

The infection Prevention and Control programme focuses on helping to expose field epidemiologists to the basic principles of infection prevention and control needed in healthcare facility outbreak response and other epidemiologic investigations. This is essential in preventing the transmission of infection in healthcare facilities and even within the community and breaking the infection transmission cycle is critical in any outbreak response.

To support and drive Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) activities and interventions in Nigeria, the African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET) developed a 28-hour curriculum for training field epidemiologists and other Healthcare workers aimed at appropriately responding to outbreaks of infection within healthcare facilities. This is the first of such in the country.

Another focus is on improving Healthcare Epidemiology by strengthening surveillance for healthcare associated infections in the country. Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI), are infections acquired in the healthcare setting during care delivery and are associated with significant morbidity and mortality among patients and healthcare workers (HCWs).

Trainings were conducted to develop skills and expertise of over 50 field epidemiologists for the purpose of epidemiologic investigations of outbreaks and performance of HAI surveillance in healthcare settings, the ultimate goal of which is to improve the quality of healthcare delivery.

Participants were drawn from different healthcare fields and included medical doctors from the Federal Ministry of Health, the Nigeria Centre for Disease

Control and Nigeria Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program clinicians, laboratory scientists and veterinarians from the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, -Participants of the training effectively investigated an outbreak of healthcare associated infection in Federal Medical Centre

AFENET also engaged in building capacity for surveillance of HAI in Nigeria by developing:
-the first national surveillance protocol and tools for data collection and collation for Surgical site infections was developed
-training curriculum for health workers on SSI surveillance was developed
-Field testing of the SSI tools in the 6 Geopolitical regions of the country was conducted

Stakeholders technical and advocacy meetings have been held on the Curriculum and the SSI protocol.

For more information on:

Infection Prevention and Control Programme

visit our website

www.afenetnigeria.net

