The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) office in Nigeria was established in 2001. To achieve CDC-Nigeria’s vision “Public Health Excellence for Healthy Nigerians” the office supports the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Health in the development, implementation, and evaluation of disease response efforts and programs that contribute to a strengthened public health infrastructure in Nigeria.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top 10 Causes of Death in Nigeria</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Malaria</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Lower Respiratory Infections</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. HIV</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Diarrheal Diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Road Injuries</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Protein-Energy Malnutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Cancer</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Meningitis</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Stroke</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Tuberculosis</td>
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</tbody>
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Source: GBD Compare (http://viz.healthmetricsandevaluation.org/gbd-compare/), 2010

HIV/AIDS

Through the U.S. President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), the CDC Nigeria office provides technical assistance to help the Ministry of Health (MOH) implement an effective, efficient national HIV program. This support has contributed to saving the lives of men, women and children through HIV treatment services and a robust combination prevention strategy. Using a data-driven approach, this strategy is tailored to the unique characteristics of the local epidemic help for maximum health impact.

Working closely with the MOH, CDC supports the scale-up of high quality HIV prevention interventions including HIV treatment and prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) services. Other key activities include improving and expanding HIV/counseling and testing, and TB/HIV integrated service delivery. Health system strengthening support includes building country capacity in the areas of workforce development, operational research, epidemiology, surveillance, health information systems, and program monitoring and evaluation to assess program performance and make course corrections to keep pace with changes in the local epidemic.

Specific laboratory capacity building efforts have included the expansion of laboratory services to support the rapid scale-up of HIV treatment services as well as the establishment of a national reference lab capable of performing diagnostics for TB and other infectious and non-infectious diseases. CDC is also providing support for phase II field evaluation of HIV rapid test kits and the development of the National Medical Laboratory Strategic Plan.

Influenza

The Nigerian Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) has been collaborating with CDC on influenza control since 2006. The collaboration is through the cooperative agreement Surveillance and Response to Avian and Pandemic Influenza Project. The support has enabled Nigeria to establish a system for early detection and effective response to avian and pandemic influenza. In 2007 and 2008, National Influenza Reference Laboratory (NIRL) and National Influenza Sentinel Surveillance System (NISS) were established. In addition, guides to avian influenza pandemic preparedness and response were also developed by Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH).
Malaria
Under the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), CDC has assigned a Resident Advisor to Nigeria as part of an interagency team with USAID to support the Ministry of Health in implementing malaria prevention and control interventions; these include providing long-lasting insecticide mosquito nets and indoor residual spraying; preventing malaria in pregnancy; improving diagnostics and case management; surveillance, and monitoring and evaluation of malaria-related activities. Specific examples of CDC technical support have included: developing the framework for an improved routine health information system in select states and local government areas, in collaboration with PEPFAR; strengthening capacity for entomological monitoring at federal and state levels including training in the CDC bottle bioassay and WHO tube techniques; and strengthening malaria diagnostics capacity by developing a quality assurance framework and using dried tube specimens for quality control of malaria rapid diagnostic tests.

Immunizations
CDC, in collaboration with its partners, provides technical and financial support to Nigeria for polio eradication and measles pre-elimination activities.

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Immigrant, Refugee & Migrant Health
Implementing new technical instructions for screening refugees and immigrants and performing regulatory oversight of physicians perform examinations of these populations.

Field Epidemiology Laboratory and Training Program
The Nigeria Field Epidemiology Laboratory Training Program trains field public health laboratory, epidemiology, and veterinary epidemiology residents to work in leadership positions in the Ministry of Health and the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources. This two-year program helps improve public health systems within the country by increasing knowledge and skills in field epidemiology and laboratory science and building a cadre of skilled and well-trained health professionals in Nigeria.

Nigeria at a Glance
Population: 2,033,000
Per capita income: $12,840
Life expectancy at birth women/men: 52/54 yrs
Infant mortality rate: 36/1000 live births

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