

EDITORIAL

The eradication of Polio is a major global healthcare challenge and goal with Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan as the only three countries where wild Polio remains. Nigeria has persistently fallen short of the goal to halt and eradicate the transmission of the poliomyelitis virus. This review by Dr. Basikoro examines the current Nigeria Polio Eradication Initiative emergency Plan with a view to proffering suggestions for successful implementation based on the failure of previous programs.

With the advent of free treatment with highly active anti-retroviral therapy across Nigeria, people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) now live longer. Dr. Okunoye, et al evaluates the quality of life (QOL) of PLWHA in Port Harcourt South-South Nigeria. They conclude that lower mean score in social relationship and level of dependence domain may suggest the fear of stigmatization and discrimination affects the quality of life of PLWHA.

The tendency of other medical conditions to comorbid or present with psychiatric complications is on the increase; as several studies have put the prevalence of psychiatric co-morbidity with medical conditions at about 10- 20%, with an unmatched diagnostic ability by most clinicians. Nkporbu et al set out to determine the pattern and prevalence of psychiatric co-morbidity with other medical conditions in other non-psychiatric wards in the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital (UPTH), Port Harcourt, Nigeria. They recommend education and sensitization among non-psychiatry clinicians to increase their ability to recognize cases requiring psychiatric attention, in addition to increasing their willingness to make necessary and timely consultations and/or referrals.

Teething is a physiological process which creates little local discomfort. Mothers ascribe many medical problems to teething despite no evidence to support these belief and

misconceptions. Drs Paul and Fatoki carried out a study to determine mothers Perception of teething in Children and remedies used to manage them. They surveyed 408 mothers of children aged 3months-2years and recommend proper oral health education of mothers during the antenatal period to discourage the use of teething as a ready explanation for childhood diseases.

Many children and adolescents face avoidable deaths in Nigeria. Obiorah et al present the outcome of an 11-year retrospective study of coroner autopsies which evaluated the pattern, causes and demographic features of childhood deaths in Rivers state, Nigeria. They recommend the implementation of measures aimed at improving care of children and adolescents, especially during out-door activities in order to reduce the largely preventable deaths observed among this age group.

Cement is an important material used in the construction industry. When mixed with water, it has abrasive, caustic and drying properties that could cause allergic and sensitivity reactions to the skin, chemical skin burns or damage to the eyes following contact. Drs Jumbo-Uzosike and Douglas report the case of a 37 year old male who presented with cement burns. They note that the ignorance of workers and the failure of employers to ensure optimal occupational safety is a major risk for such occupationally related conditions in Nigeria.

Non-epithelial neoplasm involving the breast is uncommon. Hodgkin's lymphoma in rare cases present primarily as localised extra-nodal involvement of the breast. This report by Dr. Ray-Offor presents a case of a 66 year old female with a breast mass who was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma of the breast treated to complete remission by chemotherapy only.

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