

MAKERERE



UNIVERSITY

**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE OF MEDICAL PHOTOGRAPHY
AMONG POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

BY

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DECLARATION

This is a pronouncement by I Bamusonighe Apollo Peter, that the work presented in this dissertation is my own research and has not been submitted for any other degree award in any other university.


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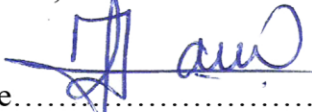
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Dedication

This book is dedicated to my family, for their kindness, devotion, and endless support.

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Definition of Terms

Analogue:	Continuous transmissions of information to our senses from our environment mainly by our eyes and ears.
Analogue photography	Photography employing the photographic film
Current technology:	Technologies that have been in use since 2000 AD
Digital:	An estimate of analogue data using only zeros and ones.
Digital Workflow:	The process undertaken from capturing an image, processing it computer, ready it for its end use, to archiving.
DSLR:	Digital Single Lens Reflex camera
JPEG	JPEG is short for Joint Photographic Experts Group, and is the most popular among the image formats used on the web. JPEG lose so much information from the original image during saving.
MakCHS:	Makerere University College of Health Sciences.
OBG	Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Post graduate:	For this study, only those on a master's degree program at Makerere University College of Health Sciences.
RAW	The RAW file format is digital photography's equivalent of a negative in film photography containing untouched, "raw" pixel information straight from the digital camera's sensor.
SLR:	Single Lens Reflex camera
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWOT:	Strength Weakness Opportunities Threats
Tablet	For this study this refers to a tablet computer
TIFF	Tagged Image File Format.
Wet process:	Printing process done in the darkroom.
WhatsApp:	WhatsApp Messenger is a cross-platform mobile messaging app which allows you to exchange messages without having to pay for SMS.

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

Medical Photography is concerned with taking images that are beneficial to medical practice. As a specialized area of photography, it entails the documentation of clinical presentation of patients, medical and surgical procedures, medical devices and specimens. This requires specialised training and skills to accomplish the desired outcome. However, due to the increased availability of easy-to-use point and shoot cameras among the population, it is possible to take medical photographs by persons not trained as medical photographers. There was a need therefore, to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice of medical photography among postgraduate at Makerere University College of Health Sciences.

METHODOLOGY

This was a cross-sectional, descriptive study conducted at the Makerere University College of Health Sciences. Primary data was collected from 141 participants using a self-administered questionnaire adapted from a tool formulated by WHO. Secondary data was obtained from analysing 144 medical photographs taken by post graduates using the tool developed by Tango tools. These photographs were analysed for impact and interest, viewpoint, colour management, composition, technique, manipulation and presentation.

RESULTS

The majority of the participants were aged 30 and below 48.2%, male 66% and offered general surgery 26.2% as a study program.

Only 39% of the participants were knowledgeable about medical photography. However, 81.6% had heard about medical photography and 56.7% knew people who practiced medical photography. The majority of participants 78% had a positive attitude towards medical photographs while 69.5% felt that they could take quality medical photographs. Only 13.5% of the participants took their own medical photographs and 81.6% reported mobile phone as the most frequently used equipment. The availability of quality medical photographs was a challenge among 81.6% of the participants.

The photographs analysed revealed that 77.8% were snapshots and photograph quality was affected by framing decisions and post shoot manipulation.

CONCLUSION

The majority of participants were exposed to medical photography directly through active involvement or indirectly through passive observation. Participants perceived medical photographs to be important but were not readily available. Choice of equipment and its use affected the medical photography process.