

COMMUNIQUE OF THE ONE DAY WORKSHOP ON "IMPACT OF HEALTH INSURANCE ON THE NIGERIAN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM" HELD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MEDIC WEST AFRICA BY THE ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIAN PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS (ANPMP) AT LANDMARK EVENT CENTRE, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS ON THE 19TH OF APRIL 2024.

PREAMBLE:

The Association of Nigerian Private Medical Practitioners in collaboration with Medic West Africa had a one day workshop on the 19th of April 2024 at Landmark Event Centre, Victoria Island, Lagos to deliberate on the IMPACT OF THE HEALTH INSURANCE ON THE NIGERIAN HEALTHCARE SYSTEM, noting the merits, demerits and the way forward.

The meeting had in attendance, the President of ANPMP as the Chief Host, Kay A. Adesola; Director General of National Health Insurance Authority(NHIA), Dr Kelechi Ohiri (ably represented by Mrs Aisha Haruna Abubakar); a member of Board of Trustee of ANPMP, Dr Anthony Omolola (the chairman of the day); the speakers-Dr Godwin Obute, Dr Douiye Aganaba, Dr Emmanuel Ozumba and Dr Olayide Mojeed Oladipo; and a Panel of Discussants namely Dr Augustine Aipoh, Dr (Mrs) Adenike Olaniba, Dr Isaac Feludu, Dr Olayiwola Bello and other prominent members of ANPMP.

Far reaching observations and resolutions were taken at the workshop.

OBSERVATIONS:

ANPMP members observed with dismay:

- a) The less than 8% coverage of Health Insurance Scheme across the country in her over 19 years its implementation. The Inadequate Information and Enlightenment of enrollees about Health Insurance in the country at both State and National levels were also noted.
- b) The HIGHLY INSENSITIVE NHIA TARIFFS which have not been reviewed for over 12 years despite the daily choking increases in the costs of drugs, services, energy supply, wages etc.
- c) the persistently poor number of enrollees matched with the meager MONTHLY Seven Hundred and Fifty Naira (N750.00) CAPITATION per live and the POOR FEE FOR SERVICE have crippled the healthcare industry and endangered the PRIVATE HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS with a propensity to further push them into penury.
- d) Members observed with great dissatisfaction, the crawling pace of NHIA at pursuing the implementation of the 2022 NHIA ACT in a way that will guarantee ACCEPTABLE and EQUITABLE Participation by all stakeholders.
- e) The suspicious involvement of the Health Maintenance Organizations contrary to the spirit of the NHIA ACT of 2022.
- f) Exclusion of some important conditions such as the Oncology, Autoimmune Diseases and Mental Health from National Health Insurance coverage remains a big gap in the course of the journey towards the attainment of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Nigeria.

RESOLUTIONS:

ANPMP resolved as follows:

- a) Promotion of Advocacy at community level by every Private Healthcare Provider for mass registration of members of their community under the State Health Insurance in addition to the efforts of the government.
- b) The Government should exhibit a stronger POLITICAL WILL to address all the challenges mitigating against the actualization of the benefits of Health Insurance and achievement of UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE in Nigeria.
- c) We demand that the TARIFFS be REVIEWED UPWARD IMMEDIATELY in order to free healthcare providers from extinction and to guarantee ENHANCED QUALITY HEALTHCARE provision for Nigerians.
- d) The involvement of the Health Maintenance Organizations should be promptly reconciled with the 2022 NHIA ACT.
- f) We strongly recommend that the otherwise excluded medical conditions such as Oncology, Autoimmune Diseases and Mental Health should be included in the scheme.

CONCLUSION:

There is no doubt that the stringent conditions faced by the Private Practitioners are getting worse by the day and we expect the government to waste no further time in addressing the issues head on in order to avoid an IMMINENT TOTAL BOYCOT of the scheme by Private Practitioners. We are convinced we have subsidized the Health Sector for long enough.

Kay A. Adesola
ANPMP President
E-Signed

Dr. Ned Okoro
Secretary General.
E-Signed

ANPMP