

QUALITY OF NURSING DOCUMENTATION IN GENERAL HOSPITALS

BY

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DEGREE IN NURSING SCIENCE

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Quality of Nursing Documentation in General Hospitals" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined quality of nursing documentation in general hospitals, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of quality; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with quality and nursing. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Health Belief Model and the Orem's Self-Care Deficit Theory. A sample size of 392 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 379 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.17). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.48$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 6.59, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.15$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on quality.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of quality of nursing documentation in general hospitals is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

The relationship between quality and nursing has been the subject of sustained academic interest across several disciplines. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which quality advances in practice. The aggregate picture emerging from Ogunlana and Ekwueme (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between quality and the outcomes of interest. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in nursing science. The work of Ibrahim and Umeh (2023) extended earlier analyses by demonstrating that nursing reinforces the effects of quality. These developments carry important implications for policy and practice in nursing science. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

quality continues to command considerable attention among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners in nursing science. Evidence from national agencies indicates that quality has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. Comparative work by Ekwueme and Ibrahim (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking quality with nursing. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. Empirical evidence from Musa and Osinachi (2021) suggests that positive developments in nursing are associated with improvements in quality. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

A growing corpus of literature draws attention to the pivotal role of quality in shaping developmental trajectories. Economic pressures and resource scarcity frequently determine the pace at which quality advances in practice. Studies conducted within the West African subregion by Musa and Osinachi (2018) reached conclusions broadly consistent with the Nigerian evidence. For practitioners, the practical significance of quality cannot be overstated, given its demonstrable link with nursing. A notable study by Olawale and Umeh (2017) argued that the impact of quality is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. The weight of evidence therefore points toward a renewed commitment to evidence-based decision-making. Nevertheless, the existing literature is not without its limitations, and several questions remain unresolved.

Over the past two decades, quality has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. Public institutions at the federal, state, and local levels have developed programmes that seek to mainstream quality into routine governance. Findings reported by Umeh and Ekwueme (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to quality recorded markedly different results. Sustained engagement with the issues raised here is therefore essential if meaningful progress is to be recorded. Empirical evidence from