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**TITLE OF THESIS: POLICY ANALYSIS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTEGRATED SUPPORTIVE SUPERVISION IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH SECTOR OF ENUGU URBAN**

**BACKGROUND**

Generally, all over the world well-structured organisations respond to poor performance and low productivity by providing in-service training. Supervision is a good way to provide follow-up training, improve performance, and solve other systemic problems that contribute to poor performance in health system and programmes. This is seen in health programmes such as Immunization, Malaria control and Acute Flaccid Paralysis surveillance. A reasonable number of case studies and examples have shown that supportive supervision has been used to improve the health worker performance and productivity but long term and sustained results have not been documented accordingly. In an attempt to achieve better health care indices Enugu state introduced Integrated Supportive supervision (ISS) in 2003 and reviewed it in 2008/2009. Since July 2012, State Health Board (SHB) in collaboration with Partnership for the transformation of health systems (PATHS 2) has been supporting supervisory activities in 102 facilities. The framework for institutionalization of integrated supportive supervision/on-the job capacity building (ISS/JOB) was developed for the public sector health care workers in the state in 2013/ 2014.

**STUDY AIM AND OBJECTIVES**

**AIM:** To examine implementation of ISS policy in primary health care (PHC) centres in Enugu metropolis and identify enablers and constraints of implementation.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

1. To estimate the percentage of PHC facilities in Enugu that receive ISS and the frequency of ISS in these facilities
2. To describe the roles of different actors in implementation of ISS at the PHC level
3. To determine the gaps in implementation of ISS in line with the policy framework
4. To identify enabling and constraining factors in implementation of ISS at the PHC level

**METHODOLOGY**

**Study Area:** The study will be carried out in Enugu metropolis, Nigeria. It will be conducted among relevant organizations involved in ISS at primary healthcare level.

**Study Design:** This will be a cross-sectional, Descriptive and comparative study mixed quantitative and qualitative analysis.

**Study population:**

**Data collection:** Data will be collected through, (1) in-depth interviews of relevant policymakers and ISS program managers/implementers, (2) focus group discussion of different cadres of PHC workers, and (3) desk review of relevant government documents and ISS reports.

**Data analysis:** Will be done using framework approach.

**ETHICAL CONSIDERATION**

Ethical approval for the study will be obtained from Health Research Ethics Committee of the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital Ituku-Ozalla, Enugu. A written permission will be obtained from the Enugu State Ministry of Health. The principles of ethical conduct of research such as full disclosure, voluntary participation and confidentiality will be observed. Informed consent will be documented.