

The Burden of System Failure Resulting in Cases of Abandoned Patients in Healthcare Facilities on Nursing Practice: The Nigeria Experience

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Abstract

Unarguably, the healthcare sector of any economy, including the underdeveloped, developing and developed economies, forms the bedrock of any nation's growth and development. A range of factors affect the performance and delivery of professional nursing care in the Nigerian health care system. The gamut running from inadequate health facilities, poor management of human resources, inappropriate health care financing, shortage and inadequate supply of drugs and health care providers, illiteracy, religious bias and political influence to complete ignorance on the part of the patients of their constitutional rights as citizens which has led to the incidences of abandoned patients in our health care facilities. These factors in turn have significant effects on the practice of the nursing profession in the country. This research picks out system failures which results in cases of abandoned patients in the Nigerian Health System, and the concomitant effects on nursing practice both in the private and public sectors. Well-structured questionnaires would be randomly distributed among nursing practitioners in health sectors in Lagos and other major cities in Nigeria. The responses would be analyzed and based on the results, recommendation would be made on building a framework for implementing a sustainable health care system in order to reduce mortality rate, citizens' distrust in the healthcare system and increase professionalism in the nursing practice in Nigeria.

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