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**FINANCE OF NIGERIAN HEALTH SECTOR**

Health care finance can simply be described as the optimum use of financial resources to provide health care or health care resources and ensure that health care is adequately provided to the citizens of that state or country. The sad truth is that health care finance has become a problem in most countries of today, Nigeria inclusive. This issue is what I would like to address and explain in detail as we proceed.

One way this can be seen is the fact that Nigeria lacks enough qualified doctors and medical personnel. Most of the gifted doctors of the country have mostly fled to other developed countries such as U.S.A., Canada, United Kingdom etc. for greener pastures and better standard of living due to the harsh situation of the country i.e. Nigeria. The Nigerian government should use the financial resources to improve the standard of living of the citizens by providing security, social amenities etc. so medical workers would be encouraged to work within the country and at their absolute best. This would go a long way to improve the health sector in the long run.

Also, due to the fact that the Nigerian government did not put enough effort into the education sector, the health sector is also affected. This is because medical workers won’t be taught and exposed to the medical field as much as they should and when these workers are employed, they tend to make mistakes which would lead to unnecessary loss of lives. This is honestly the reason why Nigerians prefer to fly abroad in order to seek medical attention in foreign countries because of the delayed health sector in their own country and no one wants to die. I even hear a lot of abuad students say they would never receive medical attention from a doctor that graduated from abuad because they believe that the medical students are not serious or trained enough.

Another critique of the finance of the Nigerian health sector is the fact that they do not invest enough in the health sector. Even if they were enough trained medical workers, there are not enough hospitals in the country and the Nigerian government have turned a blind eye and are making little to no effort to build more. Hence, some graduates are left unemployed because there are not enough jobs to go round. There is also not enough provision of medical facilities and equipment such as medicines, MIR machines, X-ray machines etc. Without adequate provision of these medical supplies, the medical workers would not be able to perform their jobs effectively and this would lead to increase in death rate in the country. .

I hope the country would be able to point out their wrongs and work on solving them so in the future, the Nigerian health sector would be well financed and managed.

**2.** Well, economic evaluations involves the analysis and comparism of various approaches of health care in order to find out the most valid and desired health care strategy to adopt. This concept of health economics is very important, especially now that there is shortage of health care resources and increase in demand for health care services. Hence, if I was appointed as the Special Adviser on the Containment of the Corona virus pandemic in Nigeria, I would like to go ahead with the following plan of action I am about to discuss due to the fact of how severe the corona virus is.

Now the corona virus is a severe respiratory disease which is transmitted due to physical contact with infected persons. This can be through hugging, handshakes and other forms of body contact as traces of the virus could be on the infected person’s skin after sneezing or coughing. This is why everyone is expected to wash their hands for 20 seconds or to use an alcohol hand-sanitizer. So, the first thing to do is to try to prevent the disease from spreading further around the country. Prevention is always better than cure. We can do this by ensuring a lockdown in the country and make sure that everyone stays at home to ensure social distancing and encourage personal hygiene and cleanliness at all times. Of course, Nigeria is a developing country and many of her citizens depend on daily activities to provide food for themselves and their families. Therefore, I would also advise that the government should provide for these families during this trying time by suppling palliates to them by sending money to their bank accounts via through their BVN so as to avoid fights and conflicts for supplies. This would also be important because the price of food stuffs would increase as store owners would want to take advantage of the situation to gain profit. All businesses and interstate and international transport centers should be put on hault and social gatherings like schools and religious institutions should be shut down for the mean time. Only essential workers like medical workers who treat the infected people and security workers should be allowed to go work and preventive measures must be adhered to strictly during this time. It would also be a good strategy to tighten security as criminals would likely take advantage of the situation and rob innocent homes and families of their properties.

Also, I would advise that medical materials such as face masks, hand sanitizers and protective hand gloves be shared to the public in order to help prevent the spread of the corona virus. This is actually important as some households are so poor that they may not be able to afford these materials due to the high poverty rate in the country. This is also important because store owners would like use this as an opportunity to increase the prices of this materials for their personal gain and profit, hence making the situation more difficult for other citizens of the country. The prices of food stuffs would also increase due to the pandemic, which further supports my theory that food and palliates, and medical materials should be shared to the urban poor who are greatly affected at this point in time. I would also advise that third parties consisting of men and women integrity should be tasked with the sharing of these palliates in order to avoid embezzlement into the pockets of high people in the government. If financial resources should arrive from world organizations like W.H.O, the World Bank etc., this body should also be responsible for sharing of these funds to the general public.

I would also advise that the preparation, building and reinvention of proper isolation centers in every state and city in the country should be approved. This would be proper as those infected in any part of the country would have an appropriate place to stay and be taken care of. Another reason why this is important is because if the isolation centers are not properly built and cared for, infected persons would not be encouraged to live in such centers and would most likely make attempts to escape from isolation even though they know that they are putting the lives of other citizens in danger. Therefore, it is important that these centers should be made to be as conducive as possible so infected persons would be encouraged to stay there and be taken care of. Emphasis on personal hygiene and preventive measures should be placed on homes and places of work like food stores and hospitals and they should be advertised on television and radio shows to further pass the message.

I believe that if the following actions are performed we abide to them, the citizens of the country would be able to survive and the spread of the virus would be greatly reduced. We should be able to manage and pray to God until a cure comes up.