

Request for Proposals - Assessment of Out-of-Pocket Expenditure on Breast and Prostate Cancers in Abuja, Nigeria.

About City Cancer Challenge Foundation

City Cancer Challenge Foundation (C/Can) supports cities around the world as they work to improve access to equitable, quality cancer care.

The approach is built on the core principle that cities can drive impact at national level by crafting data-driven solutions with the support of a network of global, regional, and local partners that reflect an understanding of the unique local context.

C/Can was launched by the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) at the 2017 World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos. It was established as a standalone Swiss Foundation in January 2019, and is now active in 19 cities around the world.

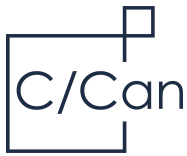
C/Can in Abuja

Abuja officially joined the C/Can network in August 2023 after the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in May 2023, through a consortium partnership which consists of the Federal Capital Territory Administration, the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, the Clinton Health Access Initiative, and the Medicaid Cancer Foundation. Since then, engagements with various stakeholders have taken place. A City Executive Committee, which serves as the governing body that provides leadership to ensure the implementation of the C/Can initiative in the city has been established. Abuja has also conducted a needs assessment to assess the cancer care space, identify gaps and challenges, and propose and prioritize solutions. The city has now moved on to the next phase of project development and implementation.

Rationale of the Project

Cancer is a growing concern in Nigeria, with 79,542 cancer-related deaths, and 127,763 new cases diagnosed in 2022. Breast and cervical cancers are the most common among women, while prostate cancer is the most prevalent among men¹.

¹ <https://gco.iarc.who.int/media/globocan/factsheets/populations/566-nigeria-fact-sheet.pdf>



More than 70% of patients present at late stages², resulting in poorer outcomes and higher costs of treatment.

Out-of-Pocket (OOP) expenditure remains the predominant source of health financing in Nigeria, including financing for cancer care. This is inefficient and harmful to the population as it leads to high levels of financial distress and inequity. Various studies have shown that 72-89% of breast cancer patients studied relied entirely on out-of-pocket spending to pay for their treatment in Nigeria, compared to 45-79% in Ghana and 8-20% in Kenya³. In addition, most patients attending a hospital in Nigeria for radiotherapy treatment paid out-of-pocket at the point of service, and for 24.3% of patients, treatment was delayed for an average of 7.6 weeks due to inability to pay⁴.

OOP expenditure in cancer care in Nigeria is prevalent along the patients' care journey, from screening, diagnosis, treatment to palliative care. There are various drivers for this, including a large uninsured population and high cost of specialised diagnostics and medicines. Despite various measures by the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA), the OOP expenditures are still high. In addition, there is limited data on OOP expenditure data, especially on non-medical expenses. As such, there is a need to conduct a structured study to assess the OOP expenses for breast and prostate cancer, and provide evidence-based recommendations to reduce the financial burden associated with cancer care.

Summary of the RFP

C/Can is currently seeking an academic or research institution to support Abuja city's efforts in conducting an assessment on OOP expenditure on breast and prostate cancer patients along their care journey. The project, lasting 12-18 months, starting in July 2026 aims to generate evidence of OOP expenditure on breast and prostate cancers needed to design interventions including proposals of measures to improve benefit packages and financial risk protection for cancer patients.. The project is expected to quantify both medical and non-medical OOP expenditures incurred by breast and prostate cancer patients in Abuja. This will contribute to efforts aimed at reducing out-of-pocket expenditure on cancer care in abuja

² <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31423046/>

³ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33653746/>

⁴ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32083951/>

Responsibilities of the Academic or Research Institution

The academic/research institution will be responsible for:

1. Developing the research protocol and data collection instruments (A template for the research protocol and data collection tool with relevant cost categories will be provided)
2. Ethical approval process of the research protocol
3. Pilot of the data collection tool and recommend any changes where necessary
4. Collection, cleaning and analysis of OOP expenditure data from breast and prostate cancer patients
5. Drafting of a final report on the study findings
6. Preparation and submission of at least one publication to a peer-reviewed journal
7. Engagement of other stakeholders including government authorities and hospitals where data collection will be done
8. Dissemination of the findings of the study.

Deliverables

1. Approved research protocol by ethics committee and data collection tool.
2. Raw data on OOP Expenditure on breast and prostate cancers in Abuja.
3. Final Technical Report on OOP Expenditure on breast and prostate cancers in Abuja.
4. Policy brief for NHIA and policymakers
5. Manuscript submitted to peer-reviewed journal on OOP Expenditure on breast and prostate cancer in Abuja
6. Stakeholder dissemination workshop

Selection Criteria

- Academic or Research Institution registered in Abuja
- Faculty research experience in Health Economic Studies. Experience in OOP expenditure studies will be an added advantage.
- Evidence of publications in reputable scientific journals.
- Research methodology
- Availability of administrative support for research.
- Willingness to work collaboratively with other researchers.
- Budget/value for money

Criteria	
Quality of the technical proposal	35%
Experience in health economic studies	20%
Availability of technical and administrative staff	20%
Budget	25%

How to apply

Interested candidates should submit their CV and cover letter highlighting their qualifications and experience, as well as a proposal indicating the study methodology, proposed timelines and budget. The proposals should be sent by 28 July to programmes@citycancerchallenge.org, with njoku@citycancerchallenge.org in copy, subject line: "Abuja OOP Assessment". Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.