

## **Selected Nigerian Newspapers' Coverage of President Buhari's Health Saga**

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### **Abstract**

This paper examines Nigeria newspapers coverage of President Buhari's ill-health and the political saga that followed his medical trip abroad. The measurable objectives of the study are to ascertain whether the selected newspapers gave prominence to their coverage, the direction of coverage, the dominant media frame used in the coverage and the dominant media theme used in the coverage. The study adopted the content analysis method to analyse the manifest contents of the selected newspapers coverage of the President's ill-health saga. The study was based on the social responsibility and framing theories of mass communication. Findings show that the Newspapers gave relative prominence to the President's ill-health saga. The findings also revealed that rather than probe the government on the bad condition of the health institutions in Nigeria, the media were busy wiping up political and ethnic sentiments in their coverage. Based on the findings of the study, it is recommended that the media should strive to focus its attention on primary concerns of the society and downplay playing politics with critical institutions of the State like the health sector.

**Keywords:** Health, Framing, Coverage, Social responsibility, Newspapers, Buhari.