



### **Review of National Diploma and Higher National Diploma in Health Information Management curricular: new trends for HIM students and lecturers in Nigeria**

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## INTRODUCTION

Health Records Officers' Registration Board of Nigeria (HRORBN) was established by Decree 39, 1989, now Cap. H2, LFN 2004, as a Regulatory Agency under the Federal Ministry of Health. The establishing instrument in reference mandates the Board to regulate the training and practice of Health Records and Information Management Profession in Nigeria and all matters related therein<sup>1</sup>.

Like with other regulatory bodies, a key and important role in the regulation of any profession is the development of a standard curricular for training and licensing of professionals to practice. This responsibility in respect of National Diploma and Higher National Diploma in Health Information Management is usually carried out in collaboration with the National Board for Technical Education, (NBTE), a board of education which supervises, regulates and oversees educational programmes offered by technical institutions at secondary, polytechnic and monotechnic levels through an accreditation process.

The last review of the National Diploma and Higher National Diploma in Health Information Management was in 2014 (i.e. 8 years ago) by the Board and NBTE and coordinated by MEASURE Evaluation, an organ funded by USAID to strengthen capacity in developing countries to gather, interpret and use data to improve health<sup>2</sup>. It was therefore, a thing of joy, when NBTE called for the review of the National Diploma and Higher National Diploma in Health Information Management curricular. The review, which took place in Kaduna was from 28<sup>th</sup> November – 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 with reviewers drawn from among HIM professionals, members of the academia and NBTE staff.

The objective of the review was to have a curriculum for HIM programs that can meet the demand of present day global health information management practice in the face of evolving health information technology, advancements on research, data analytics and e-records management. With this in mind, electronic health records management, ICD-11, health data analytical tools, health data computing among other latest developments in health records and information management were given top consideration.

Fundamental of medical practice was broken into two courses as Language of Medicine and Fundamental of Medicine; Hospital Statistics is now Hospital Statistics I and II and are to be taught at both the ND and HND levels.

Some new courses, for example, Fundamental of Hospital Data Analysis, Statistical Inference, Time Series, etc., were brought in to fill observed gaps. Guidelines for the selection of school heads, students SIWES, admission policies were also examined and reviewed.

The Board wishes to appreciate the NBTE and all those, who participated in the review exercise. It is the expectation of the Board that schools will endeavour to ensure that the newly reviewed curricula will be effectively implemented. A curriculum can only achieve its purpose if and only if it is effectively implemented.

## REFERENCES

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