**THE DETERMINANTS OF HEALTHCARE QUALITY AMONG THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOSPITALS IN IBADAN METROPOLIS, NIGERIA.**

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**Abstract**

Healthcare quality assessment among hospitals incentivize the performance of the healthcare system and gives room for improvement. Quality of healthcare differs across hospitals, some hospitals in order to increase their market share of patients, provide higher quality of healthcare. In Nigeria there are few numbers of public hospitals compare to private and the presumably few existing public hospitals are confronted with unique challenges of inadequate funding and lack of proper supervision, which threaten their existence. These situations have made the private hospitals unavoidable choice of many patients. However, it is noted that too little regulation is being enforced to ensure that minimum quality standards are met among the private hospitals. Therefore, this study examined the factors that influence the quality of healthcare among the private and public hospitals in Ibadan metropolis.

To measure the quality of healthcare, input and patient quality experience indicators were used. Six (6) different hospital inputs were employed and the patient quality experience indicator was presented as an index of the patient’s level of satisfaction with hospital quality delivery. Given the continuous nature of the dependent variables, Ordinary Least Square (OLS) was used to identify factors that influence healthcare quality among hospitals, while descriptive statistics was used to describe different attributes of private and public hospitals. Data were drawn from 127 hospitals and 761 patients that attended these hospitals In Ibadan.

The results of the study show that on the average, patient quality indicator for private hospitals is 0.81 which indicates a higher level of satisfaction than in the public hospitals. The average healthcare price paid by patients and quarterly visit by regulatory agencies, motivate private hospitals to increase quality of healthcare, while regulation on human resources and patient volume motivate public hospitals to produce higher quality of healthcare. Thus, healthcare reforms that will ensure strict compliance with the hospital establishment procedures and minimize negligence among hospitals is recommended.

**Keywords:** Hospital, Healthcare quality, Patients, Ibadan