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Adaptive solutions for healthcare delivery: Rural communities in the middle -income countries

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Objective: It is an unarguable fact that healthcare as a system has been and will always be a vital entity to human existence and the onus rests on every nation to provide health services, and individuals to have consciousness of healthy living. The health status of the rural is generally not good as urban health especially in middle and low-income countries and research within the last decade reveal the couple of drawbacks such as the geographical location (access issues), health constraints, access to healthcare services. These factors have affected the actualization of a healthy environment and have regrettably led to high mortality rate from preventable causes. The research focuses on Bayelsa state, located in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria and the purpose is aimed at developing a guide for effective healthcare delivery to surpass challenges especially where access due to physical conditions are prevalent for various demo-geographic rural settings.

Methodology: The sequential theory of the mixed method approach aids to fulfill the objectives of this research. Quantitatively, the questionnaire survey generated the key variables in the field study and was concurrently followed by in-depth interviews, participant observation and focus groups which forms the qualitative approach.

Findings: Reveal a colossal negligence exhibited by the government (ineffective policies), accessibility issues (70% water terrain) and poor health care need evaluation for the rural, creating gaps in the areas of infrastructure, health facilities, and resources. As a result, the rural is regrettably unfortunate and record high mortality rates especially in women and children due to physical cut-off stemming from accessibility and lack of government support.

Biography

Azuka Onyeme is a doctoral researcher in the School of Architecture, Civil and Building Engineering at the Loughborough University, Loughborough, the United Kingdom since July 2015. Her research interest lies in the area of rural healthcare delivery, ranging from the concept of accessibility (aid of geographical information systems, ArcGIS), need assessment of the rural and template to better health services and implementation. She completed her master's degree program in Engineering Project Management at Coventry University, Coventry after a first degree in Civil Engineering from Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Nigeria. She has managed laboratory sessions (tutoring) of undergraduates for years now on architectural and engineering software modules such as Navisworks, AutoCAD, and Revit, she is certified in Building Information Modelling (BIM 360 family). She is married with three children, enjoys reading and watching movies.

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