# Assessing the Relationship Between **Demographics and Severe Malaria Risk in** Nigeria: A Causal Inference Approach with **Doubly Robust Estimator**

Raheem Nasirudeen<sup>1</sup>, Balogun Kaothara<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup>The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria



#### BACKGROUND

- According to World Health Organization in 2022, Nigeria has the highest burden of Malaria in the world.

### METHODOLOGY

• Severe malaria occurs when infections are complicated by serious organ failures or abnormalities in the patient's blood or metabolism. It is a serious life-threatening disease, because of its many complications that combine to be the causes. In Nigeria, malaria remains a significant public health challenge with estimated 97 million cases and 300,000 deaths annually. Severe malaria is caused by the combination of various health conditions like headache, anemia, liver, prostration, cold, fever, and some serious health problems.

## OBJECTIVES

- Understand doubly robust estimator formular as a causal inference method.
- Analyze the sample size of the variables (symptoms, demographics, and severe malaria) under study.
- Average treatment effect with 95% confidence interval for the demographic variables under study.
- Determine the probability risk of demographics to severe malaria using causal inference.

# DOUBLY ROBUST ESTIMATOR FORMULAR

$$\hat{\theta}_{DR} = \hat{\theta}_{TM} + \frac{Y - \hat{Q}(X)}{\hat{e}(X)}$$

# SYMPTOMS SAMPLE SIZE





# DEMOGRAPHICS SAMPLE SIZE



# AVERAGE TREATMENT EFFECT WITH C.I

Plot with Confidence Interval



### RESULTS

• There is 33.36% of increased risk in severe malaria for

#### Children

• There is 12.87% of increased risk in severe malaria for

#### adults

• There is 0.56% of increased risk in severe malaria for young

adults.



# SEVERE MALARIA SAMPLE SIZE

![](_page_0_Figure_32.jpeg)

• There is a low risk of severe malaria for Adolescents, Old

# REFERENCES

- Bang, H., Robins, J. M., & Doubly Robust Estimation in Missing Data and Causal Inference Models. Biometrics, 61(4), 962-972. doi:10.1111/j.0006-341X.2005.030451.x
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.). Malaria About the disease. Retrieved from https://www.cdc.gov/malaria/about/disease.html
- Nathan McJames, Andrew Parnell & Ann O'Shea (2023): Factors affecting teacher job satisfaction: a causal inference machine learning approach using data from TALIS 2018, Educational Review, DOI: 10.1080/00131911.2023.2200594 • Smith, J., Johnson, A., & Anderson, B. (2017). Improving causal inference with a doubly robust estimator that combines propensity score stratification and weighting, (https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/28116816/)