



## Nigeria: Five Family Members Die of 'Carbon Monoxide' Poisoning in Imo

18 APRIL 2013

Five members of a family have died at Dikenta Avutu, Obowo Local Government Area of Imo State following a suspected carbon monoxide poisoning.

Three other victims are receiving treatment in a hospital.

The victims, discovered on Sunday morning, included Mr Chibuikwe Uwandu, 33, his pregnant wife, Amarachi; son, Chukwuebuka and mother, Regina.

Two other sons of Uwandu and a younger sister are receiving treatment at the Federal Medical Centre, Umuahia, the capital of neighbouring Abia, with the victim's sister in critical condition.

Uwandu's brother, Benald, said at Avutu that his brother, who resided in Enugu, came home the previous day with his family.

He said the family came home to celebrate with their mother, who was to take the title of Ezinne during the Mothers' Sunday in the Catholic Church in the town.

Benald said his late brother had put on a power generator on Saturday night following the power failure in the town.

According to him, the deceased switched off the generating set when rain started falling and carried it into the building.

He added that everybody in the compound was shocked when in the morning they found some of their relatives dead on the floor of the building while others were lying ill.

"This incident is mysterious and we are really devastated by this tragedy," he added.

Dr John Ihebereme from the state ministry of health, who led a team of officials to investigate the death on Tuesday, warned the people against speculation on the cause. The Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Mrs Joy Elemoko, neither picked her calls nor responded to a short message sent to her phone for confirmation. (NAN)

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