

AWARENESS AND PERCEPTION OF CONTRIBUTORY SOCIAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME AMONG RESIDENTS IN URBAN COMMUNITIES OF SOKOTO STATE, NIGERIA

¹Ango, U. M. ¹Oche, M. O. ¹Yunusa, E. U. ²Muhammad A. ²Umar, M. T.
³Adamu A. and ⁴Hali B.

¹Department of Community Health, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto

²Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto

³Department of Paediatric, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto

⁴Department of Medical Microbiology and Parasitology, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto

Corresponding Author's email: drangoos@yahoo.com



Abstract

Health care services are adjudged to be unsatisfactory and inadequate in meeting the needs and demands of the public as reflected by the poor state of health of the population of Nigeria. The current high rate of morbidity and mortality can be substantially reduced by a more rational application of available resources, even at the time of financial stringency in Nigeria, the health sector's contribution to national development remains a serious issue, therefore, as part of government efforts to address the problems in the sector, the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) was initiated to address the health problems in Nigeria. Regrettably the emergence of NHIS seems not to garner the much expected acceptance support and cooperation from the civil servants. This was a cross-sectional study carried out to assess awareness and perception of contributory social health insurance scheme among the residents in the selected urban communities in Sokoto metropolis, Sokoto State, Nigeria. Data were analyzed using IBM® SPSS version 20 statistical package. A large proportion of the respondents were between 21-30 years 137 (34.2%) and 31-40 years 99 (24.7%) with a mean age of 38.5 ± 15.5 . Majority of them were males 257 (64.1%), Hausa by tribe 329 (82.0%) and Muslims 344 (85.8%). More than half of the respondents, 249 (62.1%) had tertiary education, and were civil servants 235 (58.6%). Less than half 188(46.9%) of the respondents were aware of contributory health insurance scheme, with health workers being their main source of information. More than half (51.5%) of the respondents had positive perception of contributory social health insurance. Even though low level of awareness was reported among the respondents, over half of them demonstrated positive perception of contributory social health insurance scheme. This underscore the need for governments at all levels to intensify action on enlightenment campaign and education of the general public aimed at raising the level of awareness and participation in the CSHIS

Keywords: Awareness, Contributory social health insurance scheme, Perception, Residents of urban communities, Sokoto