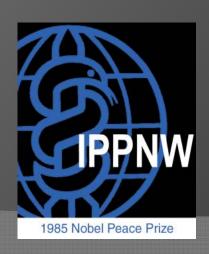
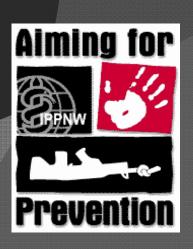
#### THE ONE BULLET STORY

A PROJECT OF:
AIMING FOR PREVENTION:

An IPPNW campaign on the public health consequences of armed violence

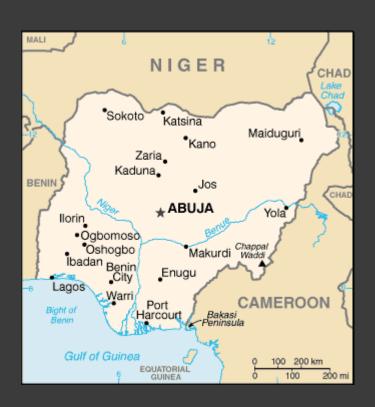
BY
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IPPNW NIGERIA

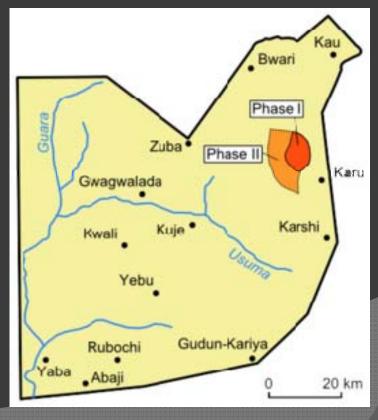




## NIGERIA



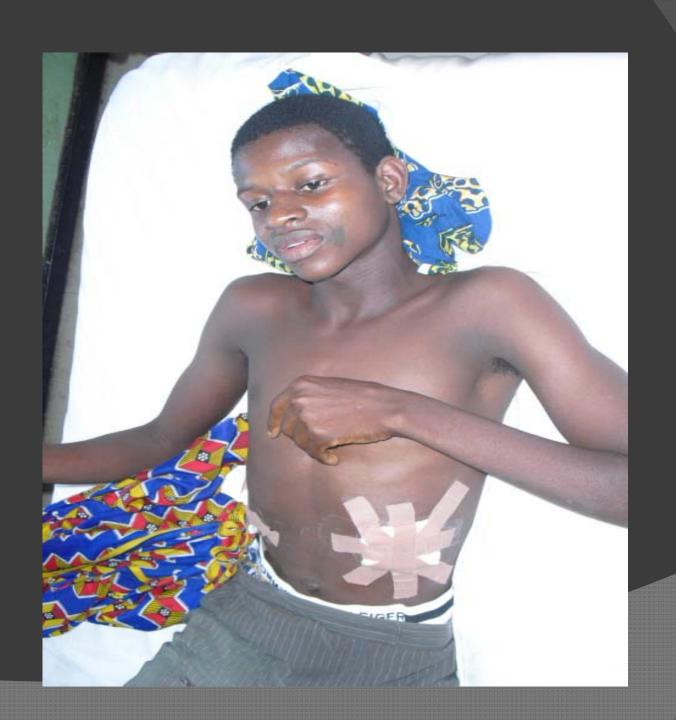




#### Case 1

Cattle herder mistakenly shot by a hunter.

This is the story of a 20 yr. old, married cattle herder who was mistakenly shot by a hunter while he was in the forest driving his cattle....



## Abubakar's story...

- Abubakar is a medium scale, somewhat successful cattle herder who was mistakenly shot by a hunter with a locally made gun who took him for game from afar.
- He was lucky as the bullet was very superficial in its course.





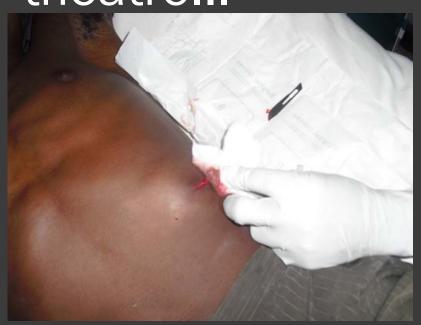
**Bullet entry point** 

**Bullet final destination** 

- He was immediately rushed from there to UATH (University of Abuja Teaching Hospital) which was about 90 mins drive from the injury scene.
- He had lost some blood and was brought in drowsy and weak.

- He had wound debridement immediately and was resuscitated and transfused with blood while investigations were carried out to ascertain the location of the bullet and his clinical status.
- He had bullet extraction the next day when it was confirmed that the bullet did not affect internal structures.

# Bullet removal in casualty theatre...







## Bullet



- Abubakar was monitored in the hospital on admission for about one week.
- He had wound debridement and daily wound dressing. Drugs were administered.





Abubakar with Drs. Daniel & Adebayo

## Costs....

- Travel expenses
  - Procedure and nursing care
  - Anesthetic costs
  - Costs of theatre time
  - Surgical materials
  - Post-operative care
- Economic costs –period of time this took place was during the festive period when people buy cattle for meat. Hence:
- =he lost between \$USD1000 -\$USD3000 (depending on the cattle he could sell during that time)
- ... plus psychological and social effects which are immeasurable.

#### Case 2

## Mistaken Identity





Patient with Dr Swomen.

Bullet exit wound.

- 28 year old commercial driver who was shot by the police when they were in hot pursuit of some armed robbers.
- Bullet created an exit wound and patient was extremely lucky that major vessels were not affected.
- Patient spent about 2 weeks in the hospital.

Medical costs = About \$USD500.

# Case 3 Stray Bullet





**Patient with Dr Adebayo** 

- 25 year old student of the University of Abuja.
- He sustained a bullet exit wound to the arm and subsequently into the chest.
- Bullet was extracted from the pleural space of the right thoracic cavity with chest tube inserted.
- He made significant improvement and was discharged 2 weeks later.

Medical costs = About \$USD800

## CONCLUSION

- Armed violence continues to be a menace and costly health threat in our society.
- Medical doctors have a role to play through advocacy in:
  - ➤ Driving policy change to control firearm violence especially from Small Arms & Light Weapons (SALW).
  - Education of the public and policy makers on the health effects of SALW.
  - Victim assistance and rehabilitation.

## Thank you!

