

Advancing Nursing Research: Transforming healthcare approaches through quality research skills development

WORKSHOP REPORT

LAGOS UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL (LUTH), 19th - 20th March 2020

This research skills workshop was sponsored by Global Research Nurses (GRN) and The Global Health Network (TGHN), University of Oxford, and was attended by 152 people. In total, 170 registered to attend through an online booking system. The venue was donated free of charge to host the training, a gesture from the Continuing Professional Development Committee of Nursing services Department of Lagos State University Teaching Hospital (LUTH).

Local keynote speakers attended and presented across the 2-day programme, and a virtual session was conducted in association with a speaker based in South Africa. Participants in the workshop attended from various institutions across western Nigeria, from Public to private sector, as well as research organizations.



Day 1: Thursday 19th March 2020

The programme commenced at 8:00am with confirmation of registered participants, and at 8:30am, the opening ceremony started. In attendance were the Chief Medical Director (CMD) of LUTH (represented), The Director of Nursing Services Lagos State (represented); the Head of Nursing services LUTH, all Directors of Nursing services in LUTH, and members of the media.

The CMD of the hospital gave an opening speech encouraging nurses to continue their quest for research knowledge as research gives answers to scientific questions in the clinical setting and beyond. The Director of Nursing Services, Lagos, during her speech, encouraged nurses to be more involved in research and publishing studies as this is an important way to promote visibility and recognition in the health care sector, as nurses are missing out in this regard across Africa, especially Nigeria. She took time to thank the organizers of the programme (GRN and TGHN) reflecting that the opportunity is one of a kind and the very first in Lagos state. The Head of CPDC Assistant Director of Nursing, Mrs Adepoju Sarah (LUTH) also spoke to participants on the importance of the opportunity given to them by the sponsors of the programme and asked other Head of Nursing services present to work with her in exploring the opportunity of such programme for Nurses in Lagos.

The first session was an Introduction to The Global Health Network (<https://tghn.org/>) platform and Global Research Nurses (<https://globalresearchnurses.tghn.org/>) knowledge hub and activities, including how to use the platform resources as presented by Mr Ralueke Ekezie (Event Coordinator) and the programme activities pursued across the world, especially in Nigeria, as well as future initiatives for nurses.

Ralueke provided a guided tour of the platform's free resources available to members of GRN as well as opportunities to network with other researchers across the world. He also encouraged registration to GRN in order to take maximum advantage of the learning tools available through the platform. He also introduced the Professional Development Scheme (<https://globalhealthtrainingcentre.tghn.org/pds/>), the aim of the scheme; how it works, and the different levels of membership. It was demonstrated how nurses can enrol in the scheme to measure, track and build up their competencies.

The second speaker was Ali Sarah Aricha (RN, BSCN, MSCN) who presented on the Career Pathway of a Clinical Research Nurse, discussing the various routes nurses could pursue to strengthen a career in research, sharing how rewarding a career in research can be. Her presentation was followed by Ogungbenro Anne (RN, BSCN, MSCN) discussing data management and analysis in research. The morning session concluded with a presentation by Mr Akinbo Oludare on recruitment and retention of research participants.

Following a refreshment break, participants were allocated into three groups to discuss topics presented so far. Each group appointed a rapporteur who took notes and made a 5-minute summary presentation of the points raised and discussed.

The afternoon session started at 1:20pm with a Skype presentation on the TDR Competencies Framework, a virtual session hosted and led by Dr. Elize Pietersen based in South Africa. She was able to talk to the participants on professional skills and competencies and different roles of a nurse within a research team. This included how the framework applies, the grading system, and how nurses can use the competency framework in their various fields.

The afternoon session was followed by lunch, and afterwards concluded with a questions and answers session aimed at all the speakers who kindly presented on the various topics across the day. The Q&A session lasted for 30 minutes bringing the first day to a close at 4.00pm.



Day 2: Friday 20th March 2020

Day 2 of the workshop commenced at 8:00am with a presentation by Tosin Ogunmodi on the current challenges and issues with publication, and the solutions to address this. This included discussing the challenges of clinical research among nurses and recommendations on how to improve the quality of publications. The second presentation from Ralueke Ekezie focused on “Site set-up, site visits and site assessment”, walking the participants through the necessary steps and processes for site preparation, site visits of feasibility studies, basic requirements for setting up a research site, and GCP principles. This concluded the morning session.

The morning session was followed with a tea break for the participants and ended at 10:50am. The workshop participants were divided into two groups to discuss the topics earlier presented for 20 minutes

Following a refreshment break, participants were allocated into two groups, under a different configuration to the day before, to discuss topics presented through the morning so far. Each group reported to participants the key learning outcomes, or significant points raised.

The afternoon session began with a presentation on “Mentoring in Clinical Nursing Research” by Saliu Adenike Aminat and Ladejobi T.M spoke on the “Implementation and Dissemination of Research Findings” guiding participants on the goals of dissemination, tools that nurses can use to disseminate their research findings, how to plan for this and the core importance of disseminating findings. This was followed by a break for lunch and networking amongst participants.

From 3:00pm to 4:00pm the workshop coordinator took the participants through the registration process to become members of GRN, how to use and navigate the platform, with a real-time demonstration to illustrate the quick and simple steps. Participants were asked to complete the evaluation feedback survey for the workshop, necessary to receive a certificate of attendance.

The workshop ended at 4:00pm Nigerian Time with a closing prayer from a participant.

Raluke Ekezie
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