How to cut tuberculosis prevalence rate in Nigeria, by expert

Against the backdrop of the high prevalence rate of tuberculosis in the country, a medical practitioner, Dr Ndidi Nwosu, has called for the acceleration of all national programmes against the disease, blaming the spread of the disease on lack of awareness, improper diagnosis due to lack of state-of-art equipment and abuse of antibiotic drugs by Nigerians.

Speaking in an interview with The Guardian on the sidelines of the commissioning of a digital x-ray machine donated to St. Kizito Clinic, Lekki, Lagos State by Chevron Nigeria Limited as part of its support for the fight against tuberculosis (TB) in Nigeria, Nwosu, who is the Consultant Community Physician at the hospital, said the country needed to embark on vigorous awareness campaign to curb the spread of the disease.

Nigeria is among the countries with the highest burden of TB in the world, a disease with fatal consequences if not diagnosed and treated adequately. In Africa, the country has the greatest TB burden and less than 25 per cent of all TB cases are diagnosed, increasing the fatalities from an otherwise curable disease. Over 10 per cent of the national burden of TB is reported by Lagos State, making it the state with the highest burden of the disease in Nigeria.

To read the full article