

Choice of Health-Care Service Utilization by the Elderly in Delta State of Nigeria

Paul Oghenero Okumagba

*Department of Sociology and Psychology, Delta State University, P.M.B. 1 Abraka,
Delta State, Nigeria*

Telephone: +2348037645971; E-mail: ghene_okumagba@yahoo.com

KEYWORDS Health Care. Utilization. Elderly. Delta State

ABSTRACT The choice of Health-Care utilization, generally, is determined by a number of factors including nearness to Health Care Facility and Belief System. This study specifically examines factors that influence the choice of Health-Care system by the elderly. Data for this study were collected from a sample of 180 rural households utilizing the Multi Stage Stratified Random Sampling Technique. The descriptive method was used. Results show that a number of factors such as distance from Health Care Facility, Belief System, Quality of Health service received and finance were important determinants of choice of Health Care System utilized by the elderly. This finding has implications for public policies relating to the health needs of the elderly which hitherto concentrated on the structure and physical availability of health facilities.