Conference Abstracts

Global Oncology Partnership to Improve Cancer Care in Nigeria: From Concept to Memorandum of Understanding in an LMIC Setting

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Background

Global oncology partnerships play a critical role in addressing disparities in cancer care across low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Initiatives that are co-created with local stakeholders and grounded in shared priorities have the potential to strengthen health systems and improve patient outcomes. This abstract describes the process from concept to formalization of a partnership between Binaytara and a Nigerian tertiary care institution.

Methods

The collaboration began when two Nigerian-American oncologists visited Binaytara's booth at the American Society of Hematology (ASH) Annual Meeting and expressed interest in advancing oncology services in Nigeria. Subsequent virtual meetings explored the feasibility of partnership and identified the need for a reliable local collaborator. Using their networks, the Nigerian-American oncologists shortlisted three cancer centers for evaluation. Candidate sites were assessed using five essential characteristics for LMIC partnerships: (1) committed leadership; (2) foundational clinical capacity; (3) strategic alignment and shared goals; (4) commitment to sustainability and data; and (5) deep community integration and trust.

Results

Federal Medical Center (FMC), Ebute Metta, Lagos emerged as the strongest candidate, demonstrating robust clinical leadership, adequate infrastructure, alignment with shared goals, and strong community trust. A site visit by Binaytara's President, accompanied by the Nigerian-American oncologists, confirmed these strengths through direct engagement with hospital administrators, healthcare professionals, social workers, and patient advocates. Following these consultations, the institutions formalized their collaboration through the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU), which outlined mutual commitments to capacity building, safe chemotherapy delivery, palliative care, and health system strengthening.

Conclusions

This partnership illustrates a replicable model for developing equitable global oncology collaborations, beginning with dialogue at professional meetings, moving through systematic evaluation of potential partners, and culminating in formal agreements. Strategic alignment, sustainability, and community trust are essential components to ensure impact and long-term success in LMIC settings.