



ADDRESSING GLOBAL INEQUITIES IN BREAST CANCER GENETIC TESTING, COUNSELLING, AND MANAGEMENT AMONG BREAST CANCER PATIENTS IN NIGERIA

A HEALTHCARE PROVIDER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

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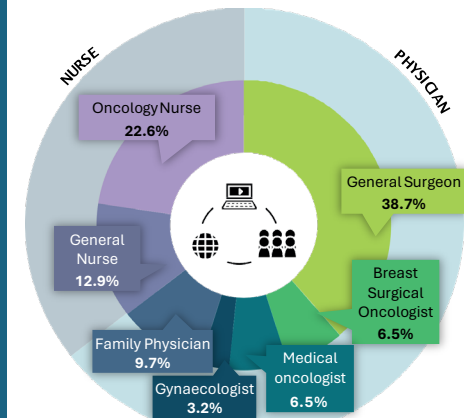
Background

- Breast cancer is a significant burden in Nigeria: earlier onset, late-stage diagnosis and more triple-negative tumors
- Genetic counselling and testing and services are extremely limited in Nigeria
- A recent survey of Nigerian healthcare providers (HCPs) identified lack of knowledge and access as two main barriers to genetic testing.

Aim

To develop and assess the effectiveness of a breast cancer genetics educational curriculum for Nigerian HCPs

Demographics



- HCPs from all geopolitical zones in Nigeria attended the training
- Of the 25 participants, 19 completed both online and in-person sessions (65% physicians and 35% nurses).
- Baseline knowledge ranged from 20% to 60%
- The greatest knowledge increase was seen in Module 4 (Clinical Management), with a 57.9% increase in identifying BRCA1 tumor subtypes and 52.6% in recognizing the correct age for high-risk breast screening.
- After receiving the complete training there was a 43% increase in overall knowledge ($p < 0.0001$)

Results

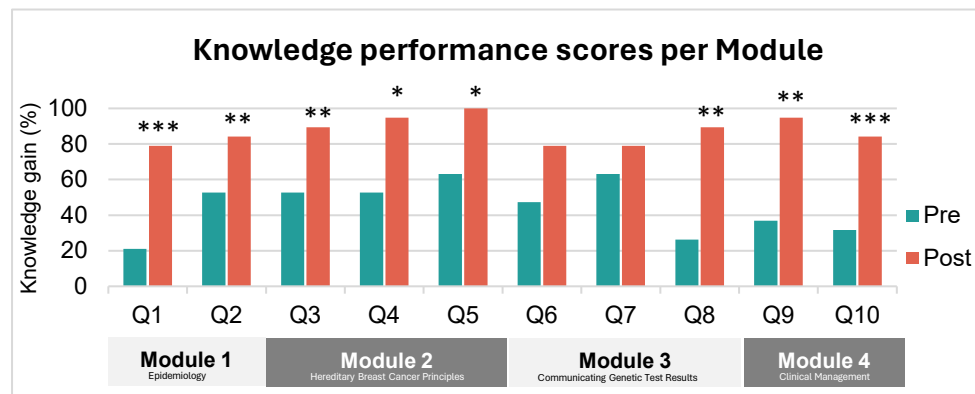


Figure 1: Knowledge performance scores per Module
 Note: * P value less than 0.05, ** P value less than 0.01, *** P value less than 0.001
 All statistical analyses were performed using SAS 9.4 software (Cary, NC, USA).

Methods

1 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

- A multidisciplinary & international team convened virtually to develop a 4-module online and in-person breast cancer genetics curriculum

2 HCP TRAINING

- Invites were circulated to HCPs at tertiary hospitals across Nigeria
- 1 month to complete the curriculum online
- 1 in-person training session in Nigeria

3 KNOWLEDGE ASSESSMENT

- Scores assessed by comparing responses to 10 standardized questions before and after complete training (online + in person)

Conclusion

- Our study was effective in improving the knowledge of breast cancer genetics among Nigerian HCPs
- Further results will help identify knowledge gaps and strengthen understanding in delivering BRCA testing, counselling, and management for patients in Nigeria.
- This collaboration underlines the importance of accessible education for equitable breast cancer care globally.

Acknowledgments

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