

Building Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Capacity in Nigeria- CMUL IPC Curriculum Project

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Capacity building in IPC is paramount to improving patient safety and quality of care.

BACKGROUND

- Capacity building in IPC is crucial for healthcare systems to effectively combat healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) and antimicrobial resistance (AMR).
- Strengthening IPC structure and organization at the facility level is important to minimize infection transmission in the healthcare facility.
- Building a strong IPC program requires trained personnel.
- This project aims to train IPC practitioners for Nigeria.

METHODS/ACTIVITY

- First set of trainees were from the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control's 'Orange Network'.
- 6-month training program culminates in the award of an IPC diploma.
- A blended curriculum that starts with an 8-week Basic Course, followed by an Intermediate and Advanced Course.
- Courses consisted of lectures, interactive sessions, simulation exercises, clinical sessions and practical.
- Successful trainees who completed the virtual trainings are invited for in-person trainings to strengthen their hands-on skills.
- A community of practice was set up for continuous mentorship of the trainees. It included spotlight sessions in collaboration with the ICAN-NSIC ECHO program and office hours sessions for the trainees to interact with trainers.
- Evaluations of candidates is based on continuous assessments, clinical evaluations, practical and written examinations.

RESULTS

- Analysis of post-course evaluations demonstrated increased knowledge.
- Trainees described the training as versatile, powerful, thought-provoking, innovative, different, and distinctive.
- Some trainees have gone ahead to set up structured IPC committees, respond to outbreaks and organize hand hygiene training at their facilities.

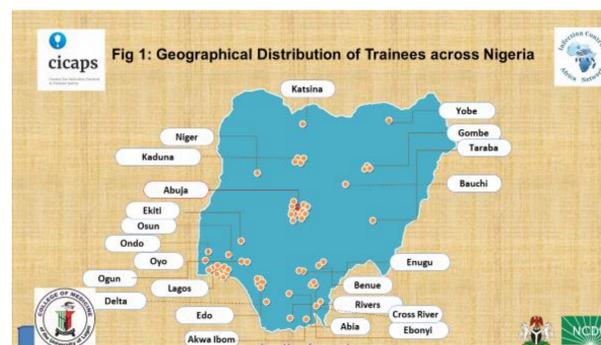


Fig 2: Facility and Duty Type of Cohort 1 Trainees

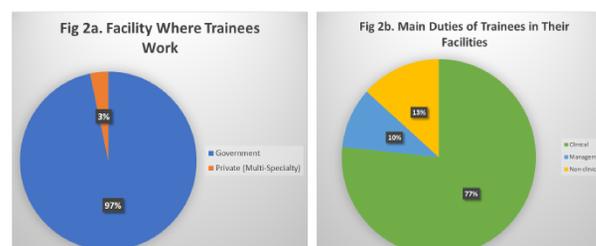


Fig 3: Community of Practice Activities



CONCLUSIONS

- Preliminary evaluations showed improved knowledge and competencies across all the modules.
- Next step is the evaluation of the impact of the program at the facility level.
- This model has proved to be effective and can be replicated in other settings in Africa.

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