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## A Survey of Sub-Specialty Preferences of Radiography Students of the University of Lagos , Nigeria.

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Technological advances and computing have expanded both the scope and capacity of diagnostic medical imaging (the radiography profession). This has created many diverse imaging modalities which in turn, have culminated in different sub-specialties in the profession. **Objective:** The aims of the study were to determine the level of awareness of imaging sub-specialties, preferred sub specialties and reasons for preferences of sub-specialties in senior level radiography students of the University of Lagos. **Methods:** The study was a prospective cross-sectional survey. Consents were obtained before the students were recruited for the study. **Data Collection and Analysis:** A questionnaire semi-structured in line with objectives of the study was used in data collection. A computer software Epi Info version 3.3 was used to analyze data while results were expressed as percentages of responses and were presented in tables and pie charts. **Results :** Greater than 90% showed awareness of sub-specialties in the radiography profession whereas 35% preferred ultrasonography to other sub-specialties. The least preferred sub-specialty was conventional radiography (4.3%). Remuneration (73.3%) and less physical exertion (73.3%) were major attractors to preferred sub-specialties whereas concerns over radiation hazard were major detractors (58.3%). **Conclusion :** Awareness of sub-specialties in the radiography profession was high amongst students studied. Furthermore, ultrasonography was the most preferred sub-specialty among the respondents. Remuneration was the main attractor to sub-specialties whereas fears over effects of ionizing radiation were the major detractors to some sub-specialties.