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Assessment of common barriers affecting access to quality health care services in rural hospital facilities: Case of chikwawa district hospital

Background: Quality health care is care that is safe, effective, patient-centered, timely, efficient, and equitable. Quality health care has to be accessed by all citizens whether in urban or rural areas. In order to achieve access to quality healthcare for the entire researcher sought to assess the few but common barriers that affect quality health care services in rural hospitals, the case study of Chikwawa district hospital in the southern part of Malawi.

Materials and Methods: A mixed method of research was used where Abductive approach was employed; both qualitative and quantitative data was collected from various respondents. Random selection of 51 participants was done. The results findings showed that knowledge in patients' rights and responsibilities do affect positively to access of quality health care services as well as the cultural practices in the community. The study also revealed that the knowledge of patients' rights and responsibility is more in health care service providers than the users, it was also discovered that the users are not sensitized on this issues of public importance in which they may respond that the know but there is knowledge gap which cannot quantify their real level of knowledge. . All data collected was analyzed using statistical package for social sciences in order to arrange the data and generate tables and graphs.

Result: Recommendation that the Ministry of health should consider training, implementation and monitoring of issues should be prioritised in health sector policy document. District health officers and District health management team and other health care service providers should prioritise implementation and sensitization of the community around the facilities.

Biography

Patricia Singini is a PhD development studies student, has a master of Guidance and counseling, MPH pending, Bachelors of Health systems management, graduate diploma in public health, diploma in anesthesia and care of critically ill patient, Nurse Midwife technician, done professional certificates with AAU in Thesis and dissertation writing, Research methods, digital marketing, journal establishment and management. A lecturer in health systems management, a scientist, researcher, research supervisor, development strategists, counsellor and a Consultant, tailor and designer. She developed a curriculum of Bachelor of Science in counseling and psychotherapy. She has published two books, five research articles, attended four conferences. Have four projects in uplifting Malawians.



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