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**The historical development and current status of nursing (evaluation of nursing in Nigeria)**

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Nursing as a profession dated back to Florence Nightingale. Its evolution and development as well as challenges facing it in Nigeria have not been sufficiently documented. It is against this background that this paper is designed to provide a historical perspective of nursing, its growth, problem and prospects in Nigeria. The paper concludes that the nursing profession in Nigeria is dynamic and growing but beset with challenges. Recommendations were made to redress the challenges.

**Biography**

Ajayi Olufunke Abiodun is a nurse - Chief Nursing Officer (Preventive Health) at the Obafemi Awolowo University, Medical and Health Services, Health Centre, Ile-Ife, Osun State Nigeria. She is also a Barrister and Solicitor. She manages patients and clients both at the hospital and in the community especially in the field of public and community health and applies her knowledge of law. She has master's in public administration, B. Sc. Nursing Administration, LLB in Law, BL in Law; Registered Nurse (RN), Registered Mid-wife (RM); Registered Public Health Nurse (RPHN).

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