

## **Fostering Resilient Healthcare in a Culturally Complex Landscape: Insights from Nigeria**

Nasir A. A

<sup>1</sup>Editorial Member, IMAN Medical Journal, and Department of Surgery of University of Ilorin and University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital, Ilorin. Email:

[draanasir@yahoo.com](mailto:draanasir@yahoo.com)

As the global health community surges forward, there's an underlying call to ensure that systems, interventions, and policies are contextually attuned, culturally responsive, and ethically sound. A recent collection of studies from Nigeria offers a deep dive into this discourse, illuminating both the rich tapestry of its healthcare landscape and the nuanced challenges therein.

In "Towards a Healthy Ummah: The Role and Responsibility of Muslim Healthcare Professionals", Kusimo profoundly elucidates the multifaceted responsibilities that Muslim healthcare professionals' shoulder. Their roles, deeply entrenched in Islamic teachings, span from the traditional clinical setting to the broader realms of spirituality and ethics. Such intertwined responsibilities highlight the importance of holistic health approaches.

Parallely, "Health Care Practice in the Islamic Ethos: A Brief Historical Review" by Abiola and Opeewe shines a spotlight on the legacy of Islamic healthcare traditions. From the brilliant minds of the Islamic Golden Age like Ibn Sina (i.e., Avicenna) and Al-Razi (i.e., Rhazes), we are reminded of the intrinsic link between medical science, ethics, and spirituality in Islamic civilization—a link that has sculpted global medical ethics and practices.

It is important to continue to honour and respect diverse cultural norms while navigating contemporary healthcare systems. As Muslimah healthcare professionals continue to influence and shape healthcare access, their experiences shed light on ways to cultivate more inclusive systems. Notably, they offer novel economic models, aligning indigenous financial frameworks like Zakaat with universal health coverage aspirations.

This edition paints a vivid picture of Nigeria's health landscape. It underscores the essence of culturally attuned care, the richness of historical medical traditions, and the challenges posed by societal upheavals. As we move forward in our shared global health journey, these insights from Nigeria stand as a testament to the resilience, adaptability, and richness of healthcare in diverse settings.

Finally, I would also like to bring to your attention 24<sup>th</sup> IMAN's Annual National Conference which will be taking place in Gombe 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2023. The theme "Humanizing today's HealthCare" is consciously chosen to explore a wide range of topics related to the responsibility of Muslim healthcare professionals in leading a holistic care to our teaming society. The themes and sub themes will seek to bring healthcare professionals together. It is not to be missed, as it will be a great opportunity to listen to leading experts in various medical fields and reflect on their experiences as well as a chance for members to network and get to know one another. We enjoy you all to submit our good and inspiring works for publication in this journal Insha Allah.

