

UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

IMPACT OF HOME-BASED FOLLOW-UP CARE INTERVENTION ON HEALTH-RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE AMONG HYPERTENSIVE PATIENTS AT A TEACHING HOSPITAL IN ILORIN, NIGERIA

BOLARINWA OLADIMEJI AKEEM

FPSK(p) 2016 28



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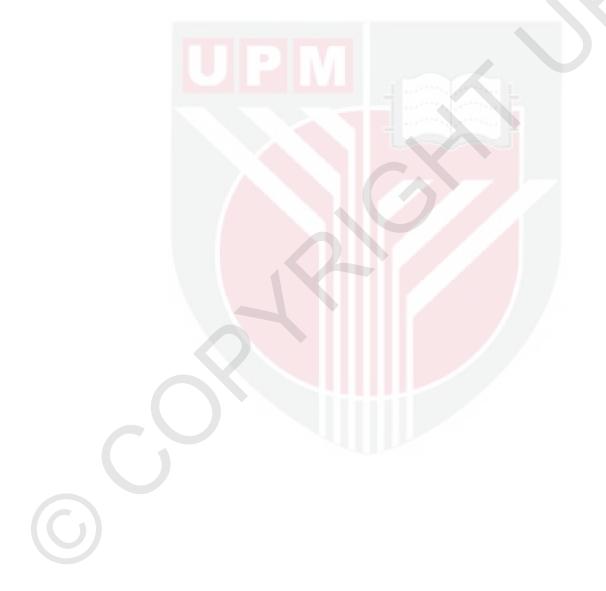
Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

November 2016

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DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to Almighty Allah, the most beneficent and the most merciful. To "*Idy*" for your prayers, dedication, motivation and unconditional love. Ultimately, for keeping the boys on check whenever 'am away and keeping home and businesses running effectively and excellently in my absence. And to my boys; 'Segun, 'Siji and 'Semi, for not given too much of headaches. Love you guys to the moon!



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

IMPACT OF HOME-BASED FOLLOW-UP CARE INTERVENTION ON HEALTH-RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE AMONG HYPERTENSIVE PATIENTS AT A TEACHING HOSPITAL IN ILORIN, NIGERIA

By

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November 2016

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Introduction: The usual care for hypertension within hospital settings in Nigeria is characterized by poor medical outcomes and poor health related quality of life (HRQoL). Of those few studies that have implement home based interventions on hypertension, not many of them used HRQoL as an outcome measure. This study developed, implemented and assessed the impact of home based follow-up care on HRQoL of hypertensive patients attending outpatients' clinics in llorin, Nigeria.

Methodology: An individual open (un-blinded) Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) was conducted among 229 consented hypertensive patients in two outpatients' clinics of University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital, Ilorin, Nigeria using systematic random sampling. A total of 149 and 150 patients were randomly allocated to intervention and control groups respectively. The intervention was a six month task-shifting (Nurse driven) home based follow-up care. The primary outcome measurement was HRQoL. Data was collected with the use of pretested questionnaire that contained validated SF36v2 and MMAS-8 tools for the assessment of HRQoL and medication adherence respectively. Data was analyzed with intention-to-treat principle. The SPSS version 22 software was used for analysis and both descriptive and inferential statistics were presented. Treatment effects were measured with the t-tests, ANCOVA and MANCOVA analysis. Significant levels were set at p-value of <0.05 and 95% Confidence Interval (CI).

Results: A total of 29 and 31 patients dropped out of intervention and control groups respectively, making a combined attrition rate of 20.1% in this study. At baseline only general health (50.44) and vitality (52.68) of the 8 subscales of HRQoL had better score than the reference population average of 50.00 (\pm 10). Both physical and mental components of the HRQoL were below population average. The between group treatment effect was not statistically significant (p>0.05) while within group treatments effects were statistically significant for both intervention and control arms

(p<0.05). After controlling for age and baseline HRQoL, intervention group had improved physical component of HRQoL than the control group. The intervention group also had statistically significant improvement in blood pressure control, medication adherence and symptom counts (p<0.05).

Conclusion: The home based follow-up care intervention by this study was shown to impact positively on physical component of HRQoL after controlling for baseline HRQoL and age of the patients. Symptom count, medication adherence and blood pressure control were positively impacted upon by the home based follow-up intervention.

Keywords: Hypertension, quality of life, randomized control trial, home based care, Ilorin.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

IMPAK INTERVENSI PENJAGAAN RAWATAN SUSULAN DI RUMAH KE ATAS KUALITI HIDUP BERKAITAN KESIHATAN BAGI PESAKIT HIPERTENSI MENGUNJUNGI HOSPITAL PENGAJARAN DI ILORIN, NIGERIA

Oleh

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November 2016

Pengerusi : Profesor Madya Muhamad Hanafiah Bin Juni. MD, MPH, MSc Fakulti : Perubatan dan Sains Kesihatan

Pengenalan: Penjagaan biasa bagi hipertensi dalam lingkungan persekitaran hospital di Nigeria dicirikan oleh hasil perubatan yang lemah dan kesihatan tidak baik yang berkaitan dengan kualiti hidup (HRQoL). Beberapa kajian yang cuba untuk mengimplementasikan intervensi berdasarkan rumah, tidak banyak kajian yang menggunakan HRQoL sebagai ukuran hasil. Kajian ini, oleh sebab itu, memperkembangkan, mengimplementasikan, dan menilai impak penjagaan rawatan susulan berdasarkan rumah terhadap HRQoL bagi pesakit hipertensi yang mengunjungi klinik pesakit luar di Ilorin, Nigeria.

Metodologi: Trial Terkawal Terawak (RCT) terbuka individu (un-blinded) telah dijalankan dalam kalangan 229 pesakit hipertensi yang bersetuju di dua buah klinik pesakit luar Universiti Hospital Pengajaran Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria menggunakan persampelan rawak sistematik. Sebanyak 149 dan 150 pesakit telah dipilih secara rawak, masing-masing merupakan kumpulan intervensi dan kawalan. Intervensi tersebut merupakan 6 bulan penjagaan rawatan susulan berdasarkan pertukaran tugas (berpacukan jururawat) rumah. Pengukuran hasil utama ialah HRQoL. Data telah dikumpul dengan menggunakan soal selidik praujian yang masing-masing mengandungi SF36v2 yang telah divalidasikan dan alat 8 MMAS bagi penilaian HRQoL dan kepatuhan medikasi . Data telah digunakan untuk analisis dan kedua-dua statistik deskriptif dan inferensial telah dkemukakan. Kesan rawatan telah diukur dengan ujian t dan analisis ANKOVA dan MANKOVA. Tahap signifikan telah disetkan pada nilai p<0.05 dan 95% Interval Keyakinan (CI).



Dapatan kajian: Keseluruhan 29 dan 31 pesakit, masing-masing berhenti daripada kumpulan intervensi dan kawalan, menjadikan kadar keciciran digabungkan sebanyak 20.1% dalam kajian ini. Pada peringkat dasar, hanya kesihatan umum (50.44) dan vitaliti (52.68) bagi 8 subskala HRQoL mempunyai skor yang lebih baik daripada purata populasi rujukan 50.00 (\pm 10). Kedua-dua komponen fizikal dan mental HRQoL adalah di bawah purata populasi. Kesan rawatan antara kumpulan didapati tidak signifikan secara statistik (p>0.05), manakala kesan rawatan dalam kumpulan adalah signifikan secara statistik bagi kedua-dua intervensi dan pemegang kawalan (p<0.05). Selepas kawalan bagi umur dan HRQoL dasar, kumpulan intervensi telah memperbaiki komponen fizikal HRQoL daripada kumpulan kawalan. Kumpulan intervensi juga mempunyai peningkatan yang signifikan secara statistik dari segi kawalan tekanan darah, kepatuhan medikasi dan kiraan simptom (p<0.05).

kesimpulan: Intervensi penjagaan rawatan susulan berdasarkan rumah dalam kajian ini telah menunjukkan untuk memberikan impak yang positif terhadap komponen fizikal HRQoL selepas kawalan bagi HRQoL dasar dan umur pesakit. Komponen mental HRQoL didapati tidak memberikan kesan oleh intervensi. Kiraan simptom, kepatuhan medikasi dan kawalan tekanan darah didapati mempunyai impak yang positif melalui intervensi rawatan susulan berdasarkan rumah.

Kata kunci: Hipertensi, kualiti hidup, trial kawalan terawak, penjagaan berdasarkan rumah. Ilorin.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I give praises and adoration to Almighty Allah, the Lord of the Universe, from whom we come from and to whom we shall all return. The giver of good health and the one than can bestow knowledge to uphold the good health. And the one that asks "which of the favour of your Lord, your God will you deny?" I will continue to proclaim your favour and "Baraka" in my life.

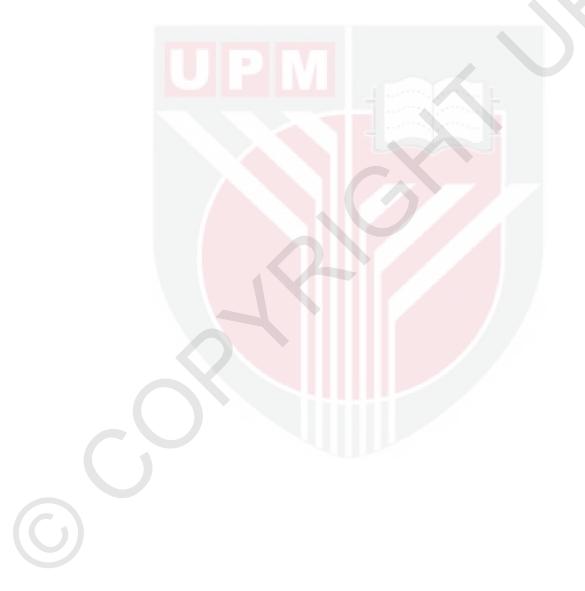
I will like to thank my supervisor, Prof. Muhamad Hanafiah Juni for providing me with the excellence guidance this far. I particularly valued your vast experience in management and leadership; and top notch skills in biomedical writing to which I have learnt a lot from. Importantly is your fatherly nature and gentle manner to which you indulge all my errors and put me aright. For also putting together the best of co-supervisors any PhD student can get. This provided the enabling environment for me to finish my PhD on a record time. To all these, I wish to tender my unreserved appreciation to you sir. "TERIMA KASI PROF!"

To Prof. Nor Afiah Mohd Zulkefli, who readily shared her wealth of knowledge in public health research with me. I will always be grateful to you for all the advice on my conceptual framework and study designs. You taught me how to write and make sense out of my thesis. Thank you ma! Similarly, I will like to appreciate the immensely contribution of Dr. Salmiah Md. Said to my PhD pursuit. Your relentless reviews of my results and the various multivariate analyses that came into it were great. You were the the secret behind the success of my thesis. You have shown me how to impact on students without struggles. I won't forget in a hurry, all your several text messages to help me out and make rooms for me to see you with my thesis anytime. You are a rare gem ma. To this, I say "Terima kasi!" To Prof. Akande, who has mentored me from my undergraduate days and who isn't tired of doing that at PhD level. I appreciate you always sir, and I pray that you continue to be the shining examples for us all.

To all the academic and non-academic staffs of Department of community health, Universiti Putra Malaysia, I say big thank you for your support and tutelage. And to all my Malaysian families; Kolapo Kazeem (Imaam) for being a true brother from another mother and for all the best moments we shared as your obedient tenant. I thank you immensely. To Malam Buba (co-tenant), thanks for your friendships and caring attitude. It's wonderful sharing same apartment with you. To Inimfon Essiet, thank you for being a true friend despite all the differences. I shall not forget all I learnt from you and all you learnt from me; your caring nature and your genuine support. May your days and time be filled with lots of happiness. To my siblings and parents, I say thank you so much for your support and prayers.



Also to the great people of AIGHD, PharmAccess and CPCD in Netherlands, I say big "THANK YOU" for all the opportunities given to me which helped me to kickstart my research career in life. I cannot forget Marleen Hendriks for your love and kindness. I also cherish the wonderful working relationships with Marijke, Alex, Marijn and Constance. You are all great people. Lastly, I wish to acknowledge the Nigerian Government, through Nigerian Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) for the award of the research grant, from which this study emanated from.



I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 15 November 2016 to conduct the final examination of Bolarinwa Oladimeji Akeem on his thesis entitled "Impact of Home-Based Follow-Up Care Intervention on Health-Related Quality of Life among Hypertensive Patients at a Teaching Hospital in Ilorin, Nigeria" in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| ANCOVA | Analysis of Covariance |
|---------|---|
| ANOVA | Analysis of Variance |
| BMI | Body Mass Index |
| BP | Bodily Pain |
| CHF | Congestive Heart Failure |
| CI | Confidence Interval |
| CONSORT | Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials |
| CRF | Clinical Report Form |
| CVD | Cardiovascular Disease |
| GOPD | General Out-patients Department |
| GEE | Generalized Estimating Equation |
| GH | General Health |
| HBFC | Home Based Follow-up Care |
| ны | Home Based Intervention |
| HBP | High Blood Pressure |
| HECS | Health Education and Counseling Session |
| HRQoL | Health Related Quality of Life |
| ITT | Intention-to-treat |
| JNC | Joint National Committee |
| LMIC | Low and Middle Income Countries |
| MANCOVA | Multivariate Analysis of Covariance |
| MCS | Mental Component Summary |
| МН | Mental Health |
| MI | Myocardial Infarction |
| MLS | Multiple Linear Regression |
| MMAS-8 | Morisky Medication Adherence Scale - 8 item |
| MOPD | Medical Outpatients Department |
| NCDs | Non-Communicable Diseases |
| PCS | Physical Component Summary |
| PF | Physical Functioning |
| PP | Per protocol |
| PRISMA | Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses |

| QOL | Quality of Life |
|---------|---|
| RAs | Research Assistants |
| RCT | Randomized Controlled Trials |
| RE | Role Emotional |
| RP | Role Physical |
| SF | Social Functioning |
| SF-36v2 | Short Form 36-item version 2 for health related quality of life measure |
| SLR | Simple Linear Regression |
| SOP | Standard Operation Procedure |
| SPSS | Statistical Package for Social Sciences |
| TOD | Target Organ Damage |
| UITH | University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital |
| UPM | Universiti Putra Malaysia |
| US | United State |
| VT | Vitality |
| WHO | World Health Organization |
| | |

C

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Hypertension or high blood pressure (BP) is a chronic condition in which the systemic arterial blood pressure is elevated. The Report of the Panel appointed to the Eighth Joint National Committee (JNC-8) on Guidelines for the Management of Hypertension in adults (James et al. 2014) and the previous Seventh JNC (JNC-7) (Chobanian et al. 2003) defined hypertension as a mean systolic blood pressure (SBP) of 140 mmHg and above occurring concurrently with or as an isolated mean diastolic blood pressure (DBP) of 90 mmHg and above. Someone could also be said to be hypertensive if in addition to earlier stated conditions or as an isolated case, made a self-report of a medical diagnosis of hypertension (or being on current treatment for hypertension with prescription antihypertensive medication) (James et al. 2014; Erhun, Olayiwola, Agbani, & Omotoso, 2005). There is a continuous, consistent, and independent relationship between elevated BP and risk of cardiovascular events (Lewington, Clarke, Qizilbash, Peto, and Collins, 2002). Studies have shown that the higher the BP, the greater is the chance of heart attack, heart failure, stroke, and kidney diseases (James et al. 2014). These are continuous and irreversible damages to the body organs called target organ damage (TOD), making hypertension one of the leading causes of morbidity, mortality and disability (Nelissen et al.2014).

Hypertension affects all age groups and has been reported in all countries of the world, though with varying prevalence. In the past years, it was thought to be rare in rural Africa, but hypertension and its complications, including stroke, heart failure, and renal failure, have been reported amongst African races all over the world (Cappuccio et al. 2004). Particularly, it is on the increase in sub-Saharan Africa and it has been projected to increase tremendously over the next decades with increase in morbidity, mortality and disability (Echouffo-Tcheugui, Kengne, Erqou, & Cooper, 2015; Hendriks et al. 2012). Hypertension is now widely reported in both rural and urban settings of Africa (Hendriks et al. 2011) and is the most common cause of cardiovascular disease on the continent (Erhun et al.2005). However in Nigeria, though the burden of communicable (infectious) diseases remains persistently high, non-communicable diseases like hypertension are likewise on the increase. This trend is assuming both epidemiological and demographic transitions and experts have termed these trends as "double tragedy" situation for the country (van de Vijver et al.2013).

Assessing from the aforementioned reasons, coverage of hypertensive healthcare services have been inadequate in a low resource country like Nigeria. For instance, a study in Nigeria reported that up to three-quarters of hypertensive patients were not on treatment even when treatment was indicated in almost half of them (Nelissen et al. 2014). Additionally, poor medical outcomes have been recorded among the

hypertensive patients in Nigeria by researchers (Nelissen et al. 2014; Ike & Onwubere 2003). Consequently, poor quality of life was shown to be a major impact of these poor medical/clinical outcomes amongst patients with hypertension in Nigeria (Ogunlana, Adedokun, Dairo, & Odunaiya, 2009).

Just like it is important in all forms of chronic illnesses to maintain optimum state of wellbeing, there is need to maintain improved quality of life among hypertensive patients. World Health Organization (WHO), defines quality of life as "individuals' perception of their position in life in the context of the culture and value systems in which they live and in relation to their goals, expectations, standards and concerns" (WHOQOL Group, 1998). One of the most important goals of all health interventions or programme is to improve the quality of life of persons affected by disease. In the domain of physical health and illness, quality of life refers to person's self-evaluation of health or to their perceived functional status and well-being (Wandell, 2005). This simply means the degree to which a person enjoys the important possibilities of his life (Odili, Ugboka, & Oparah, 2010). Other definitions as given by many authors corroborated the above definitions (Issa & Bayewu 2006; Von Steinbuchel, Lishetzke, Gurny. & Eid, 2006; WHOQOL GROUP, 1998). The different definitions of quality of life stem from the multi-disciplinary use of the term.

1.2 Problem Statement

The prevalence of hypertension in Nigeria has increased from an initial prevalence of 8.8% in 1960s to the current prevalence of between 16% and 46% (Akinlua, Meakin, Umar, & Freemantle, 2015; Ogah et al. 2012; Hendriks et al., 2011; Ofuya, 2007; Chobanian et al. 2003). World Health Organization (WHO, 2011) reported an age-standardized prevalence of 49% for the country thereby buttressing the huge burden of hypertension in Nigeria. In addition, Target Organ damage (TOD) due to hypertension is seemingly becoming a huge public health problem in Nigeria (Nelissen et al. 2014; Kolo et al, 2012). High prevalence of TOD of over 30% has been reported among Nigerian population (Nelissen et al, 2014). In this study, an increased odd of developing cardiovascular complication among the hypertensive patients was shown with a direct and linear association with increase in hypertension severity (Nelissen et al, 2014). The implication of the increasing hypertension in Nigerian population is that it is presently overwhelming the health system, reducing the quality of care, increasing the cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) and mortality attributable to both hypertension and CVDs (Kolo et al, 2012; Onwuchekw & Chinenye, 2010; Ukoh, 2007).

Studies in Nigeria have described interrelated challenges to hypertension care. Currently, the care of hypertensive patients takes place almost entirely in health facilities thereby reducing the access to care (van de Vijver et al, 2013; Hendriks et al. 2014a; Suleiman, Sulaiman, & Albarq, 2009). More studies (Oguanobi et al, 2013; Kolo et al, 2012; Onwuchekwa & Chinenye, 2010; Ukoh, 2007) have shown that hypertension consistently contributes over 20% of total hospital utilization quota in Nigeria thereby overwhelming the health facilities, increasing the workload of the

few highly skilled personnel and reducing the overall quality of care. Despite the high quota of healthcare utilization attributable to hypertension, up to three-quarters of hypertensive patients are still not on treatment in the general Nigerian population even when treatment was indicated in almost half of these numbers (Nelissen et al, 2014). Because of the chronic nature of hypertension, patients suffering from it are expected to be seen on a regular basis by the health worker for check-up in what is termed "follow-up visits". Interestingly, while the service coverage for hypertension is observed to be inadequate, studies in Nigeria have shown high default rate among hypertensive patients attending clinics for follow-up visits. Over 40% default rate had been reported among hypertensive patients by their third follow-up visit (Ike, Anisiuba, Onwubere & Ikeh, 2003). This was shown to be high among patients of 40 years and beyond and those on multiple antihypertensive drugs.

In addition, factors responsible for high default rate among hypertensive patients in Nigeria have been identified. Part of which were high costs of antihypertensive drugs (Osibogun & Okwor, 2014; Hendriks et al, 2014b; Ilesanmi, Ige, & Adebiyi, 2012) and inconvenient clinic operating hours coupled with long waiting hours (Odusola et al, 2014). Aside these factors, there are also indirect costs which constitute those expenditures incurred by the patients in terms of loss man hour as a result of hospital visits, transportation cost which may include accompanying relatives and other costs due to bureaucracy within hospital setting (Ilesanmi et al, 2012). These constitute impediments to healthcare, as a result of financial inaccessibility to healthcare. Poor adherence to treatment has also been a major contributory factor to clinical outcome among hypertensive patients in Nigeria. Drug compliant study (Kabir, Iliyasu, Abubakar, & Jibril, 2004) has shown that up to a quarter of non-adherent patients and patients with low monthly income will miss their hospital follow up. Recommendations has been to further research into health system strengthening, cost reduction strategies and task shifting strategies on hypertension management in Nigeria (Odusola et al, 2014; Hendriks et al, 2014b; Adeyemo et al, 2013; Ilesanmi et al, 2012;).

The direct resultant consequences of inadequate management and poor clinical outcome of hypertension will be a reduced quality of life (Cleary, 2004; Ferrans, Zerwic, Wilbur, & Larson, 2005). Lower quality of life has been reported among hypertensive patients with poor clinical variables and outcomes (Ogunlana et al, 2009). Assessment of quality of life of hypertensive patients is not common in the clinical practice and research and this may be responsible for the dearth of HRQoL studies in the Nigeria. Quality of life assessment is becoming important to the clinicians and researchers because it is the perception and feeling of the patient about his illness and other determinants of the course of his illness which may not be appreciated within the purview of medical assessments only.

1.3 Significance of the Study

The current reality is that the management of hypertension remains entirely hospital based while adherence, clinical outcomes and quality of life remain sub-optimal among hypertensive patients (Ogunlana et al, 2009). In addition, social support which has been shown to assist patients with hypertension to have better clinical outcome (Osamor, 2015) will not be achievable with hospital management alone. Therefore to implement and sustain successful hypertensive control strategies in Nigeria, access to medical care for patients and quality of health care should be ensured and sustained. Additionally, there is need to re-align and simplify the management strategies of hypertension, reduce the hospital bureaucracy, bring the health care services closer to the patients in the community to garner social support for their treatment and allow task shifting practice (by allowing other health care professionals to participate more in the care of chronic diseases in a multidisciplinary approach). Such approach has been adjudged to be feasible in a home or community settings (Ogedegbe et al, 2014; Brust et al, 2012; Shah et al, 2012; Thiam et al, 2012).

In terms of clinical outcome assessment of patients, home based care management concept (which is adopted for this study) is becoming popular in medical science because of the need to increase access to medical care, reduce the health facilities work load, simplify disease management strategies, reduce the cost of managing diseases and remove other deterrents to treatment adherence (Ogedegbe and Schoenthaler. 2006; Ogedegbe et al, 2014). It has proven to be an effective strategy to reduce accessibility and affordability to quality health care in developing countries most especially in the control of communicable diseases like, HIV infection Tuberculosis, Diarrhea diseases and Malaria (Brust et al, 2012; Shah et al, 2012; Thiam et al, 2012).

In chronic conditions such as hypertension, HRQoL is an especially important outcome, given their lifelong (chronicity) nature and the need for daily self-management (Poljičanin et al, 2010). Though many studies have implemented intervention studies on hypertension, almost all of them evaluated their studies using medical/clinical outcomes assessment like blood pressure control and TOD (Bernochi et al, 2014; Bosworth et al, 2011; Magid et al, 2009; Staessen et al, 2004; Anderson et al, 2000). Specifically, hypertension interventional studies that adopted HRQoL to assess patient's outcome are very sparse (Aghajani et al, 2013; Saleem et al, 2013; Wal et al, 2013). So far in the literature, no intervention studies on hypertension were sighted in the study area, (Ilorin, Nigeria) that used HRQoL to evaluate study outcome.



1.4 Research Question

- 1. Is it feasible to carry out home based follow-up care intervention among patients with hypertension in Ilorin, Nigeria
- 2. What are the observed mean differences in HRQoL outcomes of hypertensive patients followed up at home and those on usual hospital follow-up after 6 months of implementation?

1.5 General Objective

To develop, implement and determine the impact of home based follow-up care intervention on the health related quality of life of hypertensive patients in Ilorin, Nigeria.

Specific Objectives

- 1. To identify the predictors (obesity, symptoms, stage of hypertension, adherence and medical history) of baseline HRQoL of life of hypertensive patients in Ilorin, Nigeria.
- 2. To explore (using qualitative methods and literature search) factors suitable and appropriate for the development and successful implementation of home based follow-up care framework among hypertensive patients in Nigeria.
- 3. To develop and implement a home based follow-up care program for hypertensive patients in Nigeria.
- 4. To determine the pattern of baseline HRQoL of hypertensive patients in Ilorin, Nigeria.
- 5. To compare mean HRQoL of hypertensive patients on home based follow-up intervention as against those on usual hospital based follow-up (between and within groups) after 6 months of intervention.
- 6. To assess the effect of home based care on other intermediate clinical outcomes like BP, symptoms count, BMI and medication adherence.

1.6 Research Null Hypothesis

Ho = There is no significant difference between the HRQoL of patients followed up at home and those followed up at the hospital after 6 months of intervention

Ho = There is no significant difference between the HRQoL of patients followed up at home and those followed up at the hospital after controlling for baseline HRQoL

1.7 Main Outcome Measures

- 1. Primary outcome measurements. This is mainly health related quality of life (HRQoL) of hypertensive patients. Included scales and component summary scores
- 2. Intermediate outcome measurements. These are symptoms and clinical outcome measurements that precede and predict HRQoL. These are; blood pressure (BP), body mass index (BMI), medication adherence and symptom counts.
- 3. Predictors of HRQoL of hypertensive patients; socio-demography, disease history, access to care and clinical profile.
- 4. Differences in HRQoL of control group at the baseline and post intervention = mean difference in control group (within group effect)
- 5. Differences in HRQoL between intervention group and usual (control) group at post intervention = treatment effect (between group effect)



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BIODATA OF STUDENT

Oladimeji Akeem Bolarinwa, is a Nigerian trained medical Doctor. Between year 1992 and 2000, he had his undergraduate medical education from one of the foremost University in Nigeria; University of Ilorin, Ilorin. After the compulsory internship and as a fresh medical graduate between 2000 and 2001 and mandatory national youth service for his coutry between 2001 and 2002, he got employment with a community hospital. Here, he worked as a medical officer between 2003 and 2004. Later in the year 2004 he got another appointment as a medical officer to the University health center of the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH), Ogbomoso, Nigeria. This is where he worked till early 2006. He then proceeded to University of Ilorin Teaching hospital in the year 2006 for his fellowship (specialty) training in Public health and became a Fellow West African College of Physician (FWACP) in 2010. He also bagged his Master of Public Health (MPH) degree from University of Ilorin in the year 2011.

Subsequently, he got employed as a Lecturer 1 in University of Ilorin and as specialist Epidemiologist wih the University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital (UITH) in the year 2010 and 2011 respectively. His job description in the University included teaching undergraduate medical and other health science students and training/supervision of master students. Some of the courses he taught were; research methodology, control of tropical diseases, introduction to epidemiology and public health nitrition. In the hospital (UITH), he works as consulting Doctor in the staff and insurance clinics, as epidemiologist, hospital data manager and training of resident Doctors in Public health. He is currently a senior Lecturer / senior consultant Epidemiologist. Betweeen 2009 and 2015, he was the research monitor/manager for Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD) on Impact survey of Kwara Community Health Insurance Scheme (KCHIS) project. He has also served in various capacities as consultants to Nigeria Ministries of Health, Non-Governmental Organizations, WHO and international health organizations.

His field experience on the burden and challenges of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in Nigeria motivated his interest in the control of NCDs with special interest to hypertension and diabetes. To which he has won two Nigerian research grants on hypertension study and has written over 40 papers in peer review journals; all stemmed from his research activities with both local and international collaborators. His future focus is to take further research into preventive cardiovascular research and employ health management principles and simple interventions to address inequalities of cardiovascular diseases (and other NCDs) among populations in developing countries. His quest to continuously increase his skills and expertise in order to achieve his future goals informed his decision in 2014 to join Department of Community Health, UPM as a PhD candidate. He is currently pursuing a PhD degree in Healh Service Management under Prof. Muhamad Hanafiah's supervision and tutelage.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

- Bolarinwa, O.A., Essiet, I. A., Muhamad, H. B. J., Mohd Zuilkefi, N.A.B., Md Said, S.B., Akande, T.M. (2015). Applications of Health Related Quality of Life (HRQoL) as an Intervention Impact Assessment in the Management of Hypertension; A Systematic Review. *International Journal of Clinical Medicine Research*. 2 (4); 39 48
- Bolarinwa, O.A., Muhamad, H. B. J., Mohd Zuilkefi, N.A.B., Md Said, S.B., Akande, T.M. (2016). The Impact of hypertension home based care on health related quality of life of Nigerian patients: Research Framework, Concept and Methodology. *International Journal of Public Health and Clinical Sciences.* 3 (1). 131-151.





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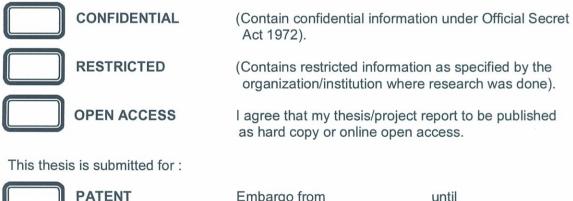
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