

**FOOD NANOTECHNOLOGY: A PERSPECTIVE OF
FOOD SCIENCE & NUTRITION STUDENTS
OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SEDAYA
INTERNATIONAL**

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ABSTRACT

This study reviews on nanotechnology and its current as well as potential applications in the food industry. Important issues such as potential health risks, environmental impacts and regulatory control of nano-applications in food industry are also highlighted in this study. Nanotechnology is fast-becoming one of the key technologies of the century. Its advancement in the food industry promises potential applications. Nonetheless, this development needs to be accompanied with widespread understanding of the subject among the public, especially among food and nutrition professionals. The survey examined how students of food and nutrition major (n=77) perceive nanotechnology and its applications in food, as well as gauges the knowledge and awareness level of students. Results from the survey revealed that majority of respondents have heard of nanotechnology. This is accompanied by 67.5% respondents with good knowledge of food nanotechnology. Good understanding of nanotechnology is particularly important to avoid public's backlash which might affect its development. It is also of significance for food and nutrition majors to understand nanotechnology as it is slowly penetrating the food industry. Awareness on current situation of food nanotechnology locally and abroad is low, with only 36.4% of respondents with good awareness. However, a majority of respondents (89.6%) had good perceptions of food nanotechnology, which is an encouraging sign for the development of nanotechnology in the near future.