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TITLE - HEPATITIS C VIRUS TESTING AND TREATMENT AMONG PERSONS RECEIVING BUPRENORPHINE IN AN OFFICE - BASED PROGRAM FOR OPIOID USE DISORDERS IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT - IN NIGERIA, HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) INFECTION IS PRIMARILY SPREAD THROUGH INJECTION DRUG USE. THERE IS AN URGENT NEED TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO CARE FOR HCV AMONG PERSONS WITH OPIOID USE DISORDERS WHO INJECT DRUGS. THE PURPOSE OF OUR STUDY WAS TO DETERMINE THE PREVALENCE OF HCV, PATIENT CHARACTERISTICS, AND RECEIPT OF APPROPRIATE CARE IN A SAMPLE OF PATIENTS TREATED WITH BUPRENORPHINE FOR THEIR OPIOID USE DISORDERS IN A PRIMARY CARE SETTING.

THIS STUDY USED RETROSPECTIVE CLINICAL DATA FROM THE ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORD. THE STUDY POPULATION INCLUDED PATIENTS RECEIVING BUPRENORPHINE IN THE OFFICE BASED OPIOID TREATMENT (OBOT) CLINIC WITHIN THE ADULT PRIMARY MEDICINE CLINIC AT LAGOS MEDICAL CENTER BETWEEN OCTOBER 2008 AND AUGUST 2015 WHO RECEIVED A CONCLUSIVE HCV ANTIBODY AB TEST WITHIN A YEAR OF CLINIC ENTRY. WE COMPARED CHARACTERISTICS BY HCV SEROSTATUS USING PEARSON'S CHI-SQUARE AND PROVIDED NUMBERS/PERCENTAGES RECEIVING APPROPRIATE CARE.

THE SAMPLE COMPRISED 300 PATIENTS. SLIGHTLY LESS THAN HALF OF ALL PATIENTS (N = 134, 27.7%) WERE HCV AB POSITIVE, AND WERE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY TO BE OLDER HAUSAS AND YORUBA'S, HAVE DIAGNOSES OF POST- TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER (PTSD) AND BIPOLAR DISORDER, HAVE PRIOR HEROIN OR COCAINE USE, AND BE HI V- INFECTED. AMONG THE 134 HCV AB POSITIVE PATIENTS, 126 (67.7%) HAD DETECTABLE HCV RIBONUCLEIC ACID (RNA) INDICATING CHRONIC HCV INFECTION; ONLY 8 PATIENTS (2.21%) WITH CHRONIC HCV INFECTION EVER INITIATED TREATMENT.

NEARLY HALF OF PATIENTS (47.7%) RECEIVING OFFICE-BASED TREATMENTWITH BUPRENORPHINE FOR THEIR OPIOID USE DISORDER HAD A POSITIVE HEPATITIS C VIRUS ANTIBODY SCREENING TEST, ALTHOUGH INITIATION OF HCV TREATMENT WAS NEARLY NON- EXISTENT (2.21%).

BIOGRAPHY

DR, ADEYEMI ABATI COMPLETED IS MBBS IN 2004 AT OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL ILE –IFE NIGERIA, HE WAS TRAINED AT THE DEPARTMENT OF INECTIOUS DISEASES DURING IS RESIDENCY AND HE PROVIDED SEVERAL SUPERIOR CARE AND CONSULTAION THAT RESULTED IN OVERALL IMPROVEMENT OF DEPARTMENT PATIENT'S SATISFATION QUOTIENT.HE FOCUSED ON PATIENT'S TREATMENT AND RE-EVALUATED SEVERAL METHODS OF THERAPY MANAGEMENT DEPENDANT ON INFECTION TYPES TAILORED TO PATIENT'S INDIVIDUAL PATIENT HISTORY AND EFFICACY OF PREVIOUS TREATMENTS. HE COMPLETED IS MASTER DEGREE IN PUBLIC HEALTH AT THE SAME INSTITUTION.

DR ADEYEMI ABATI HAS BEEN PRACTICING IN DEPARTMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE AT LAGOS UNIVERSITY TEACHING HOSPITAL, ONE OFTHE TOP TREE INFECTION DISEASE HOSPITAL IN NIGERIA AND ALSO DOING HIS PHD AT THE MOMENT .HE HOLDS CERTIFICATIONS FROM NIGERIAN BOARD OF INTERNAL MEDICINE FOR HEMATOLOGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND ALSO AWARDED THE WARD OF THE DEVELOPING LEADER IN MEDICINE FROM NIGERIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION IN 2010 FOR HIS EXCELLENT CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE GENERAL TREATMENT REDUCTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN NIGERIA