

EXPLORING NIGERIA HEALTH ISSUES

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BACKGROUND / PROBLEM STATEMENT

- Lack of EMS infrastructure, trauma care, and legal protection for emergency responders.
- Nurse shortages affecting urgent and routine care.
- Delayed response times and chronic supply shortages.
- Communities bearing the burden of system failure, often responding through volunteer efforts and informal care.

CHALLENGES ACROSS NIGERIA’S HEALTH SYSTEM

Nigeria’s emergency care and nursing systems are critically under-resourced. Systemic failures in formal emergency medical services (EMS), workforce shortages, legal barriers, and poor infrastructure limit the delivery of timely and effective care. Communities frequently develop informal responses to fill these gaps—highlighting a disconnect between population needs and the formal health system.

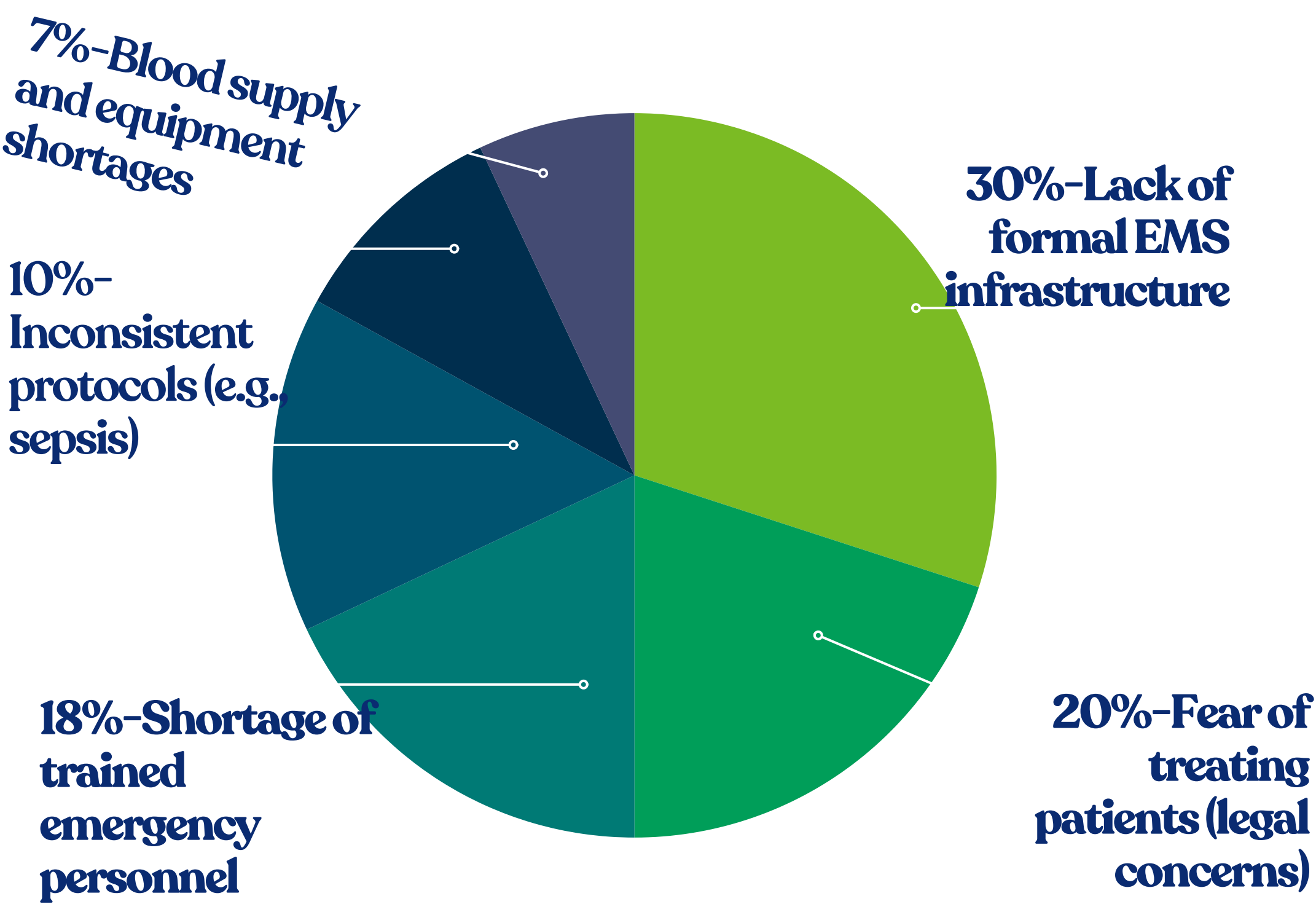
INTERVENTIONS AND COMMUNITY RESPONSES

- Informal EMS models led by churches, youth groups, and local organizations.
- Use of creative strategies to address medication and blood supply gaps.
- Call for a decentralized and community-centered healthcare model.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE NURSING CRISIS

- **INEFFECTIVE RECRUITMENT SYSTEMS**
- **MASS MIGRATION OF NURSES**
- **POOR WORKING CONDITIONS, LOW PAY, AND INSECURITY**
- **CHRONIC UNDERFUNDING OF HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE**

BARRIERS TO IMPROVING HEALTHCARE



RECOMMENDATIONS

Launch Nurse Exchange Programs
Broaden education, enhance cultural competence and foster global collaboration.

Implement Bi-National Training Initiatives and Regional Workforce Development
Create clear career pathways, advanced practice programs, and vibrant professional networks

Create Abundant, Diverse Nursing Opportunities
Expand infrastructuree with fully equipped, accessible centers offering safe, modern working

Radically Improve Working Conditions
Fair wages, supportive environments, mental health resources, and inclusive policies

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH AND SYSTEM REFORM

1. **Emergency Care Systems**
 - Evaluate informal EMS models for scalability and integration into formal systems.Study the legal barriers preventing timely emergency care.
2. **Nursing Workforce**
 - Examine retention strategies, including compensation, training pipelines, and workplace safety.
 - Research outcomes of existing nurse-led interventions on morbidity/mortality.
3. **Policy and Infrastructure**
 - Assess feasibility of national EMS training standards and legal protection frameworks.
 - Identify gaps in supply chain and facility infrastructure across regions.
4. **Community-Led Innovation**
 - Investigate community-generated solutions and their potential for institutional adoption.
 - Explore the role of public-private partnerships in strengthening local health capacity.

POTENTIAL IMPACT

THIS WORK UNDERSCORES THE URGENT NEED FOR RESEARCH-INFORMED REFORMS TO STRENGTHEN NIGERIA’S EMERGENCY AND NURSING CARE SYSTEMS. SUPPORTING LOCAL INNOVATION, EXPANDING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, AND SAFEGUARDING HEALTHCARE WORKERS ARE CRITICAL TO BUILDING AN EQUITABLE AND RESILIENT MODEL OF CARE.

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REFERENCES

