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Title	The Nigerian National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS): A Case for the Extent of Reform Required
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Measuring Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals</i>
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Country	Nigeria
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Content	<p>Good health and well-being is focal to achieving sustainable development in any society. The realization of this fact prompted the Nigerian government to introduce the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) in 2005 with the view of achieving Universal Health Coverage amongst other objectives. However, fifteen years down the line, less than 5% of Nigerians is covered by the scheme. In fact the World Health Organization (WHO), in 2017, ranked the Nigerian Health System as 187 out of 190 World Health Systems. This implies that the scheme has not succeeded in achieving its mission. Hence, a reform is needed. But how much so? To answer this question, a systematic literature review was carried out across three databases; PubMed, Google Scholar and JSTOR using keywords such as NHIS, Nigeria, Ghana, loophole and reform. Eleven articles met the inclusion criteria of being published between 2015 to 2020 and by Nigerian authors. This paper aims to draw the attention of policy makers and health advocates to the extent of reform of the Nigerian NHIS required. It does this by firstly analyzing the impacts the scheme has had so far and its potential for further impact generation, particularly in promoting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal 3. Also detailed in this discourse are the loopholes of the scheme identified from its systematic comparison to Ghana's NHIS, a scheme touted by the WHO as a "shining example for Africa". Furthermore, specific policy recommendations for bridging the identified gaps and suggested implementation strategies are highlighted.</p>