The 13th Annual Scientific Conference & Gathering

**Theme:**
Environmental Virology, Exposomics and Epigenetics

**Venue:**
Old Great Hall, College of Medicine, University of Lagos, Idi Araba, Lagos State

**Date:**
Wednesday 8th June 2016

**Time:**
8.00 am - 5.00 pm

- PROGRAMME & BOOK OF ABSTRACTS -
13th Annual Scientific Conference and Gathering

THEME
Environmental Virology, Exposomics and Epigenetics

SUBTHEMES
Non-communicable diseases: environmental and genetic influences
Public health financing and resource limitation

CHAIRMAN
Professor Rahamon A. Bello
Vice Chancellor, University of Lagos

SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOUR
Dr. Olajide Idris
Honourable Commissioner for Health, Lagos State

GUEST SPEAKER
Professor Sunday Aremu Omilabu
Professor of Virology
College of Medicine, University of Lagos

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Conference website
www.cmulfcscconference.com
BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES: Today, most developed countries provide universal access to healthcare through a combination of several forms of health insurance. Progressively deteriorating access to healthcare in many developing countries, especially in Africa (with a dominant out-of-pocket payment system) has informed the need for healthcare reforms. The National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), in 2011, had an estimated coverage of about 5 million people, most of the beneficiaries in the formal sector. With a surging population of over 160 million individuals, the target of universal health coverage seem distant. The study was aimed at assessing the knowledge, attitude and uptake of the NHIS amongst a group of private health practitioners in Lagos State.

METHODOLOGY: The study was a descriptive cross-sectional study amongst private health practitioners in Isolo LCDA, Lagos state. Multi-stage random sampling technique was used to select 228 private healthcare practitioners used in the study. Data was collected using self-administered questionnaires and analysis was carried out using Epi Info® 7 statistical software.

RESULTS: The mean age of respondents in this study was 34.9 ± 9.4. Almost all respondents (97.1%) had heard of the NHIS, 80.0% of respondents had good knowledge while 94.3% had positive attitude to the scheme. However, there was a low uptake of the scheme (20.9%) from the private health practitioners. There was a positive association between respondent’s knowledge (p = 0.02) and their uptake of NHIS.

CONCLUSIONS: The uptake of the NHIS scheme was low amongst private health practitioners. Campaigns through seminars and conferences are necessary to ensure that private health practitioners realize that their uptake is essential in achieving universal health coverage.

KEYWORDS: health insurance, NHIS, uptake, private practitioners, Lagos