

A REPORT ON
STUDENT INDUSTRIAL WORK EXPERIENCE SCHEME
(SIWES)

UNDERTAKEN AT
CHILDREN SPECIALIST HOSPITAL, ILORIN, CENTRE
IGBORO, ILORIN, KWARA STATE

IN
DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS FROM
AUGUST TO DECEMBER, 2024

BY
MATRIC NO: ND/23/NAD/FT/0051

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this report was compiled by **ABDULKADIR RAHMAT NABABA**, a student of the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE, KWARA STATE POLYTECHNIC, ILORIN, KWARA STATE, NIGERIA on completion of the Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES).

SIWES COORDINATOR

SIGNATURE/DATE

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

SIGNATURE/DATE

DEDICATION

This report is dedicated to Almighty Allah, my beloved parents Alhaji/Alhaja AbdulKadir Nababa, my brother and sister, Mallam Muhammad Jamiu; Mallam Abdulqudus; Ummu Mazeedah; sister Haleemah and my course mates for their supports. May Almighty Allah continue to bless them and uphold them all.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Glory be to Almighty Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful for his guidance and protection on me throughout my SIWES program. I am indeed grateful to the entire staff of Nutrition and Dietetics of Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin, Centre Igboro for their motherly, fatherly care throughout my training. Sometimes there was need for them to strict, it was all for our goodness, a way of bringing out the better individual in us.

SIWES OVERVIEW

The Federal Government of Nigeria introduced the students industrial work experience scheme (SIWES) in 1973. This program was an acceptance skill acquisition which forms part of the approved minimum academics standard in the various degree programs for all the Nigerian polytechnics. Industrial training usually expose students to equipment, professional work methods, ways of safeguarding the work areas and workers in the industries and other organization.

The minimum duration for SIWES should normally be 24 weeks. The scheme is a tripartite program involving students, the polytechnic and the industry. It was founded by the federal government of Nigeria and jointly coordinated by the Industrial Training Fund (ITF), NBTE and the National Universities Commission (NUC).

My Student Industrial Work Experience (SIWES) was held at Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin, Centre Igboro, Ilorin, Kwara state. General introduction to all staff and already present trainees from various schools was carried out on my first day of resumption which was on 5th of August 2024. I worked at nutrition and dietetics, record, immunization and triage department of the organization which forms the basis of this report.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of SIWES

The Student Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) is a program designed to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application in various fields of study. It provides students with hands-on experience in real-life working environments, enhancing their skills and preparing them for the workforce. The program is a crucial part of technical and vocational education, ensuring that students gain relevant industry exposure before graduation.

The Industrial Training Fund National Conference held in Jos in the year 1988 mandated all collaborating agencies which include NCCE, NBTE and NUC to draw up job specifications for all degree programme included in the Students' Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES). As at that time, the job specifications were to guide industrialists and institution supervisors on the industrial placement of students in order to meet the required recognized the importance of job specification in SIWES and decided to set the ball rolling soon after the resolution was taken in 1988. Thus, from the year 1989-1993, the drawing up of the minimum academic requirement document by the National Universities Commission secretariat (NUC) in Abuja took place.

In January 1996, at a 3-day national workshop in Jos, the job specifications were drawn for all programs that have the components of the industrial attachment in their minimum academic standard documents. In all, nine panels, each headed by a senior academician, were constituted for the entire forty-six programme. The panel drew up the job specification during a 2-day meeting. After the job specifications were drawn, a one-day meeting was held in which five invited papers were presented and the procedure, content and format for presentation of the job specifications, documents were decided. The first draft of the document

was sent to all universities, ITF industries and all professional bodies involved in the running of the scheme for their comment and input. Their comments were then considered by a panel, comprised of the nine chairmen of the discipline groups and those found relevant were incorporated to produce the final job specification documents.

1.2 Objectives of SIWES

- To expose students to practical applications of classroom knowledge.
- To help students acquire technical skills and experience in their respective fields.
- To foster an understanding of workplace ethics and professional conduct.
- To bridge the gap between theory and practice in various professional fields.
- To develop students' problem-solving and decision-making abilities in real work settings.

1.3 Overview of Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin

Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin, is a leading healthcare facility dedicated to the medical needs of children, providing specialized pediatric care and preventive health services. Established to cater to the unique health challenges of infants, toddlers, and young children, the hospital plays a significant role in reducing infant and child mortality rates through advanced medical interventions, nutritional support, and immunization programs. It serves as a crucial pillar in the healthcare system of Kwara State, ensuring that children receive prompt and effective medical attention in cases of illness, injury, or developmental concerns. The hospital is well-structured, ensuring seamless coordination between various departments that contribute to the holistic care of children. With well-trained pediatricians, nurses, dietitians, immunization officers, and medical record keepers, the hospital provides a high level of specialized services aimed at

ensuring that every child receives the best possible healthcare. In addition to curative treatments, it focuses on preventive healthcare, ensuring that children receive regular checkups, vaccinations, and proper nutrition guidance to promote optimal growth and development. One of the hospital's major strengths lies in its immunization programs, which are designed to protect children against vaccine-preventable diseases such as polio, measles, tetanus, and tuberculosis. Through government-backed initiatives and collaborations with global health organizations, the hospital ensures that immunization services are easily accessible to all children, including those from underserved communities. Routine vaccination schedules are strictly followed, and caregivers are educated on the importance of immunization in safeguarding their children's health.

Malnutrition is another major challenge that affects children in many parts of Nigeria, and the hospital has a dedicated nutrition department that addresses this issue. This department focuses on the assessment and management of nutritional deficiencies, providing dietary counseling to mothers and caregivers, and implementing therapeutic feeding programs for malnourished children. The hospital's nutritionists and dietitians work closely with families to educate them on the importance of balanced diets, exclusive breastfeeding, and proper weaning practices. The department also runs nutrition awareness campaigns to promote better dietary habits among parents.

The hospital also boasts a highly efficient medical records department, ensuring that all patient data is properly documented and securely stored. This department plays a critical role in healthcare delivery by maintaining accurate records of children's medical histories, previous treatments, and immunization schedules. With the increasing adoption of digital health systems, the hospital continuously works towards improving its record-keeping processes to ensure easy retrieval of patient information when needed. Triage services form an essential part of the hospital's operations, allowing medical personnel to quickly assess and prioritize

cases based on severity. Upon arrival at the hospital, patients are first attended to at the triage unit, where trained nurses and medical officers evaluate their symptoms and determine the urgency of care required. This process ensures that children with life-threatening conditions receive immediate medical attention, reducing waiting times for critical cases. The triage system also helps to streamline the hospital's workflow, preventing congestion in the emergency unit and allowing for better management of available resources.

Beyond providing direct healthcare services, the hospital plays a significant role in community outreach programs aimed at promoting child health. These programs include public awareness campaigns on hygiene, nutrition, and disease prevention. Health workers from the hospital frequently engage with local communities, educating parents on best practices for ensuring the well-being of their children. They also conduct free medical checkups, distribute vitamin supplements, and provide deworming medications to children at risk of parasitic infections.

Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin, also serves as a training ground for medical students, interns, and other healthcare professionals seeking specialized knowledge in pediatrics. The hospital collaborates with medical schools and training institutions to provide hands-on experience to students in the field of child healthcare. By exposing future doctors, nurses, and dietitians to real-world medical cases, the hospital helps build a more competent healthcare workforce. In addition, research initiatives are often conducted within the hospital to study patterns of childhood diseases, treatment effectiveness, and the impact of various healthcare interventions. The infrastructure of the hospital is designed to support efficient service delivery, with well-equipped wards, consultation rooms, a pharmacy, a laboratory, and a nutrition unit. The pediatric wards are structured to provide a child-friendly environment, ensuring that young patients feel comfortable during their stay. The pharmacy is stocked with essential pediatric

medications, ensuring that prescribed treatments are readily available. The laboratory unit is responsible for conducting necessary medical tests, aiding in accurate diagnosis and effective treatment planning.

As part of its commitment to improving pediatric healthcare, the hospital continuously expands its range of services to address emerging health challenges affecting children. In response to rising cases of childhood obesity and lifestyle-related conditions, the hospital has incorporated weight management programs aimed at promoting healthier lifestyles among children. These programs focus on encouraging physical activity, providing dietary guidance, and addressing issues such as childhood diabetes and hypertension. Another important aspect of the hospital's operations is its integration with national and international health initiatives aimed at promoting child survival. The hospital works closely with organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), and the Nigerian Ministry of Health to implement various health interventions targeted at reducing child mortality and improving overall child health outcomes. The affordability and accessibility of healthcare services at Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin, make it a preferred choice for many families seeking quality medical care for their children. Additionally, free healthcare programs and intervention schemes are periodically organized to support children from low-income families. Despite its many strengths, the hospital faces several challenges, including overcrowding, limited resources, and occasional shortages of vaccines and medications. To address these issues, efforts are being made to improve hospital funding, expand infrastructure, and recruit additional healthcare professionals. The hospital management is also exploring ways to integrate more advanced medical technologies into its operations to enhance service delivery.

CHAPTER TWO

DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

2.1 History and Background

Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin, was established to cater specifically to the medical needs of children. It operates under the Kwara State Ministry of Health and provides specialized pediatric services, including immunization programs, malnutrition treatment, and child health monitoring.

Before its inception, access to specialized medical care for children was limited, with most cases being referred to general hospitals that lacked dedicated pediatric units. The need for a facility that focused exclusively on child health became evident due to the high prevalence of childhood illnesses, malnutrition, and preventable diseases. The government, in collaboration with health experts and stakeholders, recognized the urgent necessity of a pediatric hospital that would cater specifically to the medical needs of children in the state and beyond.

The hospital was conceptualized as part of a broader initiative to improve maternal and child healthcare services. Prior to its establishment, many children in Ilorin and neighboring communities faced challenges in accessing quality medical care, especially for conditions requiring specialized treatment. The burden of infant and child mortality was a growing concern, and health authorities sought to create a center that would focus on reducing childhood diseases through preventive, curative, and rehabilitative services. The development of the hospital was in line with national and international efforts to improve child survival rates and enhance healthcare accessibility for vulnerable populations.

From its early days, Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin, was designed to serve as a referral center for pediatric cases that could not be adequately managed by primary healthcare centers and general hospitals. The facility was strategically located in Ilorin to ensure accessibility for both urban and rural communities.

Over time, the hospital has expanded its services, evolving into a multidisciplinary institution with specialized departments focusing on immunization, nutrition, emergency pediatric care, and medical record management. The hospital has remained committed to addressing common and complex pediatric health challenges through a combination of medical treatment, public health interventions, and community outreach programs.

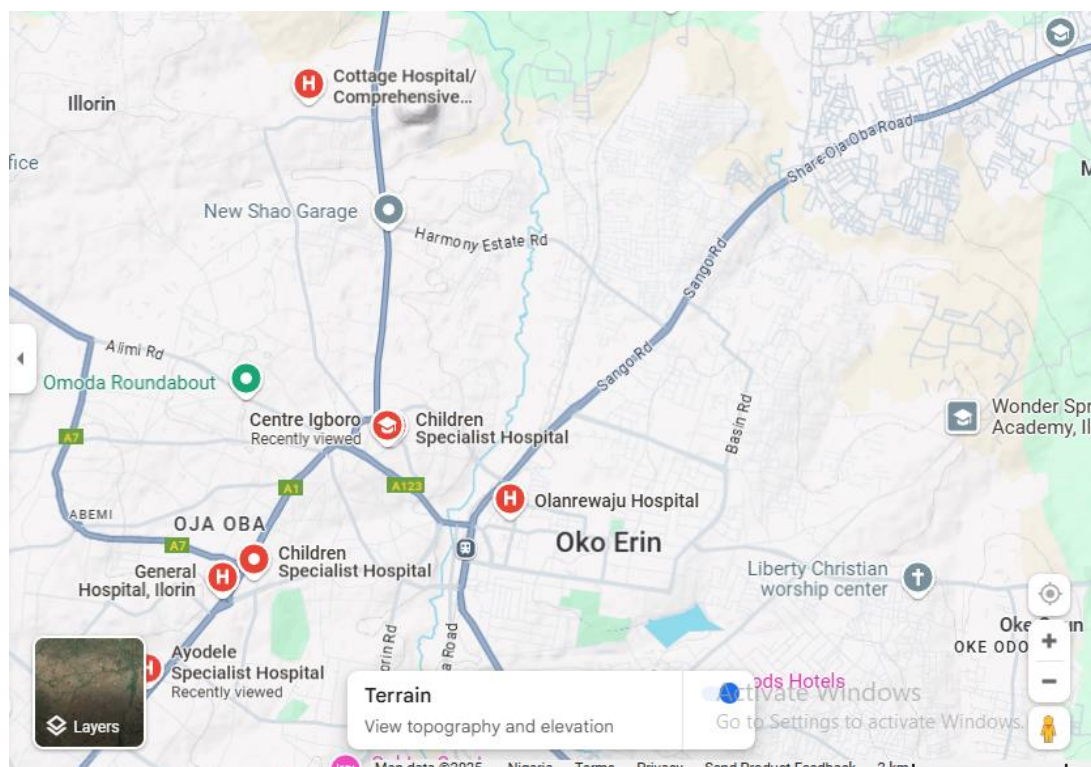
In the initial years, the hospital faced numerous challenges, including limited infrastructure, inadequate personnel, and insufficient medical supplies. However, government interventions and support from health organizations helped to improve the hospital's capacity. Various expansions and upgrades have been carried out to enhance service delivery, including the construction of new pediatric wards, the procurement of advanced medical equipment, and the recruitment of skilled healthcare professionals. These efforts have significantly contributed to the hospital's ability to provide high-quality care to thousands of children annually.

One of the defining aspects of the hospital's background is its integration into Nigeria's broader healthcare framework. As a government-owned facility, it operates under the Kwara State Ministry of Health and aligns with national policies on child healthcare. The hospital plays a critical role in implementing government-led health initiatives, including routine immunization programs, disease surveillance, and malnutrition intervention strategies. Through partnerships with organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the hospital has benefited from various immunization campaigns and capacity-building programs aimed at improving pediatric healthcare services.

The historical development of Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin, reflects a continuous effort to improve child health outcomes through medical advancements and policy-driven interventions. The hospital has consistently

adapted to changing healthcare needs by expanding its services and adopting modern medical technologies. Over the years, it has developed strong collaborations with other health institutions, including tertiary hospitals and research centers, to enhance its capacity in managing pediatric health conditions. This collaborative approach has positioned the hospital as a leading pediatric healthcare provider in the region.

In addition to its primary role as a treatment center, the hospital has also emerged as a hub for training and research in pediatric medicine. Medical students, interns, and resident doctors frequently undergo clinical training at the facility, gaining hands-on experience in pediatric care. The hospital also serves as a center for research on childhood diseases, contributing valuable data and insights that inform public health policies and medical interventions.



Geographical map of the hospital

2.2 DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

The hospital consists of several key departments, including:

2.2.1 NUTRITION DEPARTMENT (HANDLING CHILD NUTRITION AND DIETARY COUNSELING)

Proper nutrition is fundamental to the growth and development of children, as it plays a crucial role in their overall health and well-being. The focus on pediatric nutrition stems from the understanding that early dietary habits significantly impact a child's physical, cognitive, and immune system development. The Nutrition Department at the hospital serves as a pivotal unit dedicated to addressing the nutritional needs of children, ensuring that they receive the required nutrients for healthy growth. This department is instrumental in both preventive and curative healthcare, aiming to reduce malnutrition, promote healthy eating habits, and manage diet-related diseases.

One of the primary functions of this department is nutritional assessment. Every child admitted to the hospital undergoes a thorough evaluation to determine their nutritional status. This process includes measuring weight, height, body mass index (BMI), and other anthropometric parameters. These assessments help identify cases of malnutrition, undernutrition, or overnutrition, which can affect a child's growth and development. Malnutrition, whether in the form of protein-energy malnutrition or micronutrient deficiencies, remains a significant challenge among children, necessitating targeted interventions to address these issues effectively. Nutritional counseling is another vital component of the department's operations. Parents and caregivers are educated on the importance of proper nutrition and how to provide balanced meals for their children. Many cases of childhood malnutrition arise due to a lack of awareness about dietary requirements and poor feeding practices. Through counseling, caregivers are taught about appropriate weaning foods, food combinations, and the significance

of including essential nutrients such as proteins, vitamins, and minerals in their children's diets. The department also provides guidance on breastfeeding, emphasizing its benefits for infants in terms of immunity, digestion, and overall development.

Therapeutic nutrition is a specialized aspect of the department, focusing on children who require dietary interventions due to medical conditions. This includes children suffering from metabolic disorders, food allergies, gastrointestinal diseases, and chronic illnesses such as diabetes and kidney diseases. In such cases, nutritionists and dietitians develop personalized meal plans tailored to the specific needs of each child. These meal plans are designed to ensure that the child receives adequate nutrients while managing their medical condition effectively. The department works closely with pediatricians to ensure that dietary recommendations align with the child's overall treatment plan. Micronutrient supplementation is an essential strategy used by the department to combat deficiencies that are common among children. Many children suffer from deficiencies in iron, vitamin A, zinc, and iodine, which can lead to serious health complications. For example, iron deficiency can cause anemia, which affects cognitive function and energy levels, while vitamin A deficiency can lead to vision problems and increased susceptibility to infections. To address these deficiencies, the department administers supplements and educates parents on natural dietary sources of these essential nutrients.

The department also plays a critical role in managing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Children suffering from SAM often require inpatient care, where they receive therapeutic feeding in the form of specially formulated nutrient-rich foods. These include ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF), fortified milk-based formulas, and high-energy pastes designed to restore nutritional balance. For children with MAM, outpatient care is provided, where they receive nutrition support and regular monitoring to track their

progress. The department ensures that caregivers are trained on how to continue appropriate feeding practices at home to prevent relapses. Breastfeeding promotion is a key initiative within the department, recognizing the immense benefits of exclusive breastfeeding for infants during the first six months of life. Exclusive breastfeeding helps protect infants against infections, promotes healthy weight gain, and enhances brain development. However, many mothers face challenges in maintaining exclusive breastfeeding due to work obligations, lack of support, or misinformation. The department offers breastfeeding education, lactation support, and counseling to help mothers overcome these challenges. Lactation specialists guide mothers on proper breastfeeding techniques, address issues such as low milk supply, and provide solutions for common breastfeeding difficulties.

Weaning and complementary feeding programs are also emphasized, ensuring that children transition smoothly from exclusive breastfeeding to solid foods. Many caregivers struggle with introducing complementary foods, often providing inadequate or unbalanced meals. The department educates caregivers on appropriate weaning foods, meal timing, portion sizes, and food textures suitable for different age groups. Special attention is given to children at risk of malnutrition, ensuring that their complementary feeding meets their energy and nutrient needs. Food fortification programs are implemented to enhance the nutritional quality of commonly consumed foods. Fortified staples such as flour, cereals, and cooking oils help bridge the gap in micronutrient intake, particularly for children who have limited access to diverse diets. The department collaborates with public health initiatives to ensure that fortified foods are accessible and affordable for families. Additionally, the use of locally available, nutrient-rich foods is encouraged to promote sustainable and culturally appropriate dietary practices.

Education and community outreach are integral components of the department's efforts to improve child nutrition. Regular workshops, seminars, and campaigns are conducted to raise awareness about the importance of proper nutrition. These initiatives target mothers, caregivers, school teachers, and community health workers, empowering them with knowledge on child feeding practices. Community-based nutrition programs focus on early childhood nutrition, adolescent nutrition, and maternal nutrition, as the health of mothers directly impacts the nutritional status of their children. Collaboration with other hospital departments ensures a multidisciplinary approach to child nutrition. The department works closely with the immunization unit, recognizing the strong link between nutrition and immunity. Malnourished children are more vulnerable to infections, and ensuring adequate nutrition enhances the effectiveness of vaccines. Additionally, the department collaborates with the record unit for data collection and monitoring trends in child nutrition. Accurate data helps in identifying patterns of malnutrition and designing targeted interventions to address specific challenges.

The department also engages in research and innovation to improve pediatric nutrition. Studies on local food consumption patterns, nutritional deficiencies, and the impact of dietary interventions help in formulating evidence-based strategies. Research findings contribute to policy recommendations aimed at improving child nutrition at the community and national levels. The department actively participates in pilot programs testing new nutritional products, feeding techniques, and dietary supplementation approaches. Emergency nutrition response is a critical aspect of the department's work, particularly during periods of food insecurity, disease outbreaks, or natural disasters. In such situations, children are at heightened risk of malnutrition due to reduced access to food and healthcare. The department implements emergency nutrition interventions, distributing high-energy food supplements and providing urgent medical care for

malnourished children. Rapid assessment and response teams ensure that children in crisis situations receive immediate nutritional support.

Growth monitoring and nutritional surveillance are ongoing activities conducted to track the health status of children. Regular growth monitoring helps detect early signs of malnutrition, enabling timely intervention before conditions worsen. Parents receive feedback on their child's growth patterns, along with recommendations for improving their diet. The department uses this data to assess the overall nutritional trends within the population and adjust its programs accordingly. Nutritional rehabilitation programs focus on helping children recover from malnutrition and sustain healthy growth. Children who have experienced severe malnutrition require long-term support to prevent relapse. The department provides follow-up care, including periodic assessments, dietary modifications, and ongoing counseling for caregivers. Nutritional rehabilitation is often integrated with psychosocial support, recognizing that food insecurity and caregiving challenges contribute to malnutrition. As part of its future plans, the department aims to introduce advanced nutritional therapies, expand its outreach programs, and enhance research capabilities. There is a growing emphasis on integrating digital tools for dietary tracking, using mobile applications to help parents monitor their child's nutrition. Training programs for healthcare workers continue to be strengthened to ensure that nutrition remains a priority in pediatric healthcare. By staying committed to innovation and evidence-based strategies, the department continues to play a vital role in shaping the future of child nutrition and overall well-being.

2.2.2 IMMUNIZATION DEPARTMENT (ADMINISTERING VACCINES AND PREVENTING CHILDHOOD DISEASES)

Immunization is one of the most effective public health interventions designed to prevent infectious diseases, reduce child mortality, and promote long-term health. The immunization department plays a vital role in protecting children against vaccine-preventable diseases by ensuring timely vaccination, monitoring vaccine efficacy, educating caregivers, and implementing government-led immunization programs. Through structured immunization schedules and community outreach initiatives, the department significantly contributes to improving public health and enhancing the overall well-being of children. The department is responsible for administering vaccines to infants, toddlers, and young children according to national and international immunization guidelines. The immunization schedule typically includes vaccines for diseases such as tuberculosis, polio, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, hepatitis B, Haemophilus influenzae type B, measles, rubella, yellow fever, and pneumococcal infections. Each vaccine is carefully administered based on age-specific recommendations to provide optimal protection against infectious diseases. Vaccine storage and handling are critical aspects of the department's operations. Vaccines require proper storage conditions to maintain their potency and effectiveness. The immunization department is equipped with cold chain storage facilities, including refrigerators and freezers that maintain vaccines at the required temperature. The department follows strict guidelines to ensure that vaccines are stored, transported, and administered safely without compromising their efficacy. This includes regular temperature monitoring, proper stock rotation, and adherence to expiry dates to prevent wastage and maintain vaccine quality.

One of the major responsibilities of the department is conducting routine immunization services. These services are provided on designated days to ensure that all eligible children receive their vaccines according to schedule. Caregivers

are informed about the importance of timely immunization and the need to complete the full vaccine series to achieve maximum protection. Each child's immunization record is carefully maintained to track their progress and ensure follow-up for missed doses. Parents are encouraged to adhere to vaccination appointments to prevent delays that could compromise immunity. Outreach immunization programs are conducted to reach children in remote and underserved communities who may not have easy access to healthcare facilities. Mobile immunization teams are deployed to provide vaccinations in rural areas, marketplaces, schools, and community centers. These outreach programs help bridge the gap in immunization coverage, ensuring that every child, regardless of location or socioeconomic status, receives essential vaccines. Community mobilization efforts involve collaboration with local leaders, religious organizations, and non-governmental organizations to increase awareness and participation in immunization campaigns. Vaccine-preventable disease surveillance is another crucial function of the department. The team monitors the prevalence of vaccine-preventable diseases and reports suspected cases to health authorities. Surveillance activities include data collection, case investigations, and laboratory confirmations to track disease trends and assess the impact of immunization programs. If an outbreak is detected, the department works closely with health agencies to implement targeted vaccination campaigns, contain the spread of infections, and provide post-exposure prophylaxis when necessary.

Health education and advocacy play a significant role in promoting immunization uptake. The department organizes health talks, workshops, and informational sessions for caregivers, emphasizing the benefits of vaccination and addressing misconceptions. Misinformation about vaccines can lead to hesitancy and refusal, putting children at risk of preventable diseases. The department actively engages in public awareness campaigns to dispel myths, reinforce vaccine safety, and encourage parents to prioritize their children's immunization. Messages are

conveyed through various channels, including posters, radio broadcasts, community meetings, and social media platforms. Collaboration with maternal and child health services enhances the effectiveness of immunization efforts. The department works closely with antenatal and postnatal care units to ensure that newborns receive their first vaccines before leaving the hospital. Pregnant women are educated on the importance of immunization during pregnancy, particularly vaccines such as tetanus toxoid, which protects both mother and baby from neonatal tetanus. Integrating immunization with maternal and child healthcare services ensures a seamless continuum of care, improving vaccine coverage rates and overall child health outcomes.

Adverse event monitoring and management are essential to ensure vaccine safety and public confidence in immunization programs. While vaccines are generally safe, some children may experience mild side effects such as fever, swelling, or redness at the injection site. The department is trained to recognize and manage any adverse reactions that may occur. Parents are educated on common post-vaccination symptoms and advised on appropriate care. In rare cases of severe reactions, immediate medical attention is provided, and reports are submitted to the appropriate health authorities for investigation and necessary actions. The department also plays a key role in implementing special immunization campaigns, such as National Immunization Days (NIDs) and Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIAs). These campaigns are conducted to boost immunization coverage, especially for diseases such as polio and measles. Mass vaccination drives target large populations within a short period, ensuring that as many children as possible receive booster doses to strengthen herd immunity. These campaigns often involve door-to-door vaccination efforts, temporary immunization posts, and intensive community mobilization strategies.

Data management and record-keeping are integral to the success of the immunization department. Every vaccinated child's details, including name, date

of birth, vaccine received, and next scheduled dose, are recorded in immunization registers and electronic databases. This systematic documentation allows healthcare workers to track coverage rates, identify gaps, and plan effective immunization interventions. Data-driven decision-making enables the department to allocate resources efficiently, predict vaccine demand, and address challenges in vaccine delivery. Integration with global immunization initiatives helps align the department's efforts with international health goals. Collaborations with organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, provide technical support, funding, and vaccine supply. These partnerships strengthen immunization programs, enhance disease control strategies, and contribute to global efforts to eradicate vaccine-preventable diseases.

Emergency response and outbreak control are crucial aspects of the department's work. In times of disease outbreaks, such as measles or meningitis epidemics, the department mobilizes rapid response teams to conduct mass immunization campaigns. Emergency vaccination efforts aim to contain the spread of infections, protect vulnerable populations, and prevent fatalities. The department coordinates closely with epidemiologists, public health officials, and healthcare providers to implement timely interventions and safeguard community health. Training and capacity building for healthcare workers ensure the sustainability of immunization programs. The department provides ongoing training for nurses, midwives, and vaccinators on vaccine administration techniques, cold chain management, adverse event monitoring, and effective communication with caregivers. Strengthening the skills and knowledge of healthcare personnel enhances service delivery, improves vaccine confidence, and ensures the success of immunization initiatives.

Research and innovation in immunization practices contribute to the continuous improvement of vaccine delivery. The department participates in studies on vaccine efficacy, immunization coverage, and community acceptance of vaccines. Findings from research inform policy decisions, optimize vaccination strategies, and address emerging challenges in immunization services. Innovations such as electronic immunization registries, mobile health applications, and new vaccine formulations help streamline immunization processes and enhance accessibility. The department's commitment to sustainability and long-term impact is reflected in its efforts to promote self-sufficient immunization systems. Strengthening local vaccine production, improving healthcare infrastructure, and advocating for government investment in immunization programs are key priorities. By fostering a culture of immunization awareness and ensuring continuous access to vaccines, the department contributes to building a healthier and more resilient society.

Looking ahead, the department plans to expand its reach, enhance digital record-keeping, and implement advanced immunization tracking systems. Future initiatives include introducing new vaccines, scaling up community engagement efforts, and leveraging technology to improve vaccine delivery. Through these strategic approaches, the immunization department remains dedicated to protecting children from preventable diseases and fostering a future where every child has access to life-saving vaccines.

2.2.3 RECORD DEPARTMENT (MAINTAINING PATIENT RECORDS AND DOCUMENTATION)

The record department plays a crucial role in the efficient operation of any healthcare institution. It serves as the backbone of hospital administration, ensuring that patient information is accurately documented, stored, and retrieved when needed. In a specialist hospital dedicated to children's healthcare, the importance of the record department is even more pronounced, as the department

is responsible for maintaining detailed medical histories, immunization records, growth monitoring data, and other essential health records of pediatric patients. One of the primary functions of the record department is patient registration. Whenever a new patient visits the hospital, the department is responsible for capturing and recording personal details, including the child's name, date of birth, gender, guardian's information, contact details, and medical history. This information forms the foundation of the patient's medical record and is essential for tracking their health progress over time. Returning patients have their records retrieved to ensure continuity of care. Efficient documentation of medical history is a critical task of the record department. The department ensures that every diagnosis, treatment, medication, immunization, and test result is accurately documented in each patient's medical file. This systematic approach helps healthcare providers track a child's medical journey, identify recurring health issues, and develop personalized treatment plans based on past medical data. The availability of comprehensive health records enables pediatricians to make informed clinical decisions and provide high-quality care.

Another vital function of the department is the management of hospital admission and discharge records. When a child is admitted to the hospital for treatment, the record department documents all necessary details, including the reason for admission, attending physician, treatment administered, and any surgical procedures performed. Upon discharge, the department ensures that discharge summaries are accurately recorded, detailing the patient's progress, prescribed medications, follow-up appointments, and post-discharge care instructions. These records are essential for both medical and administrative purposes, ensuring that healthcare providers and parents have access to relevant information about the child's hospitalization. The department is also responsible for maintaining outpatient records. Pediatric patients who visit the hospital for consultations, vaccinations, and routine check-ups require well-organized documentation of

each visit. The record department ensures that outpatient records are updated with relevant details, including vital signs, symptoms, diagnoses, prescribed medications, and recommended follow-up visits. Proper documentation of outpatient records enhances continuity of care, allowing doctors to review past consultations and assess the effectiveness of previous treatments. One of the key administrative responsibilities of the record department is the coding and classification of diseases and treatments. Hospitals follow internationally recognized coding systems, such as the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), to categorize medical conditions and treatments. Accurate coding is essential for statistical reporting, research, and billing processes. By assigning appropriate codes to diagnoses and procedures, the department ensures consistency in medical documentation and facilitates efficient data retrieval for healthcare analysis and policy development.

Confidentiality and security of medical records are paramount in the record department. Patient records contain sensitive personal and medical information that must be protected from unauthorized access. The department implements strict protocols to ensure data security, including restricted access to medical files, password-protected electronic records, and secure storage of physical documents.

2.2.4 TRIAGE DEPARTMENT (ASSESSING AND PRIORITIZING PATIENT CONDITIONS)

The triage department plays a critical role in the hospital by ensuring that patients receive timely and appropriate medical attention based on the severity of their condition. It is the first point of contact for patients arriving at the hospital, where trained healthcare personnel assess, prioritize, and direct cases to the appropriate units for further medical intervention. In a children's specialist hospital, the triage process is particularly crucial, as pediatric patients often require urgent and specialized care based on their age, symptoms, and medical history.

Upon arrival at the hospital, children and their guardians are received by triage nurses or medical personnel trained in assessing pediatric emergencies. The department follows a structured triage system to classify cases into categories based on urgency. Patients with life-threatening conditions, such as severe respiratory distress, high fever, convulsions, or unconsciousness, are given immediate priority and referred to the emergency unit without delay. Those with moderate conditions, such as dehydration, minor infections, or mild fever, are directed to the appropriate outpatient or specialist clinic for further evaluation. Stable patients with non-urgent conditions are provided with scheduled appointments or guided to the necessary department for routine care. Vital signs assessment is a fundamental aspect of the triage process. The department is responsible for measuring key physiological indicators, including body temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate, and blood pressure. These parameters help in determining the severity of the child's condition and guide healthcare professionals in making informed decisions about the next steps in medical care. Accurate measurement and interpretation of vital signs are essential for identifying children who require immediate stabilization or advanced medical intervention. Triage nurses are also responsible for conducting preliminary medical assessments. This involves gathering important information about the child's symptoms, medical history, allergies, previous hospital visits, and any ongoing medications. By obtaining a detailed medical history, the department ensures that healthcare providers have the necessary background to diagnose and treat the child effectively. Pediatric triage often requires specialized knowledge, as children may not be able to express their symptoms clearly, making it essential for healthcare workers to rely on clinical observations and input from parents or guardians. The triage department also plays a key role in managing pediatric emergencies. Children with conditions such as seizures, severe dehydration, respiratory distress, traumatic injuries, or allergic reactions require immediate attention. The department is equipped with emergency response protocols,

ensuring that life-saving interventions such as oxygen administration, intravenous fluid resuscitation, or airway management are initiated promptly. In critical cases, patients are stabilized before being transferred to the emergency or intensive care unit for specialized treatment.

Infection control is a major consideration in the triage department, particularly in a children's specialist hospital where patients are more vulnerable to contagious diseases. The department implements strict hygiene and sanitation protocols to minimize the spread of infections within the hospital environment. Children presenting with symptoms of infectious diseases, such as measles, tuberculosis, or respiratory infections, are identified early and isolated if necessary to prevent cross-contamination. Proper hand hygiene, sterilization of medical equipment, and adherence to personal protective measures are standard practices in the department. In addition to medical assessments, the triage department serves as an information hub for parents and guardians. Triage personnel educate caregivers on basic home care practices, the importance of follow-up visits, and when to seek emergency medical attention. Clear communication with parents is essential to ensure they understand the urgency of their child's condition and comply with medical advice. The department also provides guidance on hospital procedures, directing families to appropriate service points such as laboratory testing, pharmacy, or specialist consultations. Effective communication and teamwork are vital in the triage process. The department collaborates closely with other hospital units, including the emergency department, pediatric wards, and outpatient clinics, to ensure seamless patient flow. In cases where specialized treatment is required, triage personnel facilitate referrals to appropriate specialists or diagnostic departments. Coordination between healthcare teams ensures that patients receive timely and comprehensive care without unnecessary delays.

Documentation is a crucial function of the triage department. Every patient assessment, vital sign measurement, and triage decision is recorded in the

hospital's medical database or patient records. Accurate documentation enables healthcare providers to track a child's medical history, assess trends in patient presentations, and improve hospital efficiency. Electronic record-keeping systems have improved the speed and accuracy of data entry, allowing for real-time updates on patient conditions and referrals. Pediatric pain assessment is another important responsibility of the triage department. Unlike adults, children may not always be able to describe their pain accurately. Triage personnel use specialized pediatric pain assessment tools, such as the FLACC scale (Face, Legs, Activity, Cry, Consolability) or Wong-Baker FACES Pain Rating Scale, to determine the level of discomfort a child is experiencing.

Each department plays a vital role in ensuring quality healthcare delivery to children.

2.3 FUNCTION AND SERVICE

2.3.1 Function and Service of Nutrition Department

1. The nutrition department plays a fundamental role in promoting the health and well-being of pediatric patients in a specialized children's hospital. It is responsible for ensuring that children receive adequate and appropriate nutrition to support their growth, recovery from illnesses, and overall development. Nutrition is a key component of pediatric healthcare, as children require a balanced intake of essential nutrients for optimal physiological and cognitive function. The department provides a range of services, including dietary assessments, individualized meal planning, nutritional counseling, therapeutic diets, and specialized feeding programs for children with medical conditions.
2. One of the primary functions of the department is the assessment of children's nutritional status. Every child admitted to the hospital undergoes a thorough evaluation to determine their nutritional needs based on age,

weight, height, medical condition, and dietary history. The assessment process includes anthropometric measurements such as body weight, length or height, mid-upper arm circumference, and head circumference for infants. These measurements provide important indicators of malnutrition, undernutrition, stunting, or overweight issues. For critically ill children, additional biochemical tests may be conducted to assess nutrient deficiencies or metabolic imbalances.

3. Another critical function of the department is the formulation of individualized meal plans tailored to each child's health condition. Pediatric patients with specific medical needs require special dietary interventions to support their treatment and recovery. For example, children with gastrointestinal disorders may require easily digestible meals, while those with diabetes need carefully monitored carbohydrate intake. Children recovering from severe malnutrition are placed on high-caloric, nutrient-dense meal plans designed to promote weight gain and restore nutritional balance. The department ensures that every meal provided in the hospital meets the highest dietary standards while taking into account medical recommendations, cultural dietary preferences, and food safety protocols.
3. Therapeutic nutrition is another essential service provided by the department. Many pediatric conditions require medically supervised nutritional therapy to prevent complications and improve health outcomes. For instance, premature infants or low birth weight babies may need specialized feeding regimens, including fortified breast milk or formula designed to enhance growth. Children with severe food allergies or metabolic disorders require specialized dietary modifications to avoid triggering adverse reactions. In cases of malabsorption disorders, therapeutic diets are designed to include nutrient-rich alternatives to

compensate for deficiencies. The department works closely with pediatricians to ensure that therapeutic diets align with the overall treatment plans of patients.

4. The nutrition department also plays a crucial role in enteral and parenteral feeding support for children who are unable to consume food orally. Pediatric patients with conditions such as cleft palate, neurological disorders, or post-surgical complications may require tube feeding to receive adequate nutrition. Enteral feeding involves the administration of liquid nutrients directly into the stomach or small intestine through a nasogastric or gastrostomy tube. In severe cases where the digestive system cannot process food, parenteral nutrition is provided intravenously, ensuring that essential nutrients reach the bloodstream directly. The department is responsible for monitoring these feeding regimens, adjusting nutrient composition as needed, and preventing complications associated with long-term tube or intravenous feeding.
5. Nutritional counseling and education are key components of the department's services. Many childhood health conditions are linked to poor dietary habits, and parents often require guidance on proper nutrition for their children. The department provides educational programs for parents and caregivers, emphasizing the importance of balanced meals, breastfeeding, food hygiene, and age-appropriate feeding practices. Special counseling sessions are offered for parents of children with chronic illnesses, teaching them how to prepare and manage medically prescribed diets at home. The department also collaborates with community health initiatives to raise awareness about malnutrition, anemia, and other common pediatric nutritional challenges.

Overall, the nutrition department serves as an essential pillar of pediatric healthcare, addressing both immediate and long-term nutritional needs of

children. Its wide-ranging functions, from individualized meal planning to therapeutic feeding interventions, play a significant role in enhancing patient outcomes and promoting healthy development. Through collaboration with healthcare professionals, community outreach efforts, and ongoing research, the department remains committed to providing the highest level of nutritional care for children.

2.3.2 Function and Service of Immunization Department

1. A core function of the immunization department is the administration of vaccines to newborns, infants, and children. Immunization schedules are carefully planned based on medical research and public health recommendations to ensure that children receive necessary protection at different stages of development. Vaccines administered include those against measles, polio, tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, hepatitis B, and pneumonia, among others. Each vaccine is designed to stimulate the child's immune system to recognize and fight specific pathogens, thereby preventing infections before they occur.
2. Proper vaccine storage and handling are essential responsibilities of the department. Vaccines are biological products that require specific temperature conditions to remain effective. The immunization unit ensures that vaccines are stored in refrigerators or cold chain storage facilities, maintaining the required temperature range. This prevents vaccine spoilage and guarantees the potency of each dose administered. Regular monitoring of temperature logs, proper handling of vials, and adherence to expiration dates are crucial tasks performed by healthcare workers in the department.
3. Education and counseling of parents and guardians form an integral part of the department's services. Many parents lack adequate knowledge about the importance of immunization, leading to vaccine hesitancy or missed

appointments. The department provides detailed information on the benefits of vaccines, possible side effects, and the importance of completing the immunization schedule. Health workers engage in one-on-one discussions with caregivers, addressing concerns, dispelling myths, and reinforcing the significance of vaccination in preventing severe childhood illnesses.

4. The immunization department also manages outreach programs to ensure that children in remote or underserved communities receive necessary vaccines. While many parents bring their children to the hospital for scheduled immunizations, some families face barriers such as distance, financial constraints, or lack of awareness. To bridge this gap, immunization teams conduct community-based vaccination campaigns, reaching infants and young children in rural areas, schools, and healthcare centers. Mobile clinics and vaccination drives are organized to ensure that no child is left unprotected due to logistical challenges.
5. The department actively participates in health promotion and advocacy campaigns aimed at increasing public awareness of the importance of vaccination. Health talks, media campaigns, community sensitization programs, and school-based vaccination awareness initiatives are conducted to encourage immunization uptake. By engaging with community leaders, educators, and parents, the department helps to combat vaccine misinformation and reinforce the role of immunization in disease prevention.

Overall, the immunization department plays a vital role in the hospital's public health initiatives by providing essential vaccines, educating caregivers, tracking immunization records, responding to disease outbreaks, and ensuring the overall well-being of pediatric patients. Its extensive services contribute significantly to reducing child mortality and morbidity, preventing the spread of infectious

diseases, and improving community health outcomes. By maintaining high vaccination coverage, the department supports the hospital's mission of delivering quality healthcare services and safeguarding the future of children through effective disease prevention measures.

2.3.3 Function and Service of Record Department

1. Functions of the record department is patient registration and documentation. Upon a patient's arrival at the hospital, their demographic information, medical history, and other relevant details are documented. This process involves capturing essential data such as the patient's name, date of birth, address, next of kin, medical history, and reason for visiting the hospital. Proper documentation ensures that each patient has a unique medical record that can be accessed whenever they seek medical care.
2. The department is also responsible for managing outpatient and inpatient records. Outpatient records are created for patients who visit the hospital for consultations, medical tests, or minor treatments without being admitted. These records contain details of diagnosis, prescribed medications, laboratory test results, and follow-up appointments. On the other hand, inpatient records document the entire treatment process of patients who are admitted for more extended medical care. These records include admission dates, treatment progress, surgical procedures, discharge summaries, and post-hospitalization care plans.
3. Another critical function of the record department is maintaining the accuracy and integrity of patient records. Ensuring that medical records are free from errors is essential for effective diagnosis and treatment. The department employs trained personnel who review records for completeness and correctness, ensuring that no critical information is omitted. Errors in documentation, such as incorrect medication history, can

have serious implications for patient care. Therefore, stringent quality control measures are implemented to guarantee the reliability of medical data.

4. Confidentiality and security of medical records are key responsibilities of the record department. Patient records contain sensitive information that must be protected against unauthorized access. The department enforces strict policies and procedures to ensure compliance with data protection regulations. Physical files are stored in secured areas with restricted access, while electronic records are protected with encryption and password authentication systems. Staff members handling medical records are trained on confidentiality protocols to prevent breaches of patient privacy.
5. The record department is responsible for managing the retention and disposal of medical records. While some records must be retained indefinitely due to their significance in patient care, others may have a specific retention period based on hospital policies and legal requirements. Once the retention period expires, outdated records are safely disposed of through shredding or digital deletion. Proper disposal methods ensure that patient confidentiality is maintained even after records are no longer needed.

2.3.4 Function and Service of Triage Department

1. Functions of the triage department is patient assessment. Upon arrival at the hospital, every patient undergoes a structured evaluation by trained healthcare professionals. This assessment involves collecting essential information, such as the patient's name, age, presenting complaint, medical history, and any known allergies. The initial evaluation enables the triage nurse to categorize patients based on the severity of their condition and assign them to the appropriate level of care.

2. The triage department plays a crucial role in prioritizing emergency cases. Since hospitals often experience high patient volumes, it is essential to determine which patients require immediate medical attention and which can wait for treatment. Patients with life-threatening conditions, such as severe trauma, heart attacks, strokes, or respiratory distress, are given top priority and are immediately referred to emergency medical teams. Less critical cases, such as mild infections, minor injuries, and routine consultations, are scheduled for later treatment based on availability.
3. Vital signs monitoring is a core responsibility of the triage department. Healthcare professionals measure and record key physiological indicators, including body temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate, and blood pressure. These vital signs provide crucial insights into the patient's overall health status and help determine the level of medical attention required. Abnormal readings, such as dangerously high or low blood pressure, rapid heart rate, or difficulty breathing, indicate the need for urgent intervention.
4. Another significant function of the triage department is the classification of patients based on the severity of their medical conditions. Many healthcare institutions use standardized triage systems, such as the five-level triage scale or color-coded categorization, to streamline patient assessment. These systems enable healthcare providers to allocate resources effectively and ensure that critically ill patients receive immediate care.
5. The triage department also serves as an information hub for patients and their families. Upon arrival, patients are informed about the expected waiting time, the process of medical evaluation, and the next steps in their treatment. In cases where patients require specialized medical attention, the triage team provides guidance on referrals to other departments or external healthcare facilities.

CHAPTER THREE

WORK DONE DURING MY SIWES PROGRAM

3.1 Nutrition Department

In the Nutrition Department, my responsibilities included:

- Assisting in the assessment of children's nutritional status using weight and height measurements.
- Educating parents and caregivers on proper child nutrition, including breastfeeding and complementary feeding.
- Participating in nutritional counseling sessions for malnourished children.
- Learning about food supplements provided to children suffering from malnutrition.
- Assisting in the preparation of dietary plans for children with special medical needs.

Through this experience, I gained insight into the importance of balanced diets in child growth and development. I also learned how malnutrition affects children's health and the role of proper nutrition in preventing diseases.

3.2 Immunization Department

In the Immunization Department, I was involved in:

- ✓ Assisting in the administration of routine childhood vaccines such as BCG, OPV, DPT, Measles, and Hepatitis B.
- ✓ Educating mothers and caregivers on the importance of immunization and vaccine schedules.
- ✓ Recording vaccine administration details and maintaining immunization registers.
- ✓ Assisting in the management of vaccine storage to ensure proper handling and effectiveness.

- ✓ Observing and learning how healthcare workers handle cases of adverse reactions to vaccines.

My time in this department gave me a better understanding of immunization as a preventive healthcare strategy. I learned how vaccines protect children from life-threatening diseases and the role of public health initiatives in disease prevention.

3.3 Record Department

In the Record Department, my duties included:

- ❖ Organizing and updating patient files for easy retrieval.
- ❖ Registering new patients and documenting their medical histories.
- ❖ Assisting in data entry and hospital record management.
- ❖ Observing how patient confidentiality is maintained.
- ❖ Learning how hospital records are used for research and medical decision-making.

This department exposed me to the importance of proper record-keeping in hospitals. I learned how medical records help track patient progress, improve hospital efficiency, and ensure quality healthcare delivery.

3.4 Triage Department

In the Triage Department, I was responsible for:

- Assisting in the initial assessment of incoming patients.
- Measuring vital signs such as temperature, pulse, and blood pressure.
- Helping to prioritize emergency cases based on severity.
- Learning how medical staff determine the urgency of different cases.
- Observing how healthcare workers handle emergency situations efficiently.

This department taught me the importance of quick and accurate patient assessment in medical emergencies. I learned how triage helps in prioritizing treatment, ensuring that critical patients receive urgent care.

3.5 PICTORIAL REPRESENTATION OF SOME LABORATORY EQUIPMENT USED IN NUTRITION UNIT, IMMUNIZATION UNIT, RECORD UNIT AND TRIAGE UNIT AND THEIR USES



Fig 1- Weighing scale

Uses

- i. Used to measure patients' weight, which is crucial for determining their nutritional status.
- ii. Weight measurements are used alongside height to determine BMI, which helps assess whether a person is underweight, normal weight, overweight, or obese.
- iii. Regular weight checks help track growth patterns in infants and children, ensuring they meet developmental milestones.



Fig 2- MUAC TAP

Uses

- i. MUAC is used to quickly assess malnutrition, especially in children under five, pregnant women, and lactating mothers. It helps identify individuals who are undernourished or at risk of malnutrition.
- ii. The tape has color-coded indicators (green, yellow, and red) that classify individuals as well-nourished (green), at risk of malnutrition (yellow), or severely malnourished (red).
- iii. Is used to track changes in arm circumference over time, helping to monitor recovery in malnourished patients undergoing nutritional interventions.



Fig 3- Lensometer

Uses

- i. Is used to measure the length of infants and young children to monitor their growth patterns and ensure they are developing appropriately.
- ii. Is used for Length measurements, combined with weight data, help in determining Weight-for-Length (WFL) or Height-for-Age (HFA) indices, which are used to assess undernutrition, stunting, or wasting.
- iii. It helps detect stunting (low height-for-age), a sign of chronic malnutrition, which is crucial for early intervention in children's health.



Fig 4- Vaccine Bottle

Uses

- i. Is used to safely store liquid vaccines, preserving their potency before administration. They are designed to maintain vaccine stability under recommended storage conditions.
- ii. It contain the vaccine doses required for immunizing individuals against diseases such as polio, measles, hepatitis, and tuberculosis. Healthcare workers extract the vaccine from the bottle using syringes.
- iii. It is labeled with batch numbers and expiry dates, allowing immunization staff to track vaccine quality and ensure expired doses are not used.

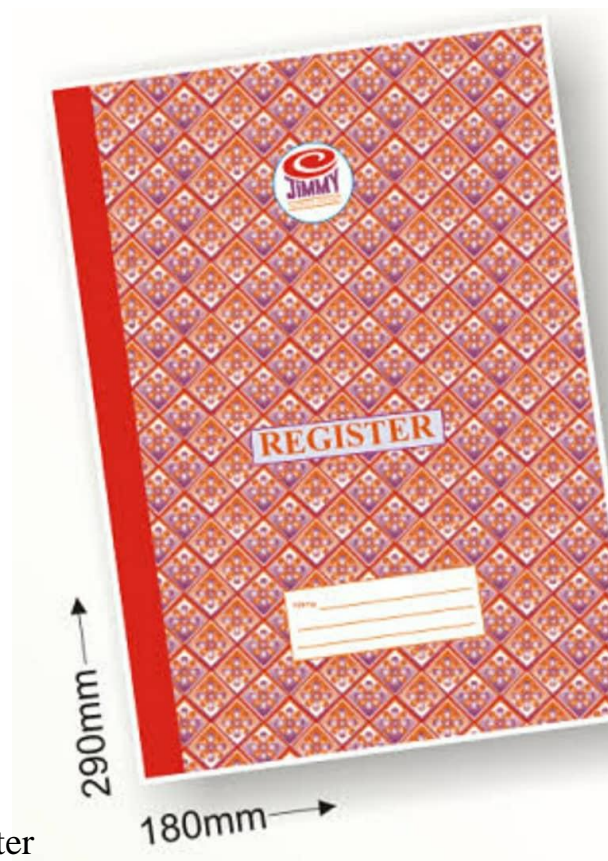


Fig 5- Register

Uses

- i. It is used to document details of individuals who receive vaccines, including their names, ages, and the type of vaccine administered.
- ii. It helps healthcare workers monitor and follow up on patients who need additional doses, such as booster shots for polio, measles, or hepatitis.
- iii. It provide statistical data on the number of people immunized, helping in assessing vaccine coverage within a community or healthcare facility.



Fig 6- Giostyle

Uses

- i. It helps keep vaccines at the recommended temperature (usually between +2°C to +8°C) during transport, preventing spoilage.
- ii. It is used to carry vaccines safely from storage facilities to remote vaccination sites, ensuring they remain potent.
- iii. In field immunization programs, Giostyle serves as a temporary vaccine storage unit, keeping doses at the correct temperature throughout the session.



Fig 7- Folder

Uses

- i. It used to store individual patient records, including personal details, medical history, and treatment information.
- ii. It help organize documents systematically, making it easier for healthcare workers to access patient records when needed.
- iii. It keep medical records safe from damage, dust, or loss, ensuring long-term preservation of important information.



Fig 8- Table

Uses

- i. It provide a flat surface for writing, sorting, and updating patient records, making documentation easier.
- ii. They serve as a place to arrange folders, registers, and other documents for quick access and easy retrieval.
- iii. Tables hold computers, printers, and other electronic devices used for digital record-keeping and data entry.



Fig 9- Shelf

Uses

- i. It used to systematically store patient files, making them easy to access when needed.
- ii. Different shelves can be designated for various categories of records, such as outpatient files, inpatient files, and immunization records, ensuring better organization.
- iii. It keep files off the ground, protecting them from dust, moisture, and physical damage.



Fig 10- Sphygmomanometer

Uses

- i. It use for Measures systolic and diastolic blood pressure to determine if a patient has normal, high (hypertension), or low (hypotension) blood pressure.
- ii. It helps identify patients at risk of conditions such as stroke, heart attack, or shock due to abnormal blood pressure levels.
- iii. It is used to regularly check the blood pressure of patients in serious conditions, ensuring timely intervention if their condition worsens.



Fig 11- Pulse Oximeter

Uses

- i. It helps identify conditions like shock or poor blood circulation by monitoring oxygen levels and pulse rate.
- ii. Helps healthcare workers decide whether a patient needs oxygen therapy, ventilation, or immediate medical attention.
- iii. It is used for trauma patients, unconscious individuals, or those suspected of cardiac or respiratory failure to monitor their oxygen levels in real time.

CHAPTER FOUR

CHALLENGES FACED

During my SIWES training, I encountered several challenges, including:

- **Limited Practical Experience:** Some tasks required expert knowledge, and I was only allowed to observe rather than actively participate.
- **Workload Pressure:** The hospital had a high patient turnout, making it challenging to keep up with the demands of different departments.
- **Communication Barriers:** Some caregivers spoke only local dialects, making patient education difficult at times.
- **Data Management Issues:** Manual record-keeping sometimes led to delays in retrieving patient files.

Despite these challenges, I was able to adapt and learn valuable problem-solving skills.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, RECOMMENDATION

5.1 SUMMARY OF THE SIWES REPORT

This chapter provides a comprehensive summary of the Students Industrial Work Experience Scheme (SIWES) carried out at Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin. The training aimed to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical experience in a professional healthcare setting. The hospital, known for its specialization in pediatric healthcare, provided a suitable environment for learning about various aspects of medical services, particularly in the Nutrition Department, Immunization Department, Record Department, and Triage Department. The SIWES experience was invaluable in understanding hospital operations, patient care, and administrative processes.

Throughout the training, significant insights were gained into how a healthcare institution functions in delivering medical services, handling patients, and ensuring proper record-keeping. The experience also highlighted the importance of teamwork among healthcare professionals, the role of technology in medical documentation, and the critical need for efficiency in a high-pressure medical environment.

5.1.1 Overview of the Training Experience

The training at Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin, was structured to cover different key areas of pediatric healthcare. Each department played a vital role in ensuring that children received the best medical attention, ranging from preventive healthcare measures to treatment and recovery support. The Nutrition Department focused on dietary planning, meal formulation, and nutritional counseling. The Immunization Department handled vaccine administration and disease prevention strategies. The Record Department maintained patient files

and medical documentation, while the Triage Department ensured that patients were assessed and prioritized based on medical urgency.

5.2 CONCLUSION

My SIWES experience at Children Specialist Hospital, Ilorin was highly educational and practical. I gained valuable insights into child healthcare, including nutrition, immunization, medical record-keeping, and emergency triage. The training provided me with hands-on experience and enhanced my understanding of hospital operations. Despite the challenges faced, the experience has greatly contributed to my professional development, equipping me with skills that will be beneficial in my future career.

5.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on my experience, I recommend the following improvements:

- More Hands-on Training: SIWES students should be given more opportunities for practical involvement.
- Improved Record-Keeping System: The hospital should transition to digital records for faster and more efficient patient management.
- Better Public Awareness on Nutrition: More outreach programs should be conducted to educate parents on child nutrition.
- Enhanced Language Support: Medical staff should be equipped with basic knowledge of local dialects for better communication.