Title: Knowledge asymmetry in tier 1 and tier 2 healthcare providers in management of cervical cancer in Kenya.

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Abstract (300-word limit)

Statement of the Problem: In Kenya the doctor patient ratio 1:17,000 against the WHO recommendation of 1:1000. There are less than 500 specialized gynecologists in a population of over 42 million. Cervical cancer mortality is highest in rural areas which are served by tier 1 and tier 2 providers such as nurses, clinical officers and community health workers. There is little or no investment in this cadre of clinicians to up skill their technical knowledge of risk factors, assessment, diagnosis and treatment of pre-cancerous lesions and cervical intraepithelial neoplasia.

The purpose of this study is to assess the baseline knowledge of tier 1 and tier 2 healthcare providers in Nairobi to identify skills gaps thereby informing policies on universal health coverage and capacity development. Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: 20 tier 1 and tier 2 government facilities in Nairobi were sampled. The study had 500 respondents. Health care providers were issued electronic surveys to complete with image diagnosis. The respondents were assessed with a pass mark set at 80%. The results were analyzed using SPSS. Findings: The healthcare providers in this study had low levels of knowledge in technical aspects and differential diagnosis. Conclusion & Significance: For Kenya to achieve universal health coverage there needs to be a significant investment in training for nurses, clinical officers and community health workers. The knowledge level of risk factors and diagnosis of cervical cancer is at 58%.



Dinah has her expertise in cervical cancer screening and has a passion for creating access to quality health care at the bottom of the pyramid.
Her research on knowledge assessment of nurses, clinical officers and community health workers will help to guide the Kenya government approach to universal health coverage by allocating resources towards training and capacity Development of tier 1 and tier 2 health care providers.

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Note:

Graphs will be available on printed poster.