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Application prospects of forensic and dna fingerprinting technologies for the profiling of officer cadets in the Nigerian Defence Academy Kaduna-Nigeria

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The Nigerian Defence Academy(NDA) was established in 1964 with the mandate to train and produce military(Army,Airforce,and Naval)officers with broad-based military and academic proficiencies, required to perform professional duties within the rules of engagement provided by the constitution of Nigeria and the rules of global best practices. The medical criteria required to certify candidates medically fit to undergo the five-year dual rigorous training currently involves only gross routine laboratory tests.These test are deficient in detecting recessive genetic traits for neurologic,metabolic and physiologic disorders that could phenotipically manifest and incapacitate officers during their professional prime age.The applications of the cutting-edge forensic and DNA Fingerprinting technologies for the selection of medically fit officer cadets,their genomic profiling for storage in a secure reference gene bank,and for the detection of biological and nuclear weapons of mass destruction they may be exposed to during local and global conflicts are discussed in this paper.

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