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VOLUME 2, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 7 2022

IIAS 2022 Conference in Charlotte, N.C.!

International Institute For African Scholars

Presentation, Panel Discussion, Book Launch, Gala and Award Night

Friday & Saturday, 14 - 15 October 2022

Theme:

IIAS: Building The Bridge Through Collaboration, Self-Empowerment, And Innovation In Africa And The Diaspora



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Keynote Speech

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Airport

Charlotte Douglas International Airport

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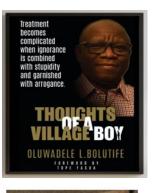
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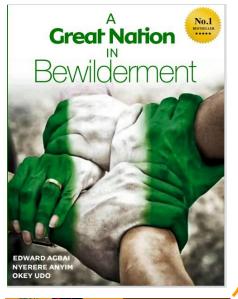
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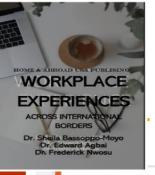


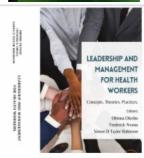


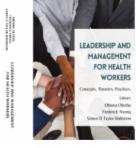
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WELCOME TO EPI CORNER WITH Dr. Marytherese Agwara, FIIAS

Brain Abscess

Despite the enhanced diagnostic and treatment approaches, brain abscess remains a serious central nervous system disease. Brain abscess also known as cerebral abscess is a collection of pus in the cerebellum, the frontal, or the temporal lobes of the cerebrum. Brain abscess may or may not be encapsulated. It originates from different factors, and



can be seen in one or multiple areas. This disease is uncommon, but life threatening. An empirical data has shown that brain abscess is more prevalent in the developing countries. As of 2017, available data showed high morbidity and mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa where means of diagnosis is limited.

Brain abscess can occur through different routes that include surgery, trauma, or infections. The infections occur due to bacteria or fungi. Available data revealed risk factors to be sinusitis, mastoiditis, dental infections, ear, nose, and throat surgery, liver and kidney diseases, lung infections, and weak immune system. Other risk factors include gunshot wounds, skin infection, seizure, infection of the abdomen among other risk factors.

For diagnosis, several and different types of tests are available. Notable tests are diagnostic testing such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computed tomography (CT) scan, blood culture, and lumbar puncture. Diagnosis of brain abscess can be challenging in some cases especially with people who are asymptomatic. Early diagnosis is paramount because delay may result to negative health outcomes. Some noted symptoms among others are headache, change in mental status, seizure, fever, chills, stiff neck, nausea, and vomiting. The treatment is dependent on the location, size, and number of lesions. It also requires multiple approaches. Suggested treatment approaches are antibiotics, surgery drainage, antiseizure drugs, and CT guided stereotactic aspiration.

Although the purpose of this article is to provide awareness on brain abscess, it contains limited information. Always contact your physician as soon as you suspect or experience any symptom/s. Since the diagnostic tests to diagnose brain abscess is limited in Africa, it is imperative that health care professionals encourage people to practice proper hygiene to avoid infections, be aware of the symptoms, and seek early diagnosis when symptom/s surface. Adhering to these suggestions will help to reduce the prevalence of this disease in the African countries.

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its position
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