

Author's response to reviews

Title: An Assessment of the Eye Care Workforce in Southeastern Nigeria, Enugu State

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DETAILS OF REVISIONS IN MY MANUSCRIPT

Revisions recommended by the first reviewer Reviewer: Ummuro Adano, Date received: 14 Jan 2009.

1. Factors responsible for mal-distribution of eye care workforce resource:

We identified opportunity for professional/career progression, availability of social amenities, and prospects for extra income from part time private practice as the key factors fuelling this mal- distribution.

2. Recommendations for eye health planners, based on these identified factors. – creating scholarship programmes and preferential sponsorship to workshops/refresher courses specifically for rural eye care workers. - Inter-sectoral co-operation between health and other relevant sectors to provide basic social amenities where health facilities are located.

3. Non- availability of middle level ophthalmic manpower- cataract surgeons, and diplomats.

-policy makers may want to consider training these middle level ophthalmic manpower to

provide those services.

4. Quality of written English: comprehensive revision of language style was done.

DETAILS OF REVISIONS IN MY MANUSCRIPT

Revisions recommended by the second reviewer Reviewer: Amy Hagopian, Date received: 8 March 2009.

1. Title was changed to “An Assessment of the Eye Care Workforce in Southeastern Nigeria, Enugu State”

2. Population figures.

- all the last three digits were changed to zeros.
- figures were removed from the abstract.
- second mentions of figures in the text were deleted.
- percentages were corrected to round figures.

3. Language revision:

- comprehensive revision was embarked on using the second reviewer’s edits as a guide.

4. Characterisation of eye care workforce was changed from “excess” to “adequate overall”

- vision 2020 recommendations for eye care personnel to population ratios should give adequate weighting to population density and spatial distribution of eye care manpower.

5. Training of eye care workers:

- workshops, update courses, refresher course, long-term training programmes

Training facilities Available training facilities

- elaborated under results.

6. Hierarchy of clinics and referral pattern

- elaborated under results.

7. Appropriate references were inserted as required.

8. Tables: identifying titles were attached to all the tables.

9. Quality of written English: comprehensively reviewed be using the edits as a very useful guide.