that originated from such open dump sites (Moret  
55 *al*, 2006, Oyediran and Adeyemi, 2011; Omole and Alakinde, 2013; Moruff, 2014).

56 Population growth, urbanization and industrialization influence the degree and  
57 volume of solid waste generation in Ibadan city (Ayininuola and Muibi, 2008). Ibadan is  
58 ranked the third largest city on the basis of population with about 2.9 million people in the  
59 year 2011 and an annual increase of over 100,000 inhabitants at 4.59% growth rate (United  
60 Nations – Habitat 2014). Interestingly, more wastes are produced as the city grows. Solid  
61 waste disposal facilities in Ibadan are open dump sites that are not regulated. The open  
62 dumpsite do not have composite liner to retard migration of leachates and toxic constituents  
63 from contaminating groundwater.

**Comment [I2]:** Please rephrase this sentence

64 In this study, groundwater around Awotan dumpsite was investigated to determine the  
65 effect of leachate from the dump site on groundwater quality and the environment ( local  
66 ecosystem & biodiversity ). The spatial distribution of leachates leachate and its impact on  
67 ground water quality were also assessed. Leachate samples from the investigated dumpsite,  
68 ground water samples around the dumpsite and control sample were collected and analysed  
69 analysed for various physico-chemical parameters that were compared with WHO standards  
70 for drinking water.

**Comment [I3]:** Please give literature review ( 2-3 ) paragraphs on similar studies conducted elsewhere . This will help in linking this study with the previous one for more clarity

## 71 2.0 Literature Review

## 72 3.0 Study Objectives

**Comment [I4]:** Please mention precise study objectives in bullet format for the clarity of the readers

## 73 Methodology

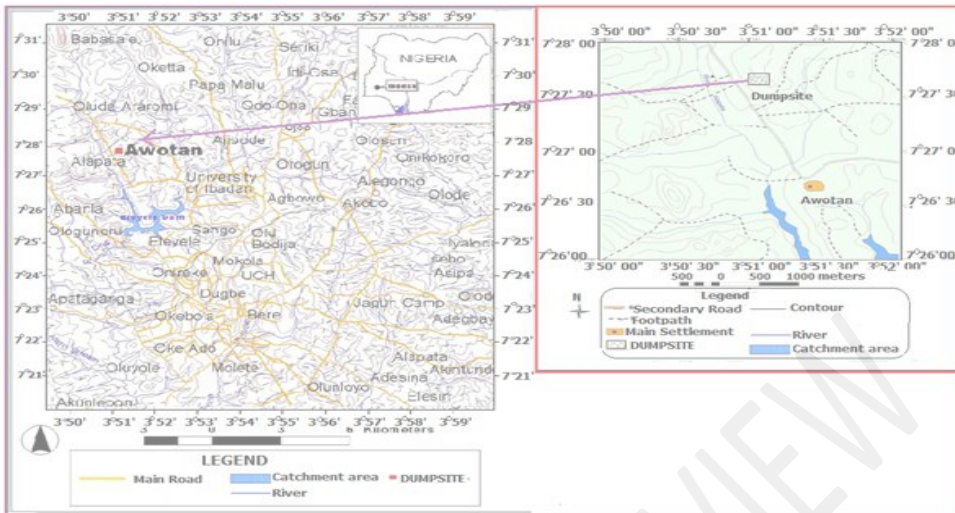
## 74 4.0 Materials and Methods

## 75 Study area and relevant features

## 76 4.1 Study Area- Salient Features

77 The Awotan Solid Waste Dump site is situated in Ido-Local Government (LGA) of  
78 Ibadan City (Figure 1). GPS coordinate are 07° 27' 719" – 07° 27' 811" North and 003° 51' 003-  
79 003' 50' 599" East. Awotan dumpsite in Akinyele LGA is one of the four notable major  
80 dumpsites in Ibadan. Others are Lapite, Ajakanga and Aba Eku dump sites located in  
81 Oluyole, Ona-ara and Ido local government areas respectively. The four dumpsites are  
82 practically maintained by the Oyo State Government through the Oyo State Waste  
83 Management Authority (OYOWMA). According to OYOWMA, Aba-Eku is the oldest  
84 dumpsite established in 1985 while the largest dumpsite is Awotan with an area of 20  
85 hectares. Awotan Solid Waste Dumpsite (ASWD) was formed in 1998 to receive solid waste  
86 generated in Ibadan. Going by the records of OYOWMA of 2015 data annual waste  
87 deposited in Awotan dumpsite was 95,775 metric tons. The dumpsite is characterized by  
88 preponderance of houseflies, mosquitoes, odour and smoke that constitute health risk. The  
89 tipping of waste and monthly fumigation of the dumpsite by Oyo State Waste Management  
90 Authority (OYOWMA) has not significantly helped the in controlling odour or reduces the  
91 and houseflies. The dump site is not a sanitary landfill site and does not possess all the  
92 technical requirements , essentially required for solid waste management. a non-engineered  
93 and has no lining. Mixed fleet of heavy transport Trucks and separate vehicles from different  
94 parts of the city bring waste to the dumpsite in an irregular manner (plate 1). The Un-  
95 segregated waste is dumped unsorted and it is the rag pickers who sometimes rummage and  
96 separate the garbage. They generally collect glass material, plastic and metals and sell the  
97 items to the recycling units. Solids waste disposed into the dumpsite comprise of domestic,  
98 industrial and agricultural components. The biodegradable components undergo  
99 decomposition due to the activities of bacteria and fungi and leaching lecheting of  
100 contaminants into the groundwater. Contaminants from the dumpsite can leach into the  
101 ground water by due to rain fall and in humid environments precipitation and surface runoff.  
102 The location map and solid waste dumping practices are shown in figure 1 & 2 respectively,  
103 as below;

104



105

106 **Figure 1:** Topographical Map of Part of Ibadan Showing Awotan Area (Extracted from  
 107 Nigerian Geological Survey Agency, Ibadan Sheet No.59, 1980)

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111

112 **Figure-2:** Plate 1: Indiscriminate Dumping of Waste within and Outside Awotan  
 113 Dumpsite

114

115 **Preparation of sampling containers**

116 **4.2 Preparation of Sampling Containers**

117

118 Two litre plastic bottles meant for collecting the samples were thoroughly washed  
119 with non-ionic detergent, rinsed with tap water and then soaked in 10% HNO<sub>3</sub> for 48 hours  
120 prior to sampling for analyses to get rid of all possible dirt and contaminants . Furthermore,  
121 the containers were rinsed with distilled water and also rinsed thrice at the site with water  
122 sampled. All glassware were washed with non-ionic detergent, rinsed with tap water, soaked  
123 in 10% HNO<sub>3</sub> for 48 hours and finally rinsed with distilled water to rule out trace metal  
124 contamination.

## 125 **Samples collection**

### 127 **4.3 Samples Collection**

#### 129 **Leachate samples**

##### 130 **4.3.1 Leachate Samples**

131 Leachate were discovered from different sites of the dumpsite. Samples were  
132 collected from the different locations in order to capture all the properties of leachate under  
133 study. A clean plastic bowl was used to collect the leachate and poured into the sampling  
134 container which had been sterilized. Sample was well labeled A and taken to the laboratory.

#### 136 **Groundwater samples**

##### 137 **4.3.2 Groundwater Sampling**

138 Water samples were collected from different wells in the community around Awotan  
139 dumpsite. The groundwater samples B, C, D and E were taken at 200m, 1km, 2.5km and 4km  
140 from the dumpsite respectively. The control sample was collected at 4km from the dumpsite.  
141 The collection of groundwater samples was influenced by the availability of wells or  
142 boreholes. All samples were carefully labeled. The samples were preserved at 4°C and  
143 thereafter taken to the laboratory for analysis. In all the cases listed above, test samples were  
144 collected during the wet season when the activities of leachates will be readily feasible at the  
145 dumpsite.

##### 146 **4.3.3 Averse Impacts on Ground Water Aquifer Ecosystem**

##### 147 **4.3.4 Impacts on Biodiversity**

#### 149 **Sample analyses**

##### 150 **4.4 Sample Analysis**

151 The collected samples were analyzed for Physico-chemical parameters and heavy  
152 metals. The physico-chemicals parameters include: pH, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)  
153 Electrical Conductivity (EC), Total Hardness (TH), Alkalinity (Alk), Biochemical Oxygen

#### **Comment [15]:**

1. Please take soil sample/ study changes in ecosystem around dump site and compare it with ecosystem of the area away from dump site .
2. This additional point will increase the visibility and buying of the study .
3. Otherwise this study is just a technical report not a research study

#### **Comment [16]:**

1. Please take soil sample/ study changes in biodiversity around dump site and compare it with biodiversity of the area away from dump site .
- This additional point will increase the visibility and buying of the study .  
Otherwise this study is just a technical report

154 Demand (BOD) and Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD). Nitrate ( $\text{NO}_3^-$ ), Chloride ( $\text{Cl}^-$ ), Total  
 155 Hardness, Alkalinity (AlK), Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Chemical Oxygen  
 156 Demand (COD), while the minerals include ferrous ion ( $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ), Sodium ion ( $\text{Na}^+$ ) and  
 157 Magnesium ion ( $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ). The physico-chemical parameters of the water samples were carried  
 158 out in accordance with the standard analytical methods (APHA 1995). The values from each  
 159 parameters obtained were compared with their WHO (World Health Organization)  
 160 permissible concentrations for those parameters for drinking water.

161 **Results**

162 **5.0 Results and Discussion**

163 **5.1 Results**

164 Physico-chemical characteristics of leachate and water samples collected from dump sites are  
 165 shown in table-1 & 2 below; at dumpsite

167 **Table 1:** Physico-chemical characteristics of leachate at dumpsite

Physical Parameter	A	WHO standards
pH	6.74	6.6-8.5
TDS (mg/L)	62.8	500
EC ( $\mu\text{s}/\text{cm}$ )	96.4	1000
<b>Chemical parameters</b>		
$\text{NO}_3^-$ (mg/L)	173.35	<50
$\text{Cl}^-$ (mg/L)	2439.24	250
TH (mg/L)	2000	100-150
AL (mg/L)	880	120
BOD (mg/L)	4626.67	2.5
COD (mg/L)	11566.70	2.5
<b>Minerals</b>		
$\text{Fe}^{2+}$ (mg/L)	2.24	0.3
$\text{Mg}^{2+}$ (mg/L)	6.78	40
$\text{Na}^+$ (mg/L)	198.67	<200

A = Source (Dumpsite Leachate)

**Comment [17]:** Please recheck this value, as the pH of leachate is generally higher with acidic characteristics

**Comment [18]:** Please recheck this value of TDS of Leachet which seems to be too low. The recommended range of TDS in drinking water - 300-500

**Comment [19]:** Please recheck this WHO value of BOD of leachet which seems to be very low

**Comment [110]:** Please recheck this WHO value of COD of Leachet which seems to be very low

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**Table 2:** Physico-chemical characteristics of ground water samples

Physical Parameter	B	C	D	E	WHO standards
Ph	6.94	5.54	5.62	5.03	6.5-8.5
TDS (mg/L)	1.98	7.91	10.09	1.67	500

EC ( $\mu\text{s/cm}$ )	3.30	13.25	16.77	2.66	1000
<b>Chemical parameters</b>					
$\text{NO}_3^-$ (mg/L)	6.53	55.11	8.52	7.71	<50
Cl <sup>-</sup> (mg/L)	253.92	405.00	5.99	31.99	250
TH (mg/L)	364	480	148	64	100-150
AL (mg/L)	92.00	28.00	60.00	25.00	120
BOD (mg/L)	325.00	162.50	132.50	105.00	2.5
COD (mg/L)	812.50	406.25	331.25	262.50	2.5
Minerals					
$\text{Fe}^{2+}$ (mg/L)	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	0.3
$\text{Mg}^{2+}$ (mg/L)	BDL	BDL	BDL	BDL	40
$\text{Na}^+$ (mg/L)	167.42	89.30	58.02	58.02	<200

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- B = Groundwater 200 meter from source  
C = Groundwater 1 kilometer from source  
D = Groundwater 2.5 kilometer from source  
E = Groundwater 4 kilometer from source and it serves as control

UNDER PEER REVIEW

179 **5.1.1 Correlation of Coefficient**

180 The correlation between physico-chemical parameters are shown in table 3, below;

181 **Table 3:** Two-tailed correlation coefficient between the physico-chemical parameters of  
182 water

	pH	TDS mgL	EC $\mu$ scm	NO3 mgL	Clmg L	TH mgL	Alk mgL	BOD mgL	COD mgL	Fem g/L	Mg mgL	Nam g/L
Ph	1											
TDSmg L	.484	1										
EC $\mu$ scm	.481	1.00 0**	1									
NO3mg L	.442	.965 **	.965 **	1								
ClmgL	.562	.978 **	.976 **	.982 **	1							
THmgL	.596	.973 **	.972 **	.981 **	.998**	1						
AlkmgL	.575	.986 **	.984 **	.945 *	.985**	.978 **	1					
BODmg L	.554	.987 **	.984 **	.955 *	.989**	.982 **	.999 **	1				
CODmg L	.554	.987 **	.984 **	.955 *	.989**	.982 **	.999 **	1.000* *	1			
Femg/L	.519	.990 **	.988 **	.958 *	.987**	.978 **	.997 **	.999**	.999**	1		
MgmgL	.519	.990 **	.988 **	.958 *	.987**	.978 **	.997 **	.999**	.999**	1.00 0**	1	
Namg/L	.931 *	.674	.669	.679	.776	.795	.762	.754	.754	.726	.726	1

183 \*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2- tailed)

184 \* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2- tailed)

185 **pH**

186 **5.1.2 pH Values**

187 Tables(1 and 2) show the pH of the dumpsite leachate and ground water samples as  
188 well as WHO permissible limits of pH for drinking water. The pH of the dumpsite leachate  
189 was 6.74, while the pH of ground water samples were 6.94, 5.54, 5.62 and 5.03 for locations  
190 B, C, D and E respectively.

191

192 **Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)**

193 **5.1.3 Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)**

194 The TDS concentrations of the dumpsite leachate and groundwater samples as well as  
195 WHO permissible limits for drinking water are shown in Tables 1 and 2. The concentration of  
196 the dumpsite leachate was 62.8mg/L while the TDS of groundwater samples ranged between  
197 1.67 to 10.09mg/L.

198 **Electrical Conductivity (EC)**

199 **5.1.4 Electrical Conductivity (EC)**

**Comment [I11]:** Please give brief overview of correlation method for better understandings of the readers

**Comment [I12]:** Please recheck these values which seems to incorrect



200 Electrical conductivity is a measure of water's capability to pass electrical flow. This  
201 ability is directly related to the concentration of ions in water (Wetzel, 2001). The EC  
202 concentration of the dumpsite leachate 96.4 $\mu$ s/cm, while the EC concentration of  
203 groundwater samples ranged between 2.66 and 13.25  $\mu$ s/cm, Tables 1 and 2.

#### 204 **5.1.5 Nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>)**

205 Nitrate concentration of dumpsite leachate was 173.35mg/L Table (1). The Nitrate  
206 concentration in groundwater samples for locations B, C, D and E are 6.53mg/L, 55.11mg/L,  
207 8.52mg/L and 7.71mg/L respectively Table (2).

#### 208 **5.1.6 Chloride (Cl<sup>-</sup>)**

209 Chlorides are present in both freshwater and salt water, and are important elements of  
210 life. Naturally chloride exist as salts of sodium chloride, potassium chloride and calcium  
211 chloride (Napacho and Mangele, 2010).Chloride concentration of the dumpsite leachate was  
212 2439.24mg/L Table 1. The concentrations of chloride in the groundwater samples ranged  
213 from 31.99mg/L (4km borehole sample E) to 405.00mg/L (Table 2).

#### 214 **Total Hardness (TH)**

#### 215 **5.1.7 Total Hardness (TH)**

216 Water hardness is the amount of dissolved calcium and magnesium in the water. Hard  
217 water is formed when water percolates and has contact with calcium and magnesium  
218 carbonates. The total hardness of the dumpsite leachate was 2000mg/L (Table 1). The TH of  
219 groundwater samples in locations B, C, D and E were 364mg/L, 480mg/L, 148mg/L and  
220 64mg/L respectively (Table 2).

#### 221 **Alkalinity (Alk)**

#### 222 **5.1.8 Alkalinity (Alk)**

223 It is the quantitative capacity of aqueous solution to stabilize the pH or neutralize an  
224 acid, usually from waste water. The alkalinity concentration of dumpsite leachate was  
225 880mg/L (Table 1). The alkalinity values for the groundwater samples ranged from 25mg/L  
226 to 92mg/L, with the 4km borehole water having the lowest value 25mg/L (Table 2).

#### 227 **Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)**

#### 228 **5.1.9 Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)**

229 It is the amount of dissolved oxygen required by aerobic biological organisms in a  
230 body of water to break down organic material present in a given water sample at certain  
231 temperature over a specific period of time. High value of BOD (4626.67mg/L) was found in  
232 the dumpsite leachate (Table 1). Similarly the BOD concentration in the groundwater

233 samples in locations B, C, D and E were 325,00mg/L, 162.00mg/L, 132.50mg/L and  
234 105mg/L respectively (Table 2).

235

## 236 **Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)**

### 237 **5.1.10 Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)**

238 Tables (1 and 2) shows COD of the dumpsite leachate and groundwater samples  
239 collected at four (4) dumpsite at different distances from the dumpsite. A high COD value of  
240 11,566.70mg/L recorded in the leachate sample. The concentration of COD in groundwater  
241 samples ranged from 262.50mg/L to 812,5mg/L.

242

## 243 **Minerals**

### 244 **5.1.11 Minerals**

#### 245 **a. Iron $Fe^{2+}$**

246 Tables (1-2) shows the concentration of iron in the dumpsite leachate which was  
247 2.24mg/L, while iron was not detected in all the underground water sampled (Table 2). The  
248 concentration of  $Fe^{2+}$  in the dumpsite leachate is above WHO standards (0.3mg/L).

#### 249 **b. Magnesium ( $Mg^{2+}$ )**

250 The concentration of magnesium in dumpsite leachate was 6.78mg/L (Table 1).  
251 Magnesium was not contained in the groundwater samples 0.00mg/L (Table 2).

#### 252 **c. Sodium ( $Na^+$ )**

253 The concentration of sodium in the dumpsite leachate was 198.67mg/L (Table 1),  
254 while the concentrations of sodium in the groundwater samples ranged between 56.02mg/L  
255 and 167.42mg/L.

## 256 **Correlation analysis**

### 257 **5.1.12 Correlation analysis**

258 Table 4 displays the result of correlation analysis of the examined dumpsite leachate  
259 and groundwater parameters. When TDS goes up in concentration the waters  $Na^+$  is likely to  
260 increase ( $P<0.05$ ). TDS on the other hand will go up ( $P<0.01$ ) and EC,  $NO_3^-$ ,  $Cl^-$ , TH, Alk,  
261 BOD and COD,  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Mg^{2+}$  will go up at ( $P<0.01$ ). When the water EC rises  $NO_3^-$ ,  $C^-$ ,  
262 TH, Alk, BOD, COD,  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Mg^{2+}$  goes up at ( $P<0.01$ ). The  $NO_3^-$  of the water goes up with  
263  $Cl^-$  and TH ( $P<0.01$ ) and concentrations goes up in the waters, Alk, BOD, COD,  $Fe^{2+}$  and  
264  $Mg^{2+}$  ( $P<0.05$ ). The  $Cl^-$  concentration has direct positive relationship with TH, Alk, BOD,  
265 COD,  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Mg^{2+}$  ( $P<0.01$ ). It is also notable that TH increases in the water bodies Alk,  
266 BOD, COD,  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Mg^{2+}$  also increased ( $P<0.01$ ). Also as Ak increases BOD, COD,  $Fe^{2+}$

267 and  $Mg^{2+}$  also increases ( $P < 0.01$ ). As BOD and COD increases COD,  $Fe^{2+}$ ,  $Mg^{2+}$  increases  
268 ( $P < 0.01$ ). TDS, EC,  $NO_3^-$ ,  $Cl^-$ , TH, ALK, BOD, COD and  $Fe^{2+}$  have strong correlation at ( $P <$   
269 0.01)

270

## 271 **Discussion**

### 272 **5.2 Discussion**

273 In the present study, the pH value of dumpsite leachate and location B were within the  
274 limits of WHO permissible limits for drinking water. However, the pH values in the locations  
275 C, D, and E of groundwater were below the WHO permissible limit for drinking water (6.6 –  
276 8.5), indicating that they are acidic and polluted by the dumpsite leachate. The pH of  
277 groundwater generally decreased with increasing distance from the dumpsite. The organic  
278 acids resulting from decaying vegetation might be responsible for the low pH. The result is  
279 similar to what was obtained by Ugwoha and Emete (2015). The ideal pH level for drinking  
280 water should be between 6.5 and 8.5. Lawson (2011) reported that the safest pH level of  
281 drinking water would be 7 which is pH level of pure water. Based on this, water from C, D  
282 and E are not suitable for drinking. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) warns that  
283 consuming high acidic or alkaline water is harmful. The low pH recorded for groundwater  
284 samples in locations C, D and E is of great concern. Low pH water may have a bitter or  
285 metallic taste.

286 The Total Dissolved Solids concentration of the dumpsite leachate and groundwater  
287 were below WHO permissible limit for drinking water (500mg/L). However, the TDS of the  
288 dumpsite was higher than the concentration of TDS groundwater samples. This indicates that  
289 the groundwater samples may be polluted with the leachate's TDS for groundwater samples.  
290 This result is similar to what was observed by Ugwoha and Emete (2015) that despite the  
291 high concentration of TDS of the dumpsite leachate, the TDS of concentrations of  
292 groundwater samples generally below the standards for drinking water. Thus, the  
293 groundwater seems unpolluted with the leachate's TDS. The implication of a very low  
294 concentration of TDS in drinking water may give water a flat taste which may be undesirable  
295 to many people, while high TDS concentration does not pose any health hazard. An elevated  
296 TDS indicates that the concentration of the dissolved ions may cause the water to be  
297 corrosive, salty or brackish taste, result in scale formation and interfere and decrease  
298 efficiency of hot water heaters.

299 The values of EC of dumpsite leachate and groundwater samples were below the 1000  
300  $\mu s/cm$  WHO permissible limits. TDS and EC of water are generally related. The low values

301 of TDS recorded in this study could also be accountable for the low EC results. The Nitrates  
302 concentration in the leachate was higher than WHO permissible limit for drinking water  
303 (<50mg/L). On the contrary, the concentrations of  $\text{NO}_3^-$  in the groundwater samples were  
304 generally low and below the WHO standards for drinking water except for the  $\text{NO}_3^-$   
305 concentration in location C that was moderately high. Generally nitrate and nitrite  
306 concentration had been reported to decrease with depth of the water (Akinwumi *et al*, 2012).  
307 The low  $\text{NO}_3^-$  of groundwater may not pose any danger to human health. George *et al*, (2010)  
308 reported that high concentration of Nitrate in drinking water is debilitating on human health.  
309 Nitrate is a strong oxidizing agent and  $\text{NO}_3^-$  can react with secondary amines present in  
310 human body, to form nitrosamines. Methaemoglobinemia is the main negative effect  
311 associated with human exposure to nitrate. Chloride is widely dispersed in nature as salts of  
312 sodium chloride and calcium chlorides (Napacho and Manyele, 2010). The source of  
313 chloride both in surface and groundwater may originate from both natural and man-made  
314 activities which include the use of inorganic fertilizer, landfill, septic tank, effluents, animal  
315 feed and industrial effluents (Napacho and Manyele, 2010). The chloride concentration of  
316 dumpsite is higher than the permissible standard stated by WHO for chloride in drinking water  
317 is 250mg/L. The chloride concentration in location B and C exceeded the WHO limits for  
318 drinking water. The chloride concentration in the leachate water sample was significantly  
319 higher than that of other tested water samples (Tables 1 and 2). The high chloride  
320 concentration in the leachate sample may be due to discharge of chloride bearing sewage into  
321 the dumpsite. Chloride concentration decreased with increasing distance, indicating that the  
322 presence of chloride in groundwater can be distributed to leachate migration from dumpsite  
323 to the surrounding groundwater. The appreciable lower chloride content obtained in the  
324 borehole sample could be as a result of its far distance from dumpsite and the depth of water.  
325 In controlled intake of water containing sodium chloride at concentration above 2.5g/litre has  
326 been reported to cause hypertension. Chloride concentration above 250mg/L can give rise to  
327 detectable taste depending on the associated cations (NSDWQ 2007, WHO 2011). The  
328 concentration of TH in the dumpsite leachate and groundwater samples in locations B, C, and  
329 D were greater than WHO permissible limits for drinking water, while the TH concentration  
330 of groundwater in location E was lower than the WHO permissible limits for drinking water.  
331 Hard water high concentration of minerals may have moderate health benefits but it can cause  
332 critical problems. Hard water can also cause problem in the washing and cleaning. The high  
333 mineral concentration present in hard water prevents the foaming action of soap and

334 detergents. Skin disease such as eczema can be developed as a result of use of hard water in  
335 bathing which makes the skin dry.

336 The pH value of dumpsite leachate and location B were within the limits of WHO  
337 permissible limits for drinking water. However, the pH value in location C, D and E of  
338 groundwater were below the WHO permissible limit for drinking water (6.6-8.5), indicating  
339 that they are acidic and polluted by the dumpsite leachate. The pH of groundwater generally  
340 decreased with increasing distance from the dumpsite. The result is similar to what was  
341 obtained by Ugwoha and Emete (2015). The ideal pH level for drinking water should be  
342 between 6 to 8.5.

343 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) warns that consuming high acidic or alkaline water  
344 is harmful. The low pH recorded for groundwater samples in locations C, D, and E is of great  
345 concern. Low pH water may have a bitter or metallic taste.

346 The TDS concentration of the dumpsite leachate and the groundwater samples were  
347 below WHO permissible limit for drinking water (500mg/L). However, the TDS of dumpsite  
348 leachate was higher than the concentration of TDS groundwater samples. This indicates that  
349 the groundwater samples may not be polluted with leachate's TDS for the groundwater  
350 samples. This result is similar to what was observed by Ugwoha and Emete (2015).

351 The implication of a very low concentration of TDS in drinking water may give water a flat  
352 taste which may be undesirable to many people, while a high TDS concentration does not  
353 pose any health hazard. An elevated TDS indicates that the concentration of the dissolved  
354 ions may cause the water to be corrosive, salty or brackish taste, result in scale formation and  
355 interfere and decrease efficiency of hot water heaters.

356 The values of EC and groundwater samples were below the 1000 $\mu$ s/cm. TDS and EC  
357 of water are generally related. The low values of TDS recorded in this study could also be  
358 accountable for the low EC results. The electrical conductivity values of most fresh water  
359 range from 10-1000Us/cm but may exceed 1,000Us/cm especially in polluted waters or water  
360 receiving large quantities of land run off.

361 The NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentration in the leachate was higher than the WHO permissible limit  
362 for drinking water (<50mg/L). On the contrary, the concentrations of NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> in the  
363 groundwater samples were generally low and below the WHO standards for drinking water  
364 except for the NO<sub>3</sub> concentration in location C that was moderately high. The low NO<sub>3</sub> of  
365 groundwater may not pose any danger to human health.

366 George *et al.*, (2010) reported that high concentration of Nitrate in drinking water is  
367 debilitating on human health. Nitrate is a strong oxidizing agent and NO can react with

368 secondary amines present in human body, to form nitrosamines. Methaemoglobinemia is the  
369 main negative effect associated with human exposure to nitrate

370 Chloride are leached from many rocks and enter into the soil and water through  
371 weathering. The source of chloride both in surface and groundwater may originate from both  
372 neutral and man-made activities which include the use of inorganic fertilizer landfill, septic  
373 tank effluents, animal feed and industrial effluents (Napacho and Mangele 2010). The  
374 chloride concentration of dumpsite is higher than the permissible standard stated by WHO for  
375 chloride in drinking water is 250mg/L. Similarly, the Cl<sup>-</sup> concentration in location B and C  
376 exceed the WHO limits for drinking water. The chloride concentration in the leachate water  
377 sample was significantly higher than that of other tested water samples (Tables 1 and 2). The  
378 high chloride concentration in the leachate sample may be due to discharge of chloride  
379 bearing sewage into the dumpsite. Chloride concentration decreased with increasing distance,  
380 indicating that the presence of chloride in groundwater can be attributed to leachate migration  
381 from dumpsite to the surrounding groundwater. The appreciable lower chloride content  
382 obtained in the borehole sample could be as a result of its far distance from the dumpsite and  
383 the depth of water. In controlled intake of water containing sodium chloride at concentration  
384 above 2.5g/litre has been reported to cause hypertension. Chloride concentration above  
385 250mg/l can give rise to detectable taste depending on the associated cations.

386 The concentrations of TH in the dumpsite leachate and groundwater samples in  
387 locations B, C and D were greater than WHO permissible limits for drinking water, while the  
388 TH concentration in groundwater in location E was lower than the WHO permissible limits  
389 for drinking water. Hard water with high concentration of minerals may have moderate health  
390 benefits but it can cause critical problems. Hard water can also cause problem in the washing  
391 and cleaning. The high mineral concentration present in hard water prevents the foaming  
392 action of soap and detergents. Skin disease such as eczema can be developed as a result of  
393 use of hard water in bathing which makes the skin dry.

394 The concentration of dumpsite leachate was above WHO permissible level  
395 (120mg/L); while the values of TH concentration in groundwater samples are below 120mg/L  
396 WHO permissible limit of TH for drinking water. The concentration of TH decreased with  
397 increasing distance from the dumpsite, which imply that the presence of concentration of  
398 minerals can be attributed to leachate migration from the dumpsite to the surrounding  
399 groundwater. Alkalinity can lead to corrosion and can influence chemical and biochemical  
400 reactions (George *et. al.*, 2010).

401 The BOD concentration of dumpsite leachate and groundwater samples were higher  
402 than the WHO permissible limits for drinking water. The concentrations of BOD are high in  
403 the wells near to the dumpsite. When the BOD of water is high the dissolved oxygen  
404 concentration will reduce due to the oxygen that is available in the water is been used by the  
405 bacteria. Thus the higher the BOD value the greater the amount of organic matter in the water  
406 samples. The high BOD in the groundwater samples indicates polluted water by organic  
407 matter from the sewage discharged to the dumpsite, hence the water from the groundwater  
408 around the dumpsite may not be safe for human consumption. Water with high concentration  
409 of BOD is a common feature of organically pollutants in the water bodies (Ogbogu and  
410 Olajide, 2002, Tyokumbur *et al*, 2002, Atobadele *et al*, 2005).

411 The high values of COD in the dumpsite leachate and groundwater samples indicates  
412 high chemically oxidizable organic pollutants in the groundwater which implies that the  
413 groundwater may not be safe for drinking (Talsi and Zouboulis, 2002). The COD values of  
414 the dumpsite leachate and groundwater were higher than the WHO permissible limits for  
415 drinking water. The pollution levels are high in the groundwater wells near the dumpsites an  
416 indication that the dumpsite leachate is contributing to the chemically organic contaminant  
417 levels of the surrounding groundwater. High levels of COD indicates that there was  
418 decomposition of organic and inorganic compounds in the water that requires high levels of  
419 oxygen in the water.

420 The source of the iron which is the dumpsite leachate may be as a result of metallic  
421 components from factories and other industrial waste water containing ferrous iron is clear  
422 and colourless and it is soluble in water. Human bodies require iron to function properly, but  
423 iron like many substances is toxic at high doses. Iron in well water has its effect on laundry  
424 dishes and water receptacles. The concentration of iron in the groundwater samples that  
425 contained (0.00mg/L) may have negative effects on the community that surround the  
426 dumpsite. Iron deficit can lead to anaemia, causing tiredness, headaches and loss of  
427 concentration. The immune system may also be affected. In young children this negatively  
428 affects mental development, leads to irritability and causes concentration disorder. Young  
429 children, pregnant women and women in their period are often treated with iron (II) salts  
430 upon iron deficits. High iron concentration are absorbed by haemochromatose patients, iron is  
431 stored in the pancreas, liver and spleen and heart. This may damage these vital organs.  
432 However, healthy people are generally not affected by iron overdose, which is also generally  
433 rare. It may occur when one drinks water with iron concentrations over 200ppm.

434 The magnesium concentration in the dumpsite leachate was lower than the WHO permissible  
435 limit for drinking water (40mg/L). The sources of  $Mg^{2+}$  in the dumpsite leachate could arise  
436 from both natural and anthropogenic sources. Magnesium present in rock can be washed and  
437 subsequently end up in the dumpsite, also effluent discharged fertilizer and cattle feed may  
438 end up in the dumpsite. Magnesium and other alkali earth metals, which makes the water to  
439 be hard; hence water containing low amounts of magnesium is regarded as soft water.

440 Magnesium as a dietary mineral for most organisms. Magnesium is important in plant  
441 photosynthesis or it is present as a central molecule of chlorophyll. The health effects of  
442 magnesium shows that it is present in human body and present in bones, muscles and other  
443 tissues. Magnesium is responsible for membrane function, nerve stimulant transmission,  
444 muscle contraction, protein construction and DNA replication. However, a large dosage may  
445 cause vomiting and diarrhea. Magnesium in high doses in medicine and food supplements  
446 may cause muscle slackening, nerve problems, depressions and personality.

447 Despite the high concentration of sodium in dumpsite leachate, the concentration of  
448 sodium in the leachate and groundwater samples were below the WHO permissible limits for  
449 drinking water as shown on Table (2). The concentration of sodium decreased with increasing  
450 distance from the dumpsite, indicating that the presence of  $Na^+$  in the groundwater can be  
451 attributed to leachate migration from the dumpsite to the surrounding groundwater. Sodium is  
452 a common element that exists in the environment and it is often found in food and drinking  
453 water. The human body needs sodium requires sodium in order to maintain blood pressure,  
454 control fluid levels for normal nerve muscle function.

455

## 456 **Conclusion**

### 457 **6.0 Conclusion**

458 Generally, contaminations of groundwater are high in the wells near to Awotan  
459 Dumpsite. The pH of dumpsite leachate was within the recommended values for of the WHO  
460 limits for drinking water, while the pH of the groundwater samples ranges from 5.03-6.94,  
461 implying the groundwater in the study area was acidic. Values obtained from the dumpsite  
462 leachate for Chloride, Nitrate, Total hardness Alkalinity, Biochemical Oxygen Demand and  
463 Chemical Oxygen Demand were above the recommended values World Health Organization  
464 (WHO), while the remaining parameters were within. The BOD and COD of groundwater  
465 samples did not meet the WHO required standards, implying that the groundwater in the  
466 study area were severely contaminated with organics. Similarly concentration of Chloride and  
467 Total hardness in the locations B and C parameters exceeded the WHO limits, while all other



468 parameters of groundwater samples were within the WHO standards. The groundwater  
469 samples, in this study, did not contain minerals such as Iron and Magnesium. The  
470 groundwater samples however contained Sodium, in content below the WHO standard and  
471 the concentration decreased with increasing distance from the dumpsite. Na<sup>+</sup> in  
472 Awotangroundwater can therefore be attributed to leachate migration. Analyzed parameter  
473 like TDS, EC, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>, TH, Alk, BOD, COD and Fe<sup>2+</sup> showed strong positive correlation (P  
474 < 0.01) and their relationships may be traced to a common source. It is concluded that the  
475 water from dumpsite surroundings in Awotanis not safe for drinking.

## 476 7.0 Recommendations

### 477 Competing Interests

478 Authors have declared that no completing interest exist,  
479

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#### Comment [I13]:

1. Please give set of precise recommendations , like
  - a. Role of local governments for ensure solid waste disposals as per EPA.
  - b. Role of community / NGOs/ CBOs etc to create awareness about solid waste management
  - c. Role of federal government
  - d. designing and implementing sustained behavioral change communication strategies
2. Further research work to be undertaken on this subject

**Comment [I14]:** These are OK, Preferably , reference sitting should be on the line of APA format. DOI persistent links to those references that have DOIs should be added

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