



Comprehensive Health Care System without Traditional Medicine: A Distorted Approach

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ABSTRACT The major purpose of Nigeria's National Health Policy is comprehensive health care. Nigeria's healthcare system is actually patterned in line with the universal levels; primary, secondary and tertiary. Unfortunately, traditional medicine (TM) is not recognized at any of these levels. Therefore, this paper assessed the level of successes and weaknesses inherent in orthodox medicine and the aspects that require traditional medicine to improve the system. To achieve this, different articles and documents were reviewed. The result shows that a high profile initiative has been put together by the Health Ministry to articulate Nigeria's comprehensive actions to fast track the achievement of sustainable development goals (SDGs). However, the current National Health Policy in Nigeria did not incorporate TM. There are idiopathic illnesses, whose causes are unknown to orthodox medicine. This is where TM excels both in prevention, diagnosis and treatment. Therefore, a good health care system must incorporate TM through the application of cross-breeding integrative approach.