

Golden Jubilee
Commemorative Magazine
(1974 - 2024)

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Partners/sponsors

Editorial Director

Prof. Vivian Omuemu

Acknowledgements

The Association sincerely appreciates Prof. M. C. Asuzu whose invaluable contributions laid the foundation that was built on, to produce this documentation.

Special thanks to all past and present members whose unwavering commitment has propelled the Association to greater heights.

Publication of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria

FORWARD



It is an uncommon privilege to introduce this masterpiece of the documentation of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN). I consider it a rare and special privilege to be at the driver's seat of our great Association at this time, as we celebrate the landmark age of 50 years. APHPN was birthed by our founding fathers on the 30th of March, 1974, as the Association of Community Physicians of Nigeria (ACPN). It was renamed APHPN in 2007 to reflect the broad and all-inclusive nature of our membership, comprising Community/Public Health Physicians in Nigeria, at all levels in the LGAs, state ministries, federal ministries, parastatals, universities, teaching hospitals, international agencies, NGOs, research institutes and private medical practice.

The purpose of this commemorative publication is to document the activities of APHPN over the past 50 years in the annals of history, and also to X-ray future projections for the Association. Looking back, we can congratulate ourselves for a job well done as an Association, in the public health space in Nigeria and globally. This underscores the need for us to tell our success stories, to showcase how we have imparted the

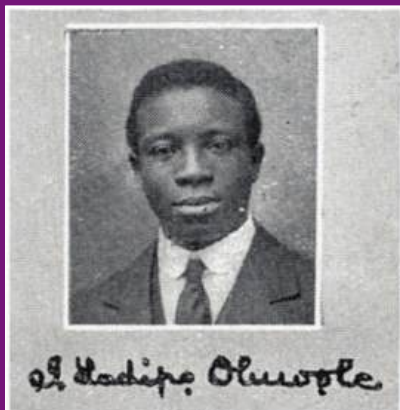
healthcare delivery system in Nigeria with the primary goal of improving the health status of Nigerians, and how we have built the capacity of our members to deliver quality services wherever they work. This has also presented us with an opportunity to honour our founding fathers, past leaders and members who have offered dedicated services to APHPN, including those who have distinguished themselves in their career and have held or still holding positions of service to humanity and the medical profession.

Featured in this publication is a chronicle of the history of APHPN vis-a-vis the significant milestones and achievements. The past and present leaders of APHPN including the members of the Board of Trustees (past and present) were profiled. APHPN state branches, conferences, publications (Journal and Newsletter), projects, capacity building trainings, lectures series, partnership/collaborations with organizations over the years, and the future projections for our great Association were also covered in this publication. I strongly recommend that this rich document should be archived in all state branch and personal libraries, so that generations yet unborn will be kept abreast of where we are coming from, and be armed with relevant information necessary for them to carry on from where we have stopped. I sincerely thank the Chairman of the Golden Jubilee Committee, Prof. Vivian Omuemu and her team for working tirelessly to produce this highly treasured document.

Finally, this document is dedicated to all the departed members of APHPN who having toiled so hard to promote health and prevent diseases in our country in particular and the whole world in general, answered the inevitable call of nature before APHPN attained the landmark age of 50 years.

Professor Alphonsus Isara
APHPN President

History



**Dr. Isaac Ladipo Oluwole
(1892-1953)**

OBE, MB. CH, B, D.TM. & H, DPH.

Father of Public Health in Nigeria

Dr. Isaac Ladipo Oluwole was born to Isaac Oluwole and Abigail Johnson in 1892. His father, Bishop Isaac Oluwole was an Anglican bishop of Sierra Leonean and Egba heritage. He had his secondary school education in Lagos at the CMS Grammar School and later King's College. In 1913, Oluwole was admitted to study medicine at the University of Glasgow where he graduated with MB.ChB in 1918.

Dr. Oluwole started very early to show interest in Community Health while he was in private practice in Abeokuta on his return to Nigeria, and this led him to return to Glasgow soon after to obtain a Doctorate in Public Hygiene (DPH), which further

prepared him for the monumental public health success that he went on to accomplish.

Dr. Oluwole established the first school of Hygiene in Nigeria, located at Yaba Lagos, in 1920, when he observed that the poor implementation of public health regulations was, in part, due to the paucity of trained public health practitioners at the time. His leadership ability and drive to improve the health workforce were evident in these actions.

In 1924, he reorganized sanitary inspection procedures to control the spread of bubonic plague in the country. He also worked to reclaimed swampy islands to aid in malaria control, and built a new abattoir to improve food hygiene.

Dr. Oluwole started the first school health services in Lagos in 1925, introducing regular sanitary inspections and vaccinations of children. His service delivery interventions were obvious as he was credited with setting up Massey Street Dispensary on the Lagos Island and later another clinic in Ebute Meta for Lagos Mainland residents. The Massey dispensary transformed to the Massey Street Hospital, which continues to contribute significantly to maternal health services in Nigeria.

Dr. Oluwole made significant contributions and improvements to public health services in Nigeria - environmental health including regular sanitary inspections, food hygiene, etc.; school health services; childhood immunization; and all

these before he was appointed Medical Officer of Health in 1936. His revolutionary and selfless services were recognized even by the colonial masters, earning him the prestigious “Officer of the Order of the British Empire” (OBE) award in 1940.

According to Charles De Gaulle, *“Nothing great will ever be achieved without great men, and men are great only if they are determined to be so.”* This statement definitely holds true for Dr. Oluwole as his determination to succeed and make things better in the health sector, even with the many limitations in his era, must have been his driving force. These accomplishments and more earned him the well-deserved appellation of *“Father of Public Health in Nigeria”* when he died in 1953.

With a great passion for excellence and the common good, Dr. Oluwole was able to institute some elements of a functional health system back in his time. This is why he will continue to be remembered... as according to Jules Renard, *“The reward of great men is that, long after they have died, one is not quite sure that they are dead.”*

HISTORY AND EVOLUTION OF ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH PHYSICIANS OF NIGERIA (1974 - 2024)

The Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) was birthed by our founding fathers on the 30th of March, 1974, in Lagos, as the Association of Community Physicians of Nigeria (ACPN) whose membership was restricted to only people who had acquired the full professional fellowship in Community

full professional fellowship in Community Medicine. ACPN was renamed APHPN in 2007 to reflect the broad and all-inclusive nature of our membership in the field of Community Medicine. APHPN is now a professional association made up of disciplinary Public Health/Community Health Physicians in Nigeria, holding various positions in the LGAs, state ministries, federal ministries, parastatals, universities, teaching hospitals, international agencies, NGOs, research institutes and private medical practice. The Association is also open to all registered Medical and Dental Practitioners in Nigeria with recognized postgraduate qualification in Public Health or Community Medicine. In addition, Medical Officers of Health (MOH) in the local government areas are members of the association.

Aim and Objectives

1. To promote Public Health, Community Medicine and Allied Medicine.
2. To maintain the honour and interest of the health profession.
3. To promote improvement in the practice, training and research in Public Health and Community Medicine.
4. To promote improvement in the health of the public in Nigeria.
5. To consider and express its views on all proposed legislation and development plans affecting Public Health, Community Medicine, Medical and Dental Profession.

Organizational Structure

Between 1974 and 1983, the then ACPN was headed by a Ceremonial President. In 1983, the position of the head of the Association was changed to National Chairman at the conference held in Ile-Ife. However, the position of Ceremonial President was retained until 2007 when ACPN transitioned to APHPN, and was registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (CAC No 130088).

The foundation Ceremonial President, Prof. Umaru Shehu became the Chairman of the APHPN Board of Trustees (BOT). Following a constitutional amendment in 2019 at the conference in Enugu, the position of National Chairman was changed to President.

The APHPN BOT is made up of five members. The day to day running of the Association is coordinated by the National Officers. The national officers of the Association include the President, Vice-President I, Vice-President II, Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity Secretary, Internal Auditor and Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Community Medicine and Primary Health Care (JCMPHC). In addition, APHPN has state branches headed by a State Chairman and with a State Deputy Chairman, State Secretary, and State Treasurer as other members of the State Council. The National Officers and the Chairmen and Secretaries of the state branches constitute the National Executive Council (NEC). Since 1974 till date, APHPN has had twelve Chairmen/Presidents.

PAST & PRESENT NATIONAL



Prof Umaru Shehu
1974 - 1983



Prof P. C. Osuhor
1983 - 1985



Prof O. O. Kale
1985 - 1987



Prof S. Olu Oduntan
1987 - 1991



Dr. Michael O. Oduwole
1991 - 1995



Prof B. A. N. Nwakoby
1995 - 2001

CHAIRMEN/PRESIDENTS



Prof A. I. Zoakah
2001 - 2005



Prof M. C. Asuzu
2005 - 2009



Prof Obehi Okojie
2009 - 2013



Prof T. M. Akande
2013 - 2017



Prof B. S. C. Uzochukwu
2017 - 2021



Prof Alphonsus Isara
2021 - Date

Mission

To develop and sustain excellence in public health practice by public health physicians at all levels through world class trainings, mentorship, leadership, public health researches and information dissemination to strengthen health systems.

Vision

Excellence in public health practice by public health physicians at all levels contributing to the attainment of better health, equity and well-being.

Values

- Empowerment through partnerships
- Service with commitment
- Team building with mentorship
- Continuous improvement in practice
- Timeliness in response



Prof Alphonso Isara
President



Prof Mustapha Jamda
Vice President I

Current Executives



Prof Sunday Aderibigbe
Vice President II



Dr Alphonsus Aigbirémolen
Secretary- General



Dr. Ulunma Marièrè
Assistant Secretary



Dr Adesuwa Aigbokhaode
National Treasurer



Prof Omosivie Maduka
National Publicity Secretary



Dr Innocent Alenoghena
Internal Auditor



Prof Ololade Wight
Editor-in-Chief



Prof Benjamin Uzoçhukwu
Ex-Officio I



Dr. Nwachukwu Ugwunna
Ex-Officio II

Current Board of Trustees



Late Prof. O. K. Alausa
Chairman



Prof. C. N. Obionu



Gen. (Dr.) B. E. Abang



Prof. Clara Ejembi



Prof. A. Zoakah

Past Board of Trustees



Late Prof. Umaru Shehu
Chairman



Prof. S. Olu Oduntan



Prof. B. A. N. Nwakoby



Late Dr. S. B. S. Afiesimama

Past National Officers of APHPN

2001 – 2005

1. Dr. A. I. Zoakah - Chairman
2. Dr. B. S. C. Uzochukwu - Ist Vice Chairman
3. Dr. K. O. Osungbade - 2nd Vice Chairman
4. Dr. C. Ogbonna - Secretary General
5. Dr. O. O. Chairman - Assistant Secretary
6. Dr. K. Sabitu - Treasurer
7. Dr. T. Ibrahim - Publicity Secretary
8. Prof. K. O. Alausa - Editor-in-Chief (2001 - 2003)
9. Dr. A. Osibogun - Assistant Editor (2001 - 2003)
10. Dr. C. L. Ejembi - Editor-in-Chief (2003 - 2005)
11. Dr. M. Araoye - Assistant Editor (2003 - 2005)
12. Prof. B. A. N. Nwakoby - Ex-Officio I
13. Dr. O. Akpala - Ex-Officio II

2005 – 2009

1. Prof. M. C. Asuzu – Chairman
2. Prof. O. H. Okojie – 1st Vice Chairman
3. Dr. C. N. Onwasigwe – 2nd Vice Chairman
4. Dr. K. O. Osungbade – Secretary General
5. Dr. M. D. Dairo – Assistant Secretary
6. Dr. A. O. Adebisi – Treasurer
7. Dr. A. O. Esimai – Financial Secretary
8. Dr. C. Akinleye - Publicity Secretary
9. Dr. A. O. Fatusi – Auditor I
10. Dr. S. E. U. Ekanem – Auditor II
11. Dr. C. L. Ejembi – Editor-in-Chief (2005 - 2007)
12. Dr. O. O. Odusanya – Editor in Chief (2007 - 2009)/Auditor III
13. Dr. U. U. Onyeonoro – Assistant Editor
14. Dr. M. A. Ashikeni – Assistant Editor
15. Dr. A. Zoakah – Ex-Officio I
16. Dr. C. Ogbonna – Ex-Officio II

2009 - 2013

1. Prof. O. H. Okojie – Chairman
2. Dr. A. C. N. Okaro – 1st Vice Chairman
3. Prof. K. Sabitu – 2nd Vice Chairman
4. Dr. A. R. Isara – Secretary General
5. Dr. V. Y. Adam – Assistant Secretary
6. Dr. V. O. Omuemu – Treasurer
7. Dr. E. Adinma – Financial Secretary
8. Dr. O. M. Adeyanju - Publicity Secretary
9. Dr. B. S. C. Uzochukwu – Auditor I
10. Dr. A. U. Gajida – Auditor II
11. Dr. A. O. Esimai – Auditor III
12. Dr. O. O. Odusanya – Editor-in-Chief (2009 - 2011)
13. Prof. A. A. Onayade – Editor-in-Chief (2011 - 2013)
14. Dr. K. A. Odeyemi – Assistant Editor
15. Dr. M. A. Ashikeni – Assistant Editor
16. Prof. M. C. Asuzu – Ex-Officio II
17. Dr. K. O. Osungbade – Ex-Officio II

2013 - 2017

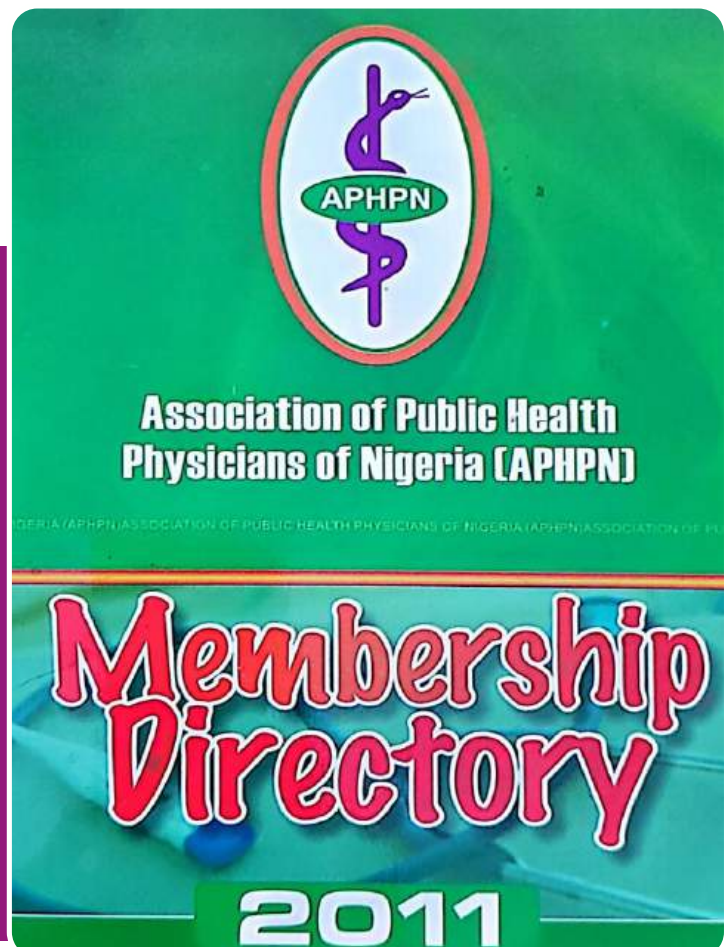
1. Prof. T. M. Akande – Chairman
2. Prof. A. T. Onajole – 1st Vice Chairman
3. Prof. C. Ogbonna – 2nd Vice Chairman
4. Dr. S. A. Aderibigbe – Secretary General
5. Dr. K. A. Durowade – Assistant Secretary
6. Dr. M. J. Saka – Treasurer
7. Prof. L. Ogonnaya – Financial Secretary
8. Dr. V. Y. Adam - Publicity Secretary
9. Dr. I. Okon – Auditor I
10. Dr. P. Utoo – Auditor II
11. Dr. C. Tobin-West – Auditor III
12. Prof. A. A. Onayade – Editor-in-Chief
13. Dr. O. Afolabi – Assistant Editor
14. Dr. Y. Adamu – Assistant Editor
15. Prof. O. H. Okojie – Ex-Officio II
16. Dr. A. R. Isara – Ex-Officio II

2017 - 2021

1. Prof. B. S. C. Uzochukwu – Chairman
2. Prof. E. C. Isah – 1st Vice Chairman
3. Prof. I. Abubakar – 2nd Vice Chairman
4. Dr. N. Ugwunna – Secretary General
5. Dr. E. Ossai – Assistant Secretary
6. Dr. M. Ajuba – Treasurer
7. Prof. C. Tobin-West – Financial Secretary
8. Dr. T. Kene - Publicity Secretary
9. Dr. O. Elegbede – Auditor I
10. Dr. A. Nwabueze – Auditor II
11. Dr. N. Mkpanam – Auditor III
12. Prof. V. O. Omuemu – Editor-in-Chief (2017 - 2023)
13. Dr. Y. Adamu – Assistant Editor
14. Dr. C. G. Ike – Assistant Editor
15. Prof. T. M. Akande – Ex-Officio II
16. Dr. S. A. Aderibigbe – Ex-Officio II

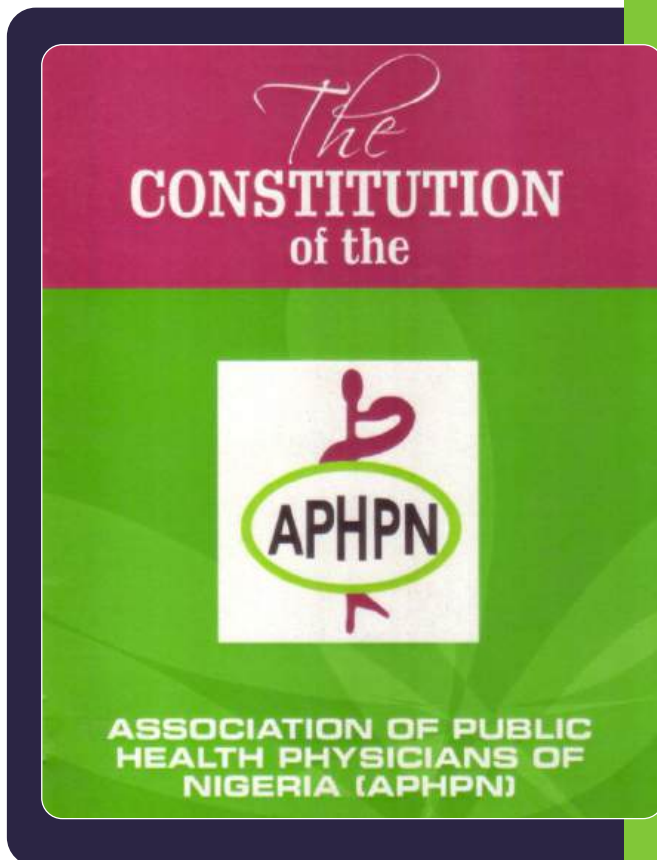
APHPN Membership

A PHPN has six categories of members namely: Ordinary members, Fellow members, Life members, Senior members, Associate members, and Honorary members.



At the Abuja conference in 2011, two honorary members, Dr. Tunde Fakunle, a paediatrician, and Dr. Wale Okediran, a private medical practitioner were inducted as honorary members of APHPN. APHPN have also had two corporate members: Nigerian Public Health Foundation and Diabetic and Hypertension Help Society.

In 2011, the first and only APHPN membership directory was published by the Prof. Okojie led EXCO. The contact details of members, state of practice and area of special interest were captured in the directory.



APHPN Constitution

The constitution of APHPN was produced by the Prof. Asuzu led EXCO in 2006. In 2017, the Prof. Uzochukwu led EXCO set up a constitution review committee headed by Prof. James Bamidele to review the APHPN constitution. The revised constitution was approved at the Enugu conference in 2019.

One remarkable amendment to the APHPN constitution was that members who wish to serve in the National EXCO would have to indicate interest by submitting nomination forms to the National Secretariat four weeks before the date of the election, and the list of nominees are published by the Secretary General at least two weeks before the AGM.

The Birth of Sister Associations - Formation of EPiSON and SPHPN

In 2010, at the conference held in Lagos, APHPN gave birth to the multidisciplinary Epidemiological Society of Nigeria (EPiSON). Prof. K. Sabitu and Dr. A. O. Adebisi were elected as inaugural president and secretary, respectively. In 2012, at the APHPN conference which was held back-to-back with the EPiSON conference in Calabar, the Africa Epidemiological Association was inaugurated by EPiSON, with members drawn from Cameroun, Nigeria and South Africa. In 2012, APHPN also spearheaded the formation of the Society for Public Health Professionals of Nigeria (SPHPN). The Prof. Okojie led EXCO had earlier in 2010 sought the reactivation of the membership of APHPN in the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA). This request was not granted because APHPN did not meet the WFPHA membership criteria, that it must be a multidisciplinary public health

association. However, APHPN was readmitted as a Sustaining Member in WFPHA in 2010. In May 2014, Prof. T. M. Akande, the then National Chairman of APHPN presented SPHPN with Prof. M. C. Asuzu as inaugural President, to the annual meeting of the WFPHA in held in Geneva. Thus, SPHPN was admitted as a Full Member of WFPHA while the sustaining membership of APHPN in the WFPHA ceased.



WFPHA meeting at Geneva in 2014

In 2012, the APHPN FCT branch made their secretariat available for use as the liaison office for the National body. The Liaison office is domiciled at the FCT Primary Health Care Board, Block 2, 2nd Floor, No 9, Orlu Street, Area 3, Abuja. The Prof. Isara led EXCO has made the liaison office very functional by furnishing the office and employing an administrative staff to man the office since 2022.



APHPN Liaison Office

State Branches

ABIA STATE BRANCH

Brief History

Abia State branch of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) started with Dr. Ijeoma Nwokeukwu of blessed memory as her first chairman in 2009. The branch draws its members from fellows of both the National and West Africa College of Public Health Physicians who work at the Federal Medical Center Umuahia, Abia State University Teaching Hospital and the State Ministry of Health. The state branch is made up of 49 members who have remained steadfast in driving the course of the association.

Founding Chairman

Dr. Ijeoma Nwokeukwu (Late)

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr. Ijeoma Nwokeukwu
Dr. Nwamuo Uche
Dr. Onyeonoro Ugochukwu
Dr. G. O. C. Okafor
Dr. Ijeoma Nduka

Current EXCO

Dr. Ijeoma Nduka	Chairman
Dr. Metu Kingsley	Secretary
Dr. Kalu Ulu	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

Collaboration with the State Ministry of Health. Immunization programme, breast cancer campaigns and cervical cancer campaigns

AKWA IBOM STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The Akwa Ibom State branch is relatively young, especially when compared with other branches of the Association. The branch had as its founding Chairman, Dr. Ibanga Inyang who oversaw the Association on a caretaker basis until 2010, when Dr. Nathaniel Adiakpan became the first elected Chairman of the branch.

Founding Chairman

Dr. Ibanga Inyang

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr. Ibanga Inyang	
Dr. Nathaniel Adiakpan	2010 - 2012
Dr. Oluseyi Motilewa	2012 - 2016
Dr. Anyiekere Ekanem	2016 - 2020
Dr. Emmanuel Edward	2021 till date

Current EXCO

Dr. Emmanuel Edward	Chairman
Dr. Keyukemi Ekpotu	Vice Chairman
Dr. Nseobong Isang	Secretary
Dr. Oghenerume Jiman	Assistant Secretary
Dr. Benyin Ekerete	Treasurer
Dr. Ndifreke Akpan	Public Relations Officer
Dr. Akaninyene Mark	Ex-Officio 1

Activities/Achievements

1. Active participation in policy development and planning: The branch enjoys a cordial relationship with the State Ministry of Health and actively participates in strategic planning and operational planning in various units of the agency. Members of the branch also participate in designing protocols that have used to prevent or control disease outbreaks in the state.
2. Members of the Association play a critical role in sensitizing the public about preventable diseases and health-related conditions in the state especially during World Health Days.
3. The state held its first Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference that drew Stakeholders in Public health from the academia, Non-governmental Organisations, the private sector, etc.
4. The branch is currently working to bring about greater participation of students in public and private secondary schools in the attainment of the goals and targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.



Executives of APHPN Akwa Ibom State Branch

ANAMBRA STATE BRANCH

Brief History

In 2005, under the auspices of Association of Community Medicine, Late Prof Ilika became the first chairman with Dr Prosper Okonkwo as its secretary. In 2007, at the Abakiliki convention, the name APHPN was adopted nationally and Late Dr Ebenebe became the first Chairman of the State APHPN.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Late Prof. L. Ilika	Chairman
Dr. Prosper Okonkwo	Secretary

Past and Present Chairmen

Prof L. Ilika (Late)	2005-2007
Dr. Ebenebe	2007-2009
Prof Emelumadu	2009-2013
Prof Adogu	2013-2017
Prof Emelumadu	2017-2019
Dr. Ezenyeaku	2019-2021
Dr. Ahoma Mbanuzuru	2021-2023
Dr. Irene Uju Okeke	2023-2025

Current EXCO

Dr. Irene Uju Okeke	Chairman
Dr. Obiora Egbue	Vice Chairman
Dr. Chijioke Okaro	Secretary
Dr. Chuma Emembolu	Assistant Secretary/Publicity
Dr. Henry Okafor	Treasurer
Dr. Nonye Ezeonyejiaku	Welfare Officer
Dr. Onalu	Internal Auditor
Dr Ahaoma Mbanuzuru	Ex-Officio I
Dr Uzoma Okereke	Ex-Officio II

Activities/Achievements

- a) Advocacy
- b) Celebration of international Public health days
- c) Media and publicity

Projections for the future

- a) Public Health Under One Roof
- b) Research centres



Group photograph of members of APHPN Anambra State Branch

BAUCHI STATE BRANCH

Brief History

Bauchi State was created from the former North-Eastern Region of Nigeria in 1976. The state currently have about 500 doctors and about 50 public health physicians (including associate members and fellows) across the state civil service, teaching hospital, federal medical center, universities and development partners/NGOs. The state branch of APHPN was formed and registered with the National Body in 2018 and it has been active at both national and state levels since inception.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Dr. Aliyu Muhammad Maigoro	Chairman
Dr. Mansur Mustapha Dada	Deputy Chairman
Dr. Sani Mohammed Dambam	Secretary
Dr. Jibreel Omar Mohammed	Treasurer
Dr. Abdulmajid Ahmad	Assistant Secretary
Dr. Adamu	Public Relations Officer

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr. Aliyu Muhammad Maigoro	2018 - 2022
Dr. Abubakar Musa Sari	2023 till date

Current EXCO

Dr. Abubakar Musa Sari	Chairman
Dr. Dauda Yusuf	Secretary
Dr. Aisha Umar Muhammad	Assistant Secretary
Dr. Zainab Bala Jibrin	Treasurer
Dr. Sani Abdulkareem	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

1. Opening of Bank Account, Collection of dues from members and remitting some portion to the national body and attending national AGM/SC.
2. Granting regular health talks, actively participated in controlling COVID-19, Lassa fever, Cholera, Diphtheria, CSM, Measles and other epidemics.
3. A representative had attended the Healthcare in Danger Training Workshop and is scaling it down to medical students.
4. An AGM was conducted in which the current Exco members were elected in January 2023.
5. Some of the activities/achievements of the New ExcOs include organizing a virtual lecture on research methodology for resident doctors, celebration of World Health Days including the World AIDS Day, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, World No Tobacco Day, among others.

Projections for the future

1. The Branch has a future plan of extending its activities to the local communities and vulnerable groups.
2. It also plans to come up with innovations that will increase the visibility of the association in the host community and the state at large.

BAYELSA STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The Bayelsa State Branch started with seven (7) members in October 2002, with Dr. Wakiente O. Omubo as the pioneer Chairman. The association was not registered with the national body until in 2008 at a meeting in Awka, Anambra State. The membership has increased to over 50 with the introduction of residency training program in the Federal Medical Centre, Yenagoa, and with many Medical Doctors pursuing a post graduate degree in Public Health.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Dr. Wakiente O. Omubo	Chairman
Dr. Wisdom Ebiye Sawyer	Secretary
Late Dr. B.Z Avah	Financial Secretary/Treasurer

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr. Wakiente Omubo	2002 - 2008
Dr. Wisdom Sawyer	2008 - 2018
Dr. Anthony Eguvbe	2018 - 2020
Dr. Izibeya Wilcox	2020 - 2024
Dr. Enebipamo Amba-Ambaiowe	2024 till date

Current EXCO

Dr. Enebipamo Amba Ambaiowe	Chairman
Dr. Esinte Daminabo Inenyo	Vice Chairman
Dr. Sandra Osaremen Edeki	Secretary
Dr. Tuebi Moses	Financial Secretary
Dr. Douye L. Indiamawe	Asst. Fin. Secretary
Dr. Juliet Oyinemi Okaniba	Treasurer
Dr. Joseph Tonbara Golbador	PRO

Activities/Achievements

- Technical support to the Bayelsa State Ministry of Health on disease outbreak response.
- Flood intervention `Medical outreach to rural communities in Bayelsa State
- Media sensitization and advocacy visits
- Collaboration with NGOs and Professional associations on response to Public Health Emergencies.
- Seminars and conferences on public health related issues
- Collaborations with the Bayelsa State Government through the Bayelsa State Ministry of Health.
- Appointment of members to positions of trust in the Bayelsa State Ministry of Health and the Primary Health Care Development Board.

Projections for the future

- Secure an office space to be used as APHPN Bayelsa State Secretariat
- A robust welfare scheme for our members
- Strengthen the public health skills and competences of our members through a well thought-out training program
- Promote partnership and collaboration with the Bayelsa State Government, NGOs, and relevant professional association.



Some members of APHPN Bayelsa State Branch

BENUE STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The Benue State branch was inaugurated in 2012 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vivian Nguyan Shaahu. The secretariat is at the Department of Epidemiology and Community Health, College of Health Sciences, Benue State University, Makurdi. The Executive Committee (EXCO) led by the state Chairman, coordinates the affairs of the Benue State Branch. Membership of the branch is drawn from the Benue State Ministry of Health; Benue State University and Teaching Hospital, Makurdi; Federal Medical Centre, Makurdi; Federal University of Health Sciences, Otuokpo; Public Health Implementing Partners in Benue (APIN, P-MIS, KNCV etc.) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Dr. Vivian Nguyan Shaahu	Chairman
Dr. Jonathan Terna Kur	Vice Chairman
Dr. Onyemocho Audu	Secretary
Dr. Priscilla Mwuese Utoo	Treasurer

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr. Vivian Nguyan Shaahu	2012 – 2016
Dr. Shember-Agela Igbabul	2016 – 2021
Dr. Terkaa Terrumun Bitto	2021 – 2024

Current EXCO

Dr. Terkaa Terrumun Bitto	Chairman
Dr. Godian Chibueze Ezema	Vice Chairman
Dr. Gabriel Okpotu Anefu	Secretary
Dr. Vivian Nguyan Shaahu	Treasurer
Dr. Daniel Eje Ukpabi	Public Relations Officer
Dr. Shember-Agela Igbabul	Ex-Officio I

Activities/Achievements

- The APHPN Benue State Branch is a founding member of CS-SUNN (Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria) Benue State Branch which was inaugurated in November 2023 with Professor Priscilla Mwuese Utoo being elected as the Deputy Coordinator, CS-SUNN Benue State Branch.
- Members were promoted, appointed and had celebrations during the period.
- The branch has marked days of public health importance in collaboration with partners.
- Members have participated in Public Health Initiatives in Benue State and beyond.
- Members have consistently participated in the APHPN National Conferences and activities.
- Members have served and currently serve on National Committees of APHPN.

Projections for the future

- Develop our permanent secretariat.
- Effective collaboration on an ongoing basis with public health organizations and Governments to develop public health in Benue State and beyond.



Group photograph of members of APHPN Benue State Branch

BORNO STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The Borno State branch of APHPN was inaugurated on the 7th of October 2023. Prior, to the formal inauguration of the Branch, APHPN activities in the state were coordinated from the Department of Community Medicine, by Dr. Zara W. Wudiri.

Founding/Current EXCO

Dr. Zara W. Wudiri	Chairman
Dr. Muhammed Tahir Bolori	Vice Chairman
Dr. Taofik Oloyede	Secretary
Dr. Aisha Aliyu Abulfathi	Treasurer
Dr. Usman Mukhtar Gajiram	Public Relations Officer
Dr. Sakinatu Jama Umaru	Welfare Secretary

Activities/Achievements

1. The Healthcare in Danger (HCiD) workshop conducted on February 8-9, 2023 in collaboration with the ICRC.
2. Actively engaged in publicizing its presence by sending introductory letters and affiliating with various influential associations within the state.
3. Technical support to the State Government and the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital in the management and control of the ongoing diphtheria outbreak.

Projections for the future

1. Looking ahead, the APHPN Borno State Branch is steadfast in its determination to build upon its current initiatives.
2. With a strong focus on public health awareness, the branch aims to take the lead in organizing awareness campaigns during world health days, thereby amplifying the importance of preventive healthcare measures among the populace.
3. Additionally, the branch pledges to extend its support to disease and health event surveillance within Borno State and its neighbouring communities, fostering enhanced ability to monitor, detect, and respond to health threats efficiently.
4. As the APHPN Borno State Branch continues to evolve and expand its sphere of influence, it remains dedicated to its mission of developing and sustaining excellence in public health practice by public health physicians at all levels in the region.

CROSS RIVER STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The CRS branch started in 2005 with Elder Dr. Basse Maunday Ikpeme as her founding Chairman. In the same year, members attended the Annual General Meeting/Scientific Conference of ACPN held in Ibadan.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Elder Dr. Basse Maunday Ikpeme	Chairman
Dr. Wilfred O. Ndifon (now Professor)	Secretary
Dr. Mrs. Nkese Mkpanam	Treasurer

Past and Present Chairmen

Elder Dr. Basse Maunday Ikpeme	2005 - 2012
Dr. Mrs. Nkese Mkpanam	2012 - 2019
Dr. Obaji E. O. Akpet	2019 till date

Current EXCO

Dr. Obaji E. O. Akpet	Chairman
Dr. Mrs. Nnette Ekpenyong	Vice Chairman
Dr. Mrs. Funke Ebughe	Secretary
Dr. Iwara Iwara	Assistant Secretary
Dr. Mrs. Abasi Akpakpan	Treasurer
Dr. Michael Omoyi	Financial Secretary
Dr. Mrs. Ugochi Eyong	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

- Creation of Department of Community Medicine for Physicians and headed by a Public Health Physician.
- Hosting of the APHPN conference in 2012
- Collaboration with Media houses for the dissemination of public health information
- Collaboration with WHO Office, CRSMOH and NGOs to celebrate important World Health Days
- Partnering with Calabar Cancer Registry Unit in UCTH to educate the public on cancer prevention
- Medical outreaches in schools and communities.

Projections for the future

- Increased partnership and collaboration with other players in health in the State.
- To conduct more medical outreaches and public health enlightenment campaigns on common health challenges.



Group photograph of members of APHPN CRS State Branch

DELTA STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The APHPN Delta State branch was established in 2012, under the visionary leadership of Dr E. Edet from the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) of Warri. The branch primarily comprise professionals from community health department in tertiary health institutions and State Ministry of Health, Masters degree holders in Public Health and a few Executive Secretaries (MOHs) of Local Government Areas.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Dr E. Edet	Chairman
Dr P.G. Oyibo	Secretary
Dr R.U Ibekwe	Treasurer

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr E. Edet	2012 - 2013
Dr P.G. Oyibo (Acting)	2013 - 2014
Prof. P.G. Oyibo	2014 - 2021
Dr M.I. Enemuwe	2021 till date

Current EXCO

Dr M.I. Enemuwe	Chairman
Dr Uwomano Oghounu	Secretary
Dr Eghosa Eke	Assistant Secretary
Dr Ruth Paul-Ikhana	Financial Secretary
Dr Utake Ovwe	Treasurer
Prof. P.G. Oyibo	Ex-officio I
Dr Onyi Owa-Nwabuzo	Ex-officio II

Activities/Achievements

- Actively championed and celebrated of public health days within the state.
- Members engage in health talks, outreaches and health enlightenment campaigns through various media channels, including radio and television.
- Notably, the state successful hosted the 2018 Edition of the 34th APHPN Annual General Meetings/Scientific Conference in Asaba.

Projections for the future

Looking ahead, the association is dedicated to increasing the visibility of public health physicians and their practices within the state through strategic programmes and partnerships with the state government.



Group photograph of members of APHPN Delta State Branch

EBONYI STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The Ebonyi State branch started in 2005 when the association was known as Association of Community Physicians of Nigeria (ACPN). At that time there were just about 10 members of ACPN in the Ebonyi State University Teaching Hospital. Thereafter, individuals with the Master of Public Health degree working in the State Ministry of Health were incorporated into the association. The first executive was voted in and inaugurated in 2006. Prof. B. A. N. Nwakoby and Prof. C. N. Obionu served as our Patrons.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Prof. Very Rev L U Ogbonnaya	Chairman
Dr. Henry Uro-Chikwu	Secretary
Prof E U Nwonwu	Treasurer
Dr. Iynag Oko	Financial Secretary
Dr. C. D. Ndukwe	Asst Financial Secretary
Dr. Kenechukwu Uwakwe	Public Relations Officer

Past and Present Chairmen

Prof. Very Rev. Ogbonnaya
 Prof. Mrs. Elizabeth U Nwonwu
 Dr. Chihurumnanya Alo
 Dr. Irene Eze

Current EXCO

Dr. Irene Eze	Chairman
Dr. Nnaji Sunday	Secretary
Dr. Adaeze Stephen-Emeya	Assistant Secretary
Dr. Onyinyechukwu U. Oka	Treasurer
Dr. Otta Mary Cynthia	Financial Secretary
Dr. Jude Ugwu	Public Relations Officer
Dr. Chihurumnanya Alo	Ex Officio I
Dr. Francis Onwe	Ex Officio II

Activities/Achievements

- Participation in all annual general meetings from inception of the State Branch
- Public engagement through social mobilization activities and health talks in schools, markets and organized sector.
- Hosted the Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference of the association from 9th to 12th of August, 2007.
- Workshops and training as part of Continuing Medical Education
- Partnership with Agencies in the state in response and investigation of outbreaks in the State especially Lassa fever and during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Celebration of World Health days in partnership with relevant Government and non-governmental Agencies
- Partnership with media houses in health information education and communication in the State.

Projections for the future

- Hosting regular state Annual General meetings
- Strengthen our community engagement projects
- Participation in National activities.
- Apply for grants that will improve research and health indices in the state.



EDO STATE BRANCH

Brief History

Edo State has played very strategic and critical roles in the development and advancement of APHPN over the past 40 years. Edo State branch of the association was created from the defunct Bendel State branch of the Association in 1991. Historically Dr. Mebitahan and Professor PC Osuhor both of blessed memory (as Chairmen of the Association) and Dr Jasper Chiwuzie (as Secretary) were instrumental in galvanizing the activities of the Association in the then Bendel State (1983-1990). The branch experienced some years of dormancy in the 1990's up till 1999 when Dr Elizabeth Ilubaera was appointed proterm Chairman and the branch was reactivated. The membership of the association presently stands at 63 drawn from the State Ministry of Health, ESPHCDA, universities and tertiary healthcare facilities across the state.

Projections for the future

- To strengthen health research and collaboration within and between institutions and Organization.
- To conduct State Scientific Conference/AGM
- Strengthen welfare of members
- To Build an Association of Public Health Professionals, Intellectuals and Leaders who contribute strategically in strengthening Health Systems and help advance Public Health Locally, Nationally and Beyond.

Founding Chairman

Dr Elizabeth Ilubaera Proterm Chairman

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr Elizabeth Ilubaera	1999 - 2013
Prof. E.C. Isah	2013 - 2017
Prof. V. Y. Adam	2017- 2021
Dr A. I. Obi	2021 till date

Current EXCO

Dr. A. I Obi	Chairman
Dr. R. Ogieva	Vice Chairman
Dr. J. C. Nwaogwugwu	Secretary
Dr. F. Adio	Assistant Secretary
Dr. O. T. Omo-Ikirodah	Treasurer
Dr. O. C. Egbuta	Financial Secretary
Dr. I. Aigbogun	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

- The State Branch has hosted the National Secretariat twice under the leadership of Prof Obehi Okojie (2009-2013) and currently, Prof A.R Isara (2021 till date) and members have also served in various capacities at the national level including Prof. Vivian Omuemu (Editor-in-Chief, 2017-2023), among others.
- Market outreaches and free screening in collaboration with Edo State Primary Health Development Agency (EDSPHCDA), UBTH and Medical Women Association of Nigeria, Edo State Chapter to mark some World Health Days - on World Malaria Day, World Hepatitis Day
- Health talks at various radio stations on days of public health importance
- Hosting of scientific health webinars and lecture series to increase visibility of the Association.
- Organization of a two-day workshop on Health Care in Danger (HCiD) in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- Building strong collaborations with Government, Ministries, Department and Agencies in addition to other Association/Organization such as WHO, NMA, MWAN for the advancement of Public Health
- Courtesy visits and awards of recognition to prominent personalities for their contribution to Public Health



Group photograph of members of APHPN Edo State Branch

EKITI STATE CHAPTER

Brief History

The Ekiti State Branch has a rich history rooted in the broader development of public health initiatives in the region. The origin of the branch's founding and inception can be traced back to 2011, when a group of dedicated public health physicians in Ekiti State recognized the need for a common platform to address public health challenges unique to the region. Motivated by their commitment to community well-being, these professionals including Prof. Elegbede, Prof. Bamidele and other consultants, resident doctors and Medical Officers of Health, came together to form the branch. The effort to

establish an APHPN Branch in Ekiti was also largely influenced by the desire of the founding members to create a platform that would provide a conducive environment for collaboration between the two teaching hospitals, and medical doctors with MPH degree in the PHC domain of Local Governments. In its early years, the branch faced several challenges common to emerging organizations such as limited resources, limited awareness, and the need to advocate for public health priorities at the state level. The early members played a crucial role in raising awareness and garnering support for the association's objectives, and over the years have built it to the delightful standard we have today.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Prof. Olusegun Elegbede	Chairman
Dr. Marcus Oluwadare	Secretary

Past and Present Chairmen

Prof. Elegbede Olusegun	2011-2017
Prof. Durowade Kabir	2017-2021
Dr. Alabi Kamal	2021 till date

Current EXCO

Dr Alabi Kamal	Chairman
Dr Asake Olumide	Ag. Secretary
Dr Abioye Opeyemi	Public Relations Officer



Members of APHPN Ekiti State Branch

Activities/Achievements

- a) Collaborations and Partnerships: Over time, the branch has forged partnerships with local and national health agencies, governmental bodies, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders. These largely successful collaborations have been essential to amplifying the impact of public health interventions and initiatives in the state.
- b) Community Outreach and Programs: The branch participated in various community outreach programs, public health campaigns, and educational initiatives to address prevailing health issues in Ekiti State. These efforts, evidenced by the containment and prevention of COVID-19 and Lassa fever outbreaks in the state, are consistent with the national APHPN's broader goals of promoting health preparedness and improving public health outcomes.
- c) Professional Development: which is focused on improving the professional development of its members. This involves organizing conferences, workshops, and training sessions to keep public health physicians abreast of the latest developments in the field.
- d) Advocacy for Public Health Policies: As a professional association, the branch is committed to policies that promote public health. This includes participating in legislative process, providing expert insights, and collaborating with policymakers to shape health-related policies in the state.

Projections for the future

- a) Strategic Partnerships: to further enhance the chapter's capacity to influence policy decisions and implement more impactful public health programs.
- b) Technology Integration: to leverage technological advances including integration of telemedicine, data analytics, and digital health to improve healthcare delivery.

ENUGU STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The pioneer members of Enugu State branch of APHPN were distinguished forerunners and professors of public health in Nigeria such as Prof. Asogwa, Prof. C.N. Obionu, Prof. B.A.N. Nwakoby. Other foundation members of the association in the State include Professor C.N. Onwasigwe, Professor M.N. Aghaji, Professor B.S.C. Uzochukwu, Professor A. Okeke and Professor A.C. Ndu.

Past and Present Chairmen

Prof. B.A.N. Nwakoby
 Prof. B.S.C. Uzochukwu
 Prof. E.N. Aguwa
 Dr. I.E. Obi
 Prof. Chinyere Mbachu

Current EXCO

Prof. Chinyere Mbachu	Chairman
Dr. Okechukwu Ogbodo	Vice Chairman
Dr. Casmir Ochie	General Secretary
Dr. Chikwado A Ogbuewu	Asst. Secretary
Dr Grace-Bernard Asadu	Treasurer
Dr. Nnanna Okike	Public Relations Officer
Dr. Chukwuemeka Agbo	Social Secretary
Dr I.E Obi	Ex-Officio 1
Dr. Chinyere Okeke	Ex-Officio 2



The members Enugu State APHPN Executives (R-L): Dr. Okechukwu Ogbodo (Vice Chairman) Dr. Chinyere Okeke (Ex. Officio 2), Prof Chinyere Mbachu (Chairman) Dr. Grace Bernard Asadu (Treasurer) Dr. Chukwuemeka Agbo (Social Secretary) Dr. Casmir Ochie (General Secretary)

Activities/Achievements

- a) The Branch hosted one of the most celebrated and successful National conferences of the association in 2019.
- b) It has been involved in several public health activities including health promotions via radio and TV health talks, marking of all the special public health days through enlightenment campaigns and road walks.
- c) Provision of supportive and technical services to different health agencies and partners like the State Ministry of Health, State Primary Health Care Development agency, WHO, State Agency for Universal Health Coverage, Enugu State Agency for the Control of HIV/AIDS.
- d) Very significant was role played in the development of the Enugu State Health reform law.
- e) Members have held several strategic political positions in the State health sector. The immediate past and present honorable Commissioner for health is the ex-officio 1.
- f) The Branch has also been involved in evidence-based policy development.
- g) The state had also hosted the national AGSM two times within 2 decades.
- h) The Branch hosts her annual AGSM and OGM where major issues are discussed. Emergency meetings are also held as the need arises to take certain emergency decisions.
- i) The Branch is always and fully represented at the national events.
- j) Furthermore, the state has always been open for collaboration with other organizations both NGO and others.

Projections for the future

To be the major public health hub of the state through building a network of public health professionals to address emerging public health issues in the state.

FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY BRANCH

Brief History

The Federal Capital Territory (FCT) branch of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) was inaugurated on the 17th of September, 2008 by Prof. Abdulsalami Nasidi, the then Director of Public Health, Federal Ministry of Health with a membership strength of 25. At the inaugural meeting, four members were elected into the executive committee to run the affairs of the association for 2 years, led by Dr. Butkap Tali as Chairman. The executive committee was re-elected for another period of 2010-2011. Within the lifetime of the pioneer executive, the branch witnessed a great turnaround in its activities and the association became a household name among practicing public health physicians in the FCT which is the headquarter of most non-governmental organizations involved in the execution of public health programmes and interventions. The FCT branch hosted the 27th National Scientific Conference and Annual General Meeting of the association in March 2011 at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Abuja with the theme: 'The Millennium Development Goals-the journey so far and challenges ahead'. The hosting of the conference brought participants from within and outside the Nigeria and it was at the conference that plenary and breakout sessions were introduced for the first time in the history of the association's scientific conference.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Dr. Butkap Tali	Chairman
Dr. Aku Okai	Vice Chairman
Dr. Yakubu Adamu	Secretary General
Dr. Rabi Abdul-Hadi	Treasurer/Fin. Secretary
Dr. Damian Bai	Public Relations Officer

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr. Butkap Tali	2008 – 2011
Dr. Aku Okai	2011 – 2013
Dr. Kene Simon Terfa	2013 – 2018
Dr. Daniel Gadzama	2018 – 2021
Dr. Sabastine Esomonu	2021 till date

Current EXCO

Dr. Sabastine Esomonu	Chairman
Dr. Ramsey M. Yalma	Vice-Chairman
Dr. Austine Ajogwu	General Secretary
Dr. Aderonke Akande	Treasurer
Dr. Esther Cegbeyi-Danlami	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

- Hosted APHPN National Conference in 2011, 2016, and 2021
- Regular quarterly Ordinary General Meetings and Continuing Medical Education series
- Improved membership strength from the initial 25 in 2008 to 85 in 2023
- Provided a befitting office accommodation and secretarial staff for the National Secretariat

Projections for the future

- Membership drive to grow the strength of the association in the FCT
- Advocacy to departments and agencies in FCT to support activities of the association
- More collaboration with public institutions and non-governmental organisations working in the area of public health to promote public health interventions and uptake in the FCT.
- Hosting of National Conference of the association in 2026.

GOMBE STATE BRANCH

Brief History

Following the establishment of a medical school in Gombe State University and the conversion of the Federal Medical Centre (FMC) to a Federal Teaching Hospital Gombe in 2016. These developments led to the convergence of Public Health Physicians in the state. Dr Joshua Abubakar, the pioneer head of Department of Community Medicine, Gombe State University conveyed a meeting with other public health physicians in the department to discuss the need to establish a state branch of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria on 8th March 2021.

Projections for the future

- a) To improve the membership of our branch
- b) To be able to participate fully in the activities and conferences of the national body of the association.
- c) Key into the states' strategic plan for improving the health indices of the people of Gombe State.
- d) Provide a platform for other sister organizations in the state to advance their objectives.
- e) Organize more training programs on research to build the capacities of healthcare workers in the state.
- f) To collaborate with the state agencies in advancing and achieving their set objectives

Founding/Current EXCO

Dr. Danimoh M. Abdulsalam	Chairman
Dr. Ibrahim Rabi	Secretary
Dr. Pius Odunze	Treasurer
Dr Yusuf Nuhu	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

- a) Adopted the Department of Community Medicine Federal Teaching Hospital Gombe as the secretariat.
- b) Carried out introductory/advocacy visits to the State Commissioner of Health; Executive Secretary, Gombe State Primary Healthcare Development Agency (GSPHCDA); Executive Secretary, Gombe State Contributory Healthcare Insurance Scheme (GoHealth) and Director, Gombe State HIV/AIDS Control Agency (GOMSACA).
- c) Organized and successfully carried out research methodology training program for resident doctors in the Federal Teaching Hospital Gombe in 2022 and 2023. This was done in collaboration with the Association of Resident Doctors (ARDFTH)
- d) Marked and celebrated the WHO NTD days in collaboration with the Female Genital Schistosomiasis (FGS) Society in 2023.
- e) Embarked on a robust membership drive that had modestly increased the number of our members to date.
- f) Collaborated the Department of Community Medicine Federal Teaching Hospital to establish the residency training program in Community Medicine.

IMO STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The roots of this branch extend back to the establishment of the medical school in 2004, where a handful of individuals laid the groundwork for what would eventually become the association it is today. At different times of engagement with the University and Teaching Hospital, members namely, Prof Diwe Kevin, Prof Uwakwe Kenechi, and Dr Duru Chukwuma, despite initial challenges, helped in mobilizing professionals in the field to join the association. However, in 2009, Prof Uwakwe Kenechi formally, started coordinating, fostering cohesion and setting the stage for the establishment of the APHPN Imo State branch. This concerted drive and collective vision culminated in the branch's official registration with the national body in March 2015, marking the commencement of a new branch in the state's public health landscape.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Dr Duru Chukwuma	Chairman
Drs Ohale Ikechi	Vice Chairman
Oluoha Uche	Secretary General
Merenu Irene	Treasurer
Azuine Anthony	Financial Secretary

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr Duru Chukwuma	2015 - 2019
Dr Iwu Chinedu	2019 till date

Current EXCO

Dr Iwu Chinedu	Chairman
Dr Okeji Austine	Vice Chairman
Dr. Nwaigbo Ernest	Secretary General
Dr. Udeji George	Financial Secretary
Dr. Dike Victoria	Publicity Secretary
Dr. Azuine Anthony	Treasurer
Dr. Chibiko Victor	Asst Secretary
Dr. Duru Chukwuma	Ex officio I
Dr. Oluoha Uche	Ex officio II

Activities/Achievements

- Stakeholders' engagement across the state and collaborations with the Ministry of Health and other Agencies of government to give technical support to public health related programs in the state.
- Coordinated the health awareness campaigns, engaging secondary school students in Orlu community on World AIDS Days.
- Coordinated the development of IEC materials for the World Obesity Federation, underscoring their commitment to addressing global health concerns.
- Commitment to primary healthcare activities - community health survey among traditional birth attendants to discern and leverage the potential roles of traditional birth attendants in augmenting infant and maternal immunization uptake, thereby strengthening primary healthcare within these communities.
- Supervising measles vaccination campaigns and actively participated in implementing training programs for healthcare workers on Lassa fever prevention.
- Technical support in the state's COVID-19 response efforts - active involvement in the Imo State task force on COVID-19 prevention and control, planning and establishment of a dedicated COVID-19 treatment centre, training of healthcare personnel.

Projections for the future

- a) The branch remains resolutely committed to advancing public health agendas and poised to expand its impact further with continued focus on health advocacy, innovative interventions, and robust partnerships.
- b) Proactively engaging in health education, immunization drives, community health surveys, and collaborative ventures with governmental bodies, the branch aims to fortify its role as a pivotal force in advancing public health goals within the state.
- c) Driven by a commitment to serve, the branch stands as a beacon of transformative change, dedicated to fostering healthier communities and shaping a brighter future for public health in Imo State.



Group photograph of some members of APHPN Imo State Branch

KADUNA STATE BRANCH

Brief History

A formal arrangement for the formation of a Kaduna State Branch of APHPN started in 1998, when Prof. Kabir Sabitu became the Head of Department of Community Medicine, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. He became the pioneer Chairman of the branch. However, prior to this time, Kaduna State Elders like late Prof. Bamidele Bandipo and Prof. Clara Ejembi were actively involved in the National APHPN. The Kaduna State Branch was formed based on the need to have a united forum for all public health physicians in the state to contribute to the growth of the association, to cater for the academic and professional needs of members and to encourage active participation of members in public health programs.

In 2014, the Kaduna State APHPN Elders worked assiduously to revamp the branch. They engaged in membership mobilization drive and encouraged younger doctors, public health physicians, staff of the Department of Public Health of the State Ministry of Health and development partners to join the APHPN Kaduna state branch.

Founding Chairman

Prof. Kabir Sabitu

Past and Present Chairmen

Prof. Kabir Sabitu	1998 - 2014
Prof. MS Ibrahim	2014 - 2022
Dr. Adegboyega Oyefabi	2022 till date

Activities/Achievements

- The branch hosted the Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference of the National APHPN in Kongo Conference Hotel in 2003, tagged Zaria 2003.
- Some members have served the association at the national level - Prof. Sabitu (2nd Vice Chairman 2007); Prof. Clara Ejembi (Editor-in-Chief, 2003-2007 and currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the APHPN).
- Continuous partnership with the State Ministry of Health and other key stakeholders, improved cohesion with the national body, increased visibility for the association through community sensitization and health education in relation to International Health Days as well as ensuring improved digital presence.
- Regular media engagements (television and radio) to promote public health across the state.
- Production of customized APHPN T-shirts and caps embroidered with the association's logo.
- Organized Continuing Medical Education (CME) Webinars (featuring renowned resource persons) and held a successful Ordinary General Meeting (OGM) & Scientific Conference.
- The branch's financial stability was enhanced through investment and its membership expanded through membership drives and creating initiatives to promote professional development and effective mentorship for the members.



A cross-section of some Kaduna APHPN EXCO and members

KWARA STATE BRANCH

Brief History

Kwara State branch was inaugurated about 15 years ago. Membership cuts across the following in the State including: University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital; Kwara State Ministry of Health and its parastatals (KWSPHCDA; Health Management Board, Kwara Health Insurance Agency); Academia; International and developmental organization(s); NGOs; and Private Sector.

Founding Chairman

Prof. Awoyemi A.O

Past and Present Chairmen

Prof. Awoyemi A.O	2009 - 2011
Prof. Osagbemi G.K	2012 - 2014
Prof. Salaudeen A.G	2015 - 2017
Dr. Uthman M.M.B	2017 - 2019
Dr. Oguntoye M.S	2020 - 2023
Prof. Bolarinwa O. A.	2023 till date

Activities/Achievements

- Members of Kwara APHPN have served in varying capacities in the National APHPN executive as chairman, secretary general and treasurer
- Kwara State branch has hosted the National AGM and Scientific conference twice in 2013 and 2022
- The branch has been ably represented with active participation by our members in the APHPN conferences hosted in other states of the Federation
- AGSM is held at least once every year where new executives are sworn in.
- Significant public health days or events (World health day, World TB day, World Hepatitis day, World Malaria Day) are celebrated or marked in collaboration with relevant associations – Lectures, road walk to raise awareness and sensitization, testing and vaccination for the general public, medical outreaches, health talk on radio and media appearances on television.
- Collaborated on public health activities in various capacities as facilitators and resource persons with associations and agencies namely such as NMA, Unilorin, NUC, MDCAN, MWAN, KWMOH, FMOH.

LAGOS STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The APHPN Lagos Branch was revived in August 2008 under the selfless leadership of Prof. A.T. Onajole as the Chairman. With him were other eminent public health scholars such as Prof. Odusanya (1st Vice Chairman); Dr. Echoga A.D - a Naval Officer, (2nd Vice Chairman); Dr. Y.O. Disu (Secretary); Dr. B.B. Olusola-Falaye (Assistant Secretary); Dr. T.O. Odugbemi (Treasurer); Dr. T.F. Olufunlayo (Financial Secretary) and Dr. O.M. Adeyanju (PRO). Since her birth in Lagos state, APHPN Lagos State Branch has provided quality leadership in the engagement of members of the public through public enlightenment and education using various media and educational platforms. She has also been interfacing with state and non-state actors to ensure that Lagos State remains a role-model and a pacesetter state in galvanizing robust public health response to current and emerging public health threats and issues. Over the years, APHPN Lagos State Branch has featured prominently in Ebola, Lassa fever, Malaria, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis etc., and most recently COVID-19 response in the state. The Lagos Branch supported Lagos State Ministry of Health in the conduct of her first Hepatitis sero-prevalence survey.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Prof. A.T. Onajole	Chairman
Prof. O. Odusanya	1st Vice Chairman
Dr. A.D. Echoga	2nd Vice Chairman
Dr. Y.O. Disu	General Secretary
Dr. B.B. Olusola-Falaye	Assistant Secretary
Dr. T.O. Odugbemi	Treasurer
Dr. T.F. Olufunlayo	Financial Secretary
Dr. O.M. Adeyanju	Public Relations Officer

Past and Present Chairmen

Prof. Adebayo Onajole	2008 – 2010
Prof. Kofo Odeyemi	2010 – 2014
Dr. Oladoyin Odubanjo	2014 – 2018
Dr. Tolu Olufunlayo	2018 – 2022
Prof. Yetunde Kuyinu	2022 till date

Current EXCO

Prof. YA Kunyinu	Chairman
Dr. Laja Odunuga	1st Vice Chairman
Dr. Mobolaji Obadeyi	2nd Vice Chairman
Dr. Adedayo A. Aderibigbe	General Secretary
Dr. Brenda Isikekpei	Treasurer
Dr. Adenike Omosun	Financial Secretary
Dr. Angela Emechebe	Welfare Secretary
Dr. Blossom Maduafokwa	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

- Hosting a reception for members appointed as permanent secretaries in Lagos State
- Constant and regular feature on several media chats and public enlightenment programs hosted by various local and national media platforms
- Regular annual AGM and Scientific workshops to provide updates to her members on topical and emerging public health issues and threats.
- Biennial scientific conferences since 2015 to deepen public health discuss with a wider cross-section of public health stakeholders to midwife credible and scientifically valid home-grown solutions to public health issues in Lagos state and beyond.
- Bimonthly CME meetings on various trending public health topics to update members' knowledge.
- Press releases, conference communiqués and issuance of public health advisories
- Commemoration of World Health Days either alone or in partnership with other medical societies.



Group photograph of members of APHPN Lagos State Branch

Projections for the future

The branch aims to bring together public health physicians from various Public Health Institutions in Lagos State for the purpose of promoting the health of Lagosians and maintaining best practices in the field of public health.

NASARAWA STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The Nasarawa State branch of the Association of Public Health Physician of Nigeria (APHPN) was created in 2019. We uphold the medical profession and believe in the promotion of health of individuals in Nasarawa State, Nigeria. The goal of Nasarawa State branch is to promote improvement in the practice, training and research in public health and community medicine and express its views on all proposed legislations, and development plans affecting the medical and dental professions.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Dr. Ikrama Hassan	Chairman
Dr. Anazodo Michael	Secretary

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr. Ikrama Hassan
 Dr. (Mrs.) Mary Mathew (Shugaba)

Current EXCO

Dr. (Mrs.) Mary M (Shugaba)	Chairman
Dr. Okafor Kingsley	Deputy Chairman
Dr. Victor Nfam	Secretary
Dr. Bello Kayode	Assistant Secretary
Dr. Muhammad I. Fatima	Treasurer
Dr. Akpan Nseabasi A.	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

- APHPN Nasarawa has a registered branch current bank account now (First Bank, 2043120251)
- Setup of Financial system APHPN Nasarawa in progress
- Development of APPN Nasarawa brief/brochure
- Participated in WACP accreditation exercise
- Participated and in forefront of all SMOH Public Health events- Medical outreaches, World AIDS Day events
- Increasing membership into state branch- meetings, courtesy calls.

Projections for the future

- APHPN Nasarawa has developed a workplan for 2024 and major activities planned are:
- APHPN led 'health day' activities in the state in collaboration with SMOH
- Community involvement and activities around PHC Tunga to increase access for maternal and child health services
- Development of papers for presentation at the APHPN conference 2024.



APHPN Nasarawa State Branch members

OGUN STATE BRANCH

Brief History

Ogun State branch of APHPN was established in 2009 with Dr Oyesola Oluwarotimi as the Co-ordinator from 2009-2015. The branch has 6 arms: Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital in Sagamu, Federal Medical Center in Abeokuta, State Ministry of Health in Abeokuta, Babcock University Teaching Hospital in Ilishan-Remo, Hospital Management Board and Medical Officers of Health in Ogun State. Each of the arms has a co-ordinator that is selected by the respective arms. The branch holds quarterly general meetings. This meeting is rotated through the different arms. State elections hold every two years

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Dr. Oluwarotimi Oyesola	Chairman
Dr. Imhonopi	Secretary

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr. Oluwarotimi Oyesola	2015 - 2017
Dr Amoran Olorunfemi	2017 - 2021
Dr Adesanya Daniel	2021 till date

Current EXCO

Dr Adesanya Daniel	Chairman
Dr Erinosh Abayomi	Vice chairman
Dr Osinaike Abiodun	Secretary
Dr Adeyemi Adebiji	Assistant secretary
Dr Adesina Adefunke	Treasurer
Dr Awolowo Ajuwon	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

- a) The branch had the 1st State Scientific Conference in 2018.
- b) The branch collaborates with the different arms in the state to celebrate public health days - World TB day and World AIDS day.
- c) Regular media engagement and public enlightenment on prevention and control of diseases of public health importance such as Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and cervical cancers.
- d) The branch holds and rotates Ordinary General Meetings (OGM) in the different arms of the association.
- e) The branch holds periodic scientific seminars during OGM such as Epidemiological control and surveillance of Lassa fever in Nigeria: Recent advances delivered by Dr Hakeem Yussuf (State epidemiologist) on March 16, 2022 and Health Insurance: The sustainable health financing options-delivered by Dr Afolabi Dosumu (Executive Secretary, Ogun State Health Insurance Agency on 6th July 2022.
- f) The state is always visible at the National conferences.
- g) The excos paid courtesy and advocacy visit to the Permanent secretaries of State Ministry of Health - Dr Oladeinde.
- h) The branch hosted the National President of the association, Prof Alphonsus Isara at Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital (OOUTH) arm on 13th September 2023.
- i) The successful bidding for the hosting of APHPN National conference in Ogun State in 2025.



Some members of APHPN Ogun State Branch

Projections for the future

- a) Improve, expand and possibly add more innovations to the existing programs in the state.
- b) Ensuring that the branch has a good representation at the Ondo APHPN National conference in 2024.
- c) Media engagement and public enlightenment on prevention and control of disease, celebration of public health days-1st -7th August World Breastfeeding Week, 1st December World Aids Day, 24th-30th World Immunization Week, 25th April World Malaria Day, World Hepatitis Day 28th July, 24th March World TB Day.

ONDO STATE BRANCH

The Constitution of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) allows for the formation of State Branch in any State with at least five members of the Association resides. As easy as this membership condition is, it was very difficult to have APHPN in Ondo State despite the large number of public health physicians in the State and several attempts by some willing members for several years, mostly due to lack of commitment by majority of the members. The Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) started formally in Ondo State in 2016 aided by significant increase in the number of Consultant Community/Public Health Physicians (up to 11) working in the State, and the commencement of Community Health Department at State Specialist Hospital Akure, Federal Medical Centre Owo, and University of Medical Science Ondo. The Association became functional in September, 2016 with election and inauguration of the first State APHPN (Ondo State Branch) Executives. The efforts of Dr. Francis A. Akanbiemu in the realization of this feat cannot be quantified. Kudos also goes to Prof. M. C. Asuzu who is always mounting pressure on Dr Akanbiemu to ensure the formation of an active APHPN Branch in the State.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Dr. Francis Adegoke Akanbiemu	Chairman,
Dr. Victor Adefesoye	Deputy Chairman
Dr. Paulinus Kunle Omode	Secretary
Dr (Mrs) Aderonke. F. Fagbemi	Treasurer
Dr (Mrs) Ogundare-Adeyalo	Publicity Secretary
Dr C. Olukoju	Auditor
Dr. S. Abiona	Editor-in-Chief

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr. Francis A. Akanbiemu	2016 - 2022
Dr. Demilade Ibirongbe	2022 till date

Current EXCO

Dr. Demilade Ibirongbe	Chairman
Dr Stephen Olaniyan	Vice chairman
Dr Deboye Oyewole	General Secretary
Dr Babatunde Akinbinu	Treasurer
Dr Toyin Adeyalo-Ogundare	Publicity Secretary

Activities/Achievements

- World NTD day Jan 30, 2023: the State APHPN engaged in collaboration with the NTD unit of Ondo State Primary Health Care Development Agency in observance of World NTD day
- World Health day April 7, 2023: the state APHPN engaged in collaboration with WHO through a Media Campaign in observance of World Health Day

OYO STATE BRANCH

Brief History

Oyo State, the pioneer branch of APHPN in Nigeria, took off in 1985 after the election of Prof Kale as the national chairman of ACPN. The goal was to provide opportunities for public health practitioners to come together and advance the course of public health practice in Nigeria. In the beginning, membership was largely limited to consultants and residents in the department of community medicine and later, ministry of health. However, as government began to employ qualified medical doctors in the LG system of Oyo state, the membership net was widened to include medical officers in this place who, by standard job definition, are MOH. Today, the association has significantly expanded to include medical practitioners in NGOs operating within the state. A number of individuals played pivotal role in the birth and continued existence of APHPN at the state level. While the dominant involvement of Prof Asuzu is beyond dispute, it must be noted that he was more active and prominent at the national level without holding any executive position at the state branch. Important state actors worthy of mention are Dr. Adeyefa, who was more or less the recognized founding chairman and his successor, Dr. Akinwale.

Founding Chairman

Dr Babatunde Adeyefa

Past and Present Chairmen

Late Dr Babatunde Adeyefa

Dr Akinwale

Dr Akande

Dr Felix Ogundiran

Dr Pelumi Adebisi

Dr Yemisi Iyiola

Dr David Adewole

Dr Gbolahan Abass

Dr Olugbade Omotajo

Activities/Achievements

- a) Promotion of MPH program among LGA doctors for better effectiveness on the job
- b) Partnership with the state and federal governments on public health intervention programs. Most of our members in the state have served and continue to serve either as WHO or UNICEF consultants during SIAs
- c) Celebration of key WHO Days
- d) Periodic media awareness on epidemic-prone diseases and prevention measures. This is most especially carried out during the dry season when Lassa fever tends to strike in epidemic proportion
- e) Contribution to primary health care policy formulation at the state level
- f) Participation at both the state and national council on health meetings
- g) Funding of attendance at APHPN annual conferences
- h) Symposium on UHC
- i) Frontline roles in COVID-19 intervention response with members serving either as Incident Manager or Pillar Lead
- j) Successful enrollment of financial members on WCEA platform for regular personal development

Projections for the future

- a) Have a dedicated office for the association by way of rental or any available free space within UCH, Ministry of Health or the State Primary Health Care Board
- b) Grow membership by reaching out to all PH resident doctors in the state teaching hospitals
- c) Increase the association's income base through a more effective and proactive approach to the collection of annual dues
- d) Organize annual awards for members who have distinguished themselves in the field of PH practice either within the LGA, State or teaching hospital level

PLATEAU STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The Plateau State Branch of the APHPN, formerly known as ACPN (Association of Community Physicians of Nigeria) was birthed in 2002 at the instance of the then national Chairman of the association. At that time, the Secretariat was domiciled in Plateau under the able leadership of Prof. A. I. Zoakah as the President with Prof. C. Ogbonna as General Secretary. The first exco was led by late Dr. Labaran, a Zonal Coordinator of the Primary Health Care Development Agency. He could not complete his tenure due to a transfer and his tenure was therefore completed by the Secretary, Dr. O. A. Adeleke. It has grown from less than ten members to an association of over 60 active members that is well recognized in the public health space of the State.

Founding Chairman

Dr. Labaran

Past and Present Chairmen

Dr. Labaran	2002 – 2005
Dr. O. A. Adeleke (Ag.)	2005 – 2006
Dr. Elias Pede	2006 – 2010
Dr. Jonathan Chi Daboer	2010 – 2014
Dr. Tyavyar Joseph Akosu	2014 – 2017
Dr. Pokop Bupwatda	2017 – 2020
Prof. Luret A. Lar	2020 – 2023
Prof. Chundung A. Miner	2023 till date

Current EXCO

Prof. Chundung A. Miner	Chairman
Dr. Catherine S. Igoh	Deputy Chairman
Dr. Hilary D. Kwatmen	Secretary
Dr. Elijah O. Otokpa	Assistant Secretary
Dr. Onome Nnorom	Treasurer
Prof. Luret A. Lar	Ex-Officio I
Dr. Elizabeth Okoh	Ex-Officio II
Dr. Ferdinand I. Ogbaji	Public Relations Officer



Group photograph of some members of APHPN Plateau State Branch

Activities/Achievements

- a) Regular meetings
- b) Organizing CME's for its members with the most recent being in November of 2023
- c) Marking notable public health days with activities such as symposiums, tree planting, health talks, media engagements, medical outreaches, enlightenment walks. These have been done severally in collaboration with State Government agencies and other NGOs
- d) Collaborative research activities have been conducted with institutions
- e) Members have served as resource persons for state activities such as emergency response, supervision of immunization campaigns, technical working groups.
- f) The branch is home to a member of the Board of Trustees, Prof. A.I. Zoakah.
- g) The State has hosted two national conferences (in 2002 and 2020).

Projections for the future

- a) There is a continuous drive to bring in more members into the association especially from outside the academia which will improve collaborations in the State
- b) It is our intention to continue to lobby for the position of Medical officer of Health to be established in the State.
- c) To continue and increase advocacy with the government on policy drafting and implementation that affect public health in Plateau State.

RIVERS STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The Rivers State branch started informally in 2000 with the Late Dr. Samuel S.B. Afiesimama as Chairman and Dr. Godwin Mpi as Secretary. There was no formal exco at the time and the duo would get ad-hoc support from colleagues as needed. Their unofficial tenure lasted from 2000 until 2004 when Dr. Mpi took over as chairman. The branch's first formal election was held and Dr. Ordinioha Best was elected Chairman.

Founding Chairman

Late Dr. Samuel B. S. Afiesimama

Past and Present Chairmen

Late Dr. Samuel B. S. Afiesimama	2000-2004
Dr. Godwin Mpi	2004-2008
Dr. Ordinioha Best	2009-2016
Dr. Douglas Kingsley	2016-2018
Dr. Maduka Omosivie	2018-2020
Dr. Kanu Chukwunenye	2020 till date

Current EXCO

Dr. Kanu Chukwunenye	Chairman
Dr. Abiye Tamuno Opubo	Vice Chairman
Dr. Nwadiaru Chinedu	Secretary
Dr. Sandra Abolo	Assistant Secretary
Dr. Aleme Juliet	Treasurer



Group photograph of some members of APHPN Rivers State Branch

Activities/Achievements

- a) The branch has hosted APHPN national conferences twice in 2014 and 2023 successfully
- b) Good representation/attendance by branch members at national conferences
- c) The branch instituted bye-laws within 2020/2022 exco year that cater to the specific needs of its members
- d) The branch has created and is successfully implementing a welfare program for the benefit of its members, especially during life events
- e) Donations made to public health institutions in the state
- f) Collaborations and linkages with stakeholders, public health institutions/bodies and affiliates in the state
- g) Quarterly CME programs and capacity-building sessions for members and the academic community in the state
- h) Regular OGM/AGM held with reasonable attendance
- i) A comprehensive database of public health physicians (retired and in-service) in Rivers State has been created
- j) The branch has successfully celebrated dates of public health importance with health enlightenment programs and media engagement
- k) Medical outreaches in different urban and rural communities in the state
- l) The branch received its first award from a partner in 2023
- m) The branch has been blessed with smooth career growth and promotion of members at different levels

Projections for the future
 To set up a physical state secretariat



SOKOTO STATE BRANCH

Brief History

During one of the Departmental postgraduate seminar meetings, it was resolved that there was need to form a branch of APHPN in the state. A date was fixed and some members were nominated as Exco to serve for an initial period of two years in the year 2014. Prof MO Oche led Exco served for two years (2014 to 2016). This was followed by Prof MO Raji lead Exco, (2016 to 2020), Prof AU Ka'oje led Exco 2020 till date. Since inception of the branch, the Department of Community Medicine, UDUTH has been serving as the Branch secretariat. The branch members have been actively participating in all local and National activities.

Founding Chairman/EXCO

Prof MO Oche	Chairman
Prof AU Ka'oje	Vice Chairman
Prof MO Raji	Secretary
Dr Habibullah Adamu	Assistant Secretary
Dr Jessica Ango	Treasurer
Dr Abdulnasir Adamu	Public Relations Officer

Past and Present Chairmen

Prof MO Oche	2014 - 2016
Prof MO Raji	2016 - 2020
Prof AU Ka'oje	2020 till date

Current EXCO

Prof AU Ka'oje	Chairman
Dr AU Abubakar	Vice Chairman
Dr IA Raji	Secretary
Dr ZK Abdullahi	Assistant Secretary
Dr AZ Ukwuani	Treasurer
Dr MB Malami	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

- Annual marking of key public health days such as: WHO, World Aids Day, World Environment, Breastfeeding
- Smooth transition of Exco since creation of the branch
- Collaboration with Sokoto state ministry of Health and State Primary Health Care Development Agency (SPHCDA) in implementation of immunization SIDs, outbreak investigation and rapid responses to outbreaks such as COVID-19, Lassa fever, Dengue fever and CSM in the state.

Projections for the future

- To continue the collaborations and partnerships in the areas of public health intervention with state government, CSOs development partners and other relevant stakeholders in the State.
- To secure an office accommodation to serve as Branch secretariat
- To identify and appoint board of trustees for the branch
- Conduct high impacting public health researches and intervention



Some members of APHPN Sokoto State Branch

TARABA STATE BRANCH

Brief History

The Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) Taraba State branch is one of the youngest and most strategic branches of APHPN, had its inaugural meeting on the 26th of August, 2023 at the NMA secretariat in Jalingo.

Founding/Current EXCO

Dr. Garba Danjuma	Chairman
Dr Ubanus Ezekiel	Vice Chairman
Dr Ronald Cletus Wui	Secretary
Dr Ecuseh Audu	Treasurer
Dr Adamu A. Bukar	Public Relations Officer

Activities/Achievements

- Successful inaugural meeting after the elections of the EXCO
- Opened dedicated APHPN association's email address and Twitter handle
- Archived the association documents in i-cloud
- Opened an account for the association with Zenith Bank

Projections for the future

The branch plans to conduct the following:

- Mark the World AIDS Day 2023 on 1st December 2023
- Pay an advocacy visit to media houses, for partnership.
- Courtesy visit to the commissioner for health Taraba State,
- Advocacy to the department of Public Health Taraba State University (TSU) and Federal University Wukari (FUW) and the World Health Organization office (WHO) to explore areas of partnerships/collaborations.
- Identify a secretariat for the association.
- Develop strategic plan in line with vision and mission of APHPN



Some members of APHPN Taraba State Branch

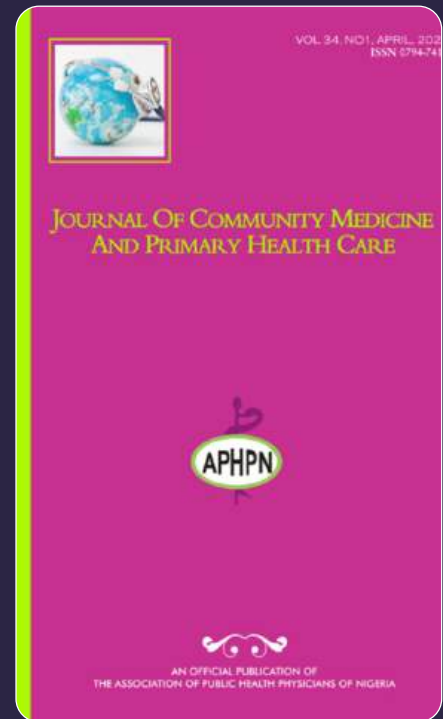
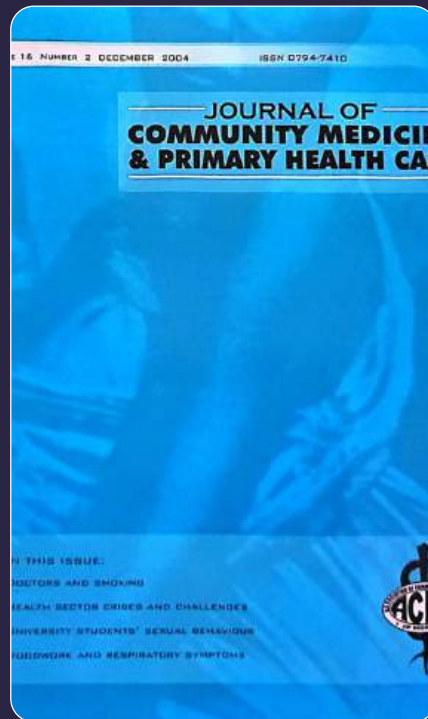
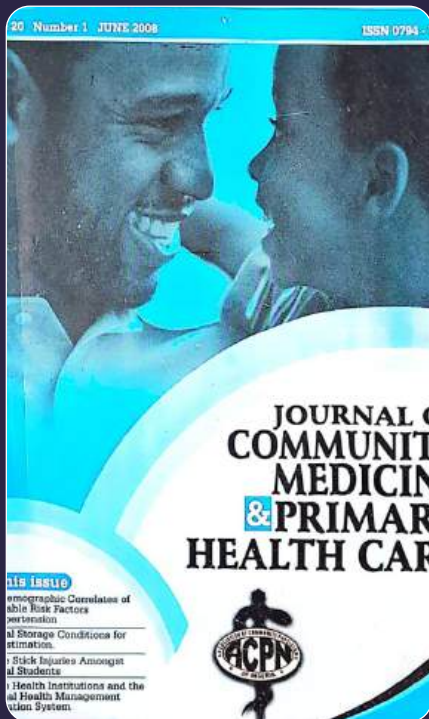
PUBLICATIONS

The Journal of Community Medicine and Primary Health Care

The Prof. Kale led EXCO started the JCMPHC in 1985 with the appointment of Prof. Kamil O. Alausa as the inaugural Editor-in-Chief. The Journal of Community Medicine and Primary Health Care, is a publication of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria. It is a peer-reviewed journal, multi-disciplinary in scope, and provides a forum for the dissemination of research findings, reviews, theories as well as information on all aspects of the diverse sub-specialties and practice areas that make up public health and community medicine such as: epidemiology, environmental health, public health nutrition, occupational health medical sociology, rehabilitative medicine,

primary health care, reproductive health, maternal and child health, health planning and management, health policy, health care financing, etc. The journal has grown from its humble beginnings while been steered by dedicated and passionate Editor-in-Chiefs who have been supported by committed editorial boards from 1985 when it was established till date. At the 2011 conference in Abuja, it was resolved that the tenure of the Editor-in-Chief should be a single tenure of six years.

The journal publishes regularly and is currently indexed in African Journals Online; Cross Ref; Asian Digital Library; Google Scholar; IJI Factor. Very soon the journal will be indexed in Elsevier and other international indexing bodies.



Past and Present Editor-in-Chiefs of JCMPHC



Prof. K. O. Alausa
1985 - 2003



Prof. Clara L. Ejembi
2003 - 2007



Prof. Olumuyiwa O. Odusanya
2007 - 2011



Prof. Adedeji A. Onayade
2011 - 2017



Prof. Vivian O. Omuemu
2017 - 2023



Prof. Kikelomo O. Wright
2023 till date

APHPN Newsletter

The APHPN Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria to disseminate information to members and the general public. In 1985, the Prof. Kale led EXCO, published the first quarterly newsletter of the ACPN from the office of the publicity/social secretary. The publication of the newsletter continued till 1997. In 2021, the Prof. Isara led EXCO recommenced the publication of the APHPN quarterly newsletter; and has been consistent since the first volume published in September 2021. The Editorial Board includes Prof. Omosivie Maduka, the Publicity Secretary as Editor, and Dr. Ulunma Mariere, Dr. Terkaa Bitto, Dr. Ahoma Mbanuzuru and Dr. Blossom Maduafokwa as members.

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APHPN NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Newsletter of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria

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EDITORIAL BOARD

Omosivie Maduka – Editor
Ulunma Mariere
Terkaa Bitto
Victor Ahoma Mbanuzuru
Kunmi Olusanya
Blossom Maduafokwa

From the President

PROFESSOR ALPHONSUS ISARA



On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the National Executive Council, I bring you warm greetings and felicitations. I am particularly delighted that members of our Association were at the forefront of the COVID-19 response in their respective states. We are encouraged to continue to take the leadership role in epidemic responses in Nigeria. All hands must be on deck to deal with the fourth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially with the new Omicron variant.

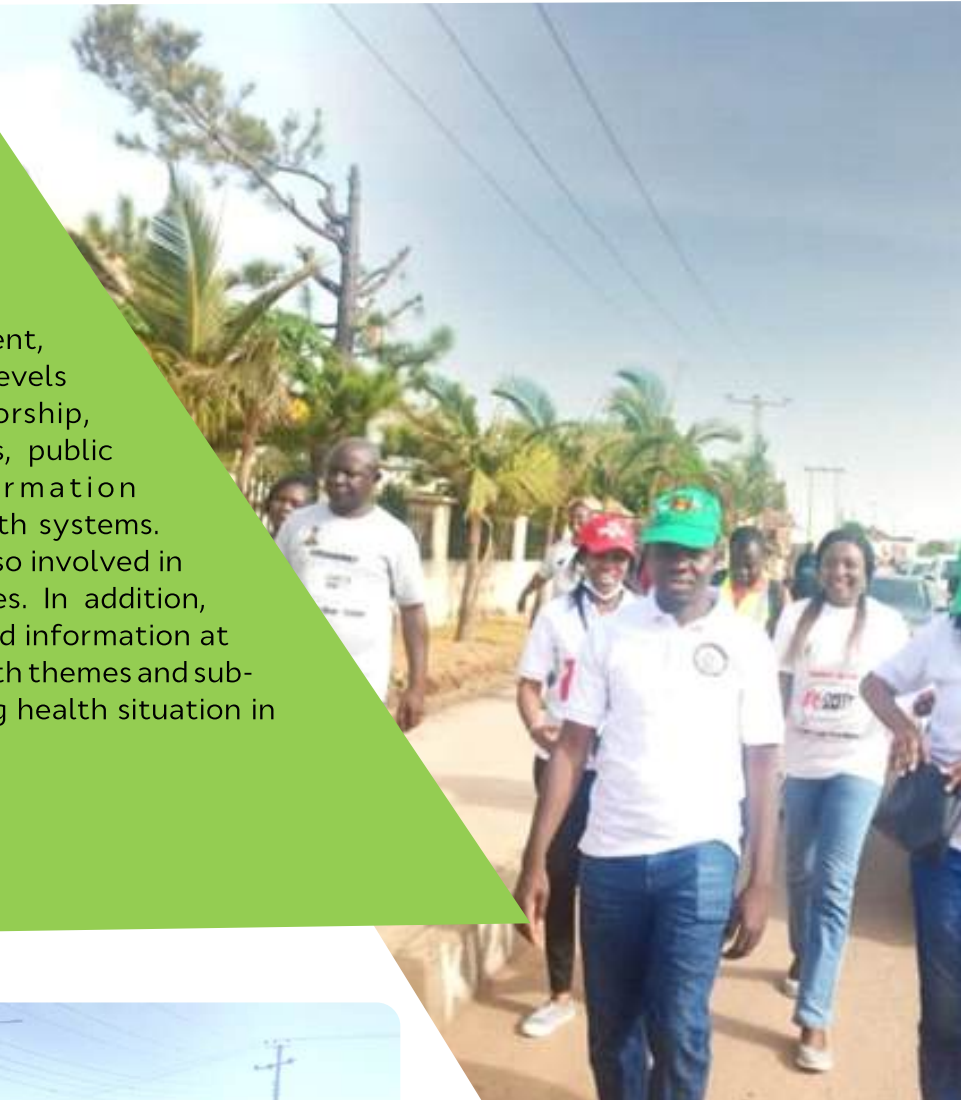
You will agree with me that the COVID-19 pandemic will not be the last in human history. Therefore, it is important for us to build and support a very resilient health system in Nigeria to enable us to consolidate the gains of the COVID-19 response. One of the ways we can achieve this is to strengthen the Nigerian health system so that we are able to respond better to the health needs of the Nigerian population. Thus, the 38th APHPN Annual Scientific Conference tagged Ilorin 2022, with the theme "The Imperatives for Strengthening the Nigerian Health System" is very apt and timely. It is hoped that the conference will come up with actionable strategies that will usher in a better health system in Nigeria.

The Local Organizing Committee and the National Executive Council are working tirelessly through advocacy and mobilization of all stakeholders to ensure a very successful conference. Several APHPN partners are committed to participating actively in the conference. I encourage APHPN members to register en masse and participate fully in the conference. I wish you all a prosperous New Year.

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ACTIVITIES

In line with our mission statement, members of the association at all levels are involved in training, mentorship, leadership/management positions, public health researches and information dissemination to strengthen health systems. The various state branches are also involved in public health promotion activities. In addition, members gather to share ideas and information at an annual scientific conference with themes and sub-themes that reflect the prevailing health situation in the country.



Conferences

The annual scientific conferences of the association serve as a platform for members and other public health practitioners across the country to share ideas, and foster dialogues and collaborations across disciplines and sub-specialty, for the purpose of impacting public health practice in Nigeria.

Since 2007, the annual scientific conference and general meeting of the Association has been consistent. Statutorily, the conferences are held in second week of the month of March, but in the year of general elections in Nigeria, the conference are held in last week of January. At the 2011 conference in Abuja, it was resolved that the conferences



will be held in Abuja after every five years. Thus, the 2016 and 2021 conferences were held in Abuja. The first day of the APHPN conference is usually dedicated to a pre-conference workshop. The prestigious lecture delivered at the opening ceremony of all APHPN conferences is known as the 'Isaac Oluwole Memorial Lecture' named after the acclaimed 'Father of Public Health in Nigeria', Dr. Isaac Oluwole.



APHPN Conference themes/Guest Lecturers and Hosting venues (1983 to 2024)

Year	Hosting Venue	Guest Lecturer	Theme of Conference
1983	Ile-Ife	-	-
1985	Ibadan	Dr. Dola	Primary Health Care in Nigeria
1986	Ibadan	-	-
1987	Lagos	-	-
1988	Ilorin	Prof Adetokunbo Lucas	Maternal Health in Nigeria
1989	Ibadan	-	-
1992	Lagos	-	-
1995	Enugu	-	-
1996	Lagos	-	-
2001	Enugu	-	-
2002	Jos	-	-
2003	Zaria	-	-
2005	Ibadan	-	-
2006	Abakiliki	Prof. Dora Akunyili	Control of Food and Drugs Standards In the Tropics
2007	Awka	Prof. B. A. N. Nwakoby	The Role of Public Health Physician in a Reformed System
2008	Osogbo	Prof. K. O. Alausa	Thirty years of Alma Ata: Whiter PHC in Nigeria?
2009	Benin City	Prof. Babatunde Osotimehin	HIV/AIDS Control: The Journey So Far and The Way Forward
2010	Lagos	Prof. O. O. Hunponu-Wusu	50 Years of Independence: State of Nigeria Health System
2011	FCT Abuja	Prof. S. Olu Oduntan	Nigerian Children of School Age. The Heritage of a Nation: Our Joint Responsibilities
2012	Calabar	Sen. Victor Ndoma Egba	The National Health Bill: Issues Arising

2013	Ilorin	Dr. Ado J. G. Mohammed	Reducing Maternal Immortality in Nigeria: The Way Forward
2014	Port Harcourt	Dr. (Mrs.) Ngeri Setima Benebo	Environmental Health Strategies for National Development
2015	Makurdi	Prof. M. C. Asuzu	Millennium Development Goals: Nigeria Now and Beyond 2015
2016	FCT Abuja	Dr. Clara Ejembi	Universal Health Coverage: The way Forward In Achieving SDGs in Nigeria
2017	Ekiti	Prof. K. O. Alausa	Non-Communicable Disease Burden: Health System preparedness in Nigeria
2018	Asaba	Prof. Obehi Okojie	Achieving Health Related Sustainable Development Goals in Nigeria: The Way Forward
2019	Enugu	Prof. C. N. Obionu	Advancing A Health System that Works for All Nigerians
2020	Jos	Prof. M. N. Sambo	Epidemiologic Transition and Implications for Public Health Practice
2021	FCT Abuja	Dr. Faisal Shuaib	Strategies for Resilience and Recovery from Public Health Emergencies
2022	Ilorin	Dr. Prosper Okonkwo	The Imperatives for Strengthening the Nigerian Health System
2023	Port Harcourt	Dr. Akinwumi Fajola	Public Health Practice: New Opportunities and New Challenges
2024	Akure	Prof. Adesegun Fatusi	Repositioning Public Health in a New Political Dispensation

APHPN Caucuses

The APHPN caucuses represent the major sub-specialties in Public Health and Community Medicine and allied areas. While there is a constitutional provision for the establishment of 7 caucuses, 4 are presently active namely: Epidemiology; Health Management; Environmental & Occupational Health; and Family and Reproductive Health caucuses. Each caucus is coordinated by a Chairman and Secretary. Caucus chairmen are members of the National Executive Council (NEC) of APHPN. The caucuses are involved in advocacy, health promotion, capacity building workshops, research, among others.

APHPN Health Management Lecture Series

**12th Aug
2023**

**Brain Drain in Nigeria:
Drivers, Deterrents and
recommendations for the
Stakeholders**

Próf. Clara Ejemi

154 Participants

**11th Nov
2023**

**Getting Health Reforms
Right in Nigeria**

Próf. Akin Osibogun

208 Participants

**10th Feb
2024**

**Health Policy
Development in Nigeria**

Próf. B. S. C. Uzochukwu

252 Participants

APHPN Environmental & Occupational Health Training Series

**17th Jan
2024**

**Introduction:
Environmental and
Occupational Medicine –
Hazards Assessment**

Próf. S. A. Abah

135 Participants

**24th Jan
2024**

**Exposure Assessment,
Risk Matrix, and Risk
Management Planning**

Próf. S. A. Abah

145 Participants

**31st Jan
2024**

**Environmental
Assessment - Scoping
Exercise and Stakeholder
Engagement**

Próf. S. A. Abah

135 Participants

**7th Feb
2024**

**Explore EIA Process,
Biophysical Assessment,
and Real Case Studies!**

Próf. S. A. Abah

129 Participants

**14th Feb
2024**

**Health Impact
Assessment (HIA) and
Social Impact
Assessment (SIA)**

Próf. S. A. Abah

146 Participants

**21st Feb
2024**

**Impact Assessment
Matrix**

Próf. S. A. Abah

135 Participants

APHPN Capacity Building Webinars

In collaboration with the World Continuing Education Alliance (WCEA) the committee has organized 10 webinars on topical issues in Public Health with participants drawn from all over the world. The Capacity Building committee is headed by Prof. Sunday Aderibigbe. Members of the committee include Dr. Adegboyega Oyefabi, Dr. Tijani Abdulrasheed and Dr. Gregory Oko-oboh.

SN	Topic	Speaker	Date	Number Registered	Number of Attendees
1.	Rudiments of Project Management	Prof. G.K. Osagbemi	12th July 2022	1502	382
2.	Health Governance and Universal Health Coverage	Prof. D.S.T. Ogaji	13th Sept. 2022	2354	436
3.	Contemporary Challenges of Gender Equality and Discrimination	Prof. Audu Onyemocho	8th Nov. 2022	2501	356
4.	Evidence-Based Public Health: Basics of Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis	Dr. Gregory Oko-Oboh	17th Jan. 2023	4056	444
5.	Ethical Imperatives for Collaborative Research	Prof. Iliyasu Zubairu	14th March 2023	2164	376
6.	Essentials of Risk Communication for Disease Prevention and Control	Prof. Sufiyan Babale	9th May 2023	1755	363
7.	The Role of Nutrition in the Prevention and Control of NCDs	Prof. Priscilla Utoo	11th July 2023	3903	830
8.	Contemporary issues in tobacco use and Control	Dr. Akindele Adebiyi	12th September 2023	1990	608
9.	How to get published in high impact Journals	Dr. John Ford	14th November 2023	4281	654
10	Meta-analysis using Jamovi software: Hands-on experience	Prof. Patrick Oyibo	13th February 2024	134	52

Research and Grants Committee

In 2022, the committee carried out a nationwide survey tagged "the COVID-19 mandate project" among civil servants in Nigeria across twelve states, and the FCT within the six geopolitical zones. The outcome of this project includes a policy brief to relevant stakeholders on the subject, a quantitative research manuscript published in the Journal of Community Medicine and Primary Health Care titled "Knowledge, Perception, and Uptake of Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination among Nigerian Civil Servants: Implications for Evidence-Based Policies" (DOI: 10.4314/jcmphc.v35i2.9) and a

qualitative manuscript titled "Views of Nigerian civil servants about compulsory COVID-19 vaccination: A qualitative study" has been published in the African Journal of Primary Health Care & Family Medicine. (DOI: 10.4102/phcfm.v16i1.4208)

The committee contributed technically to the successful execution of the healthcare in danger (HCiD) project carried out by APHPN on behalf of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The project titled "Comparative Assessment of the Prevalence and Patterns of violence against healthcare in Nigeria" has been completed, its report has been written and submitted to ICRC. The manuscript is currently being developed for publication.

The committee has applied for research grants and looks forward to success in grant execution, where selected.

Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria: Place and Purpose in the COVID-19 Pandemic Response and Management

The COVID-19 pandemic was an unprecedented event of this century that shook the whole world and filled every individual with uncertainty, terror and apprehension. This new disease was poorly understood and brought to fore the unique and multi-faceted role of the public health and community physician in *preventing disease, prolonging life, and promoting physical health and efficiency, through organized community efforts, for the sanitation of the environment, the control of community infections, the education of the individual in the principles of personal hygiene, the organization of medical and nursing service for the early detection and preventive treatment of disease, and the development of the social machinery which will ensure to every individual in the community a standard of living adequate for the maintenance of health.*

This came to light when members of the association at all levels of healthcare delivery (primary, secondary and tertiary) including those in the Ministries, Department and Agencies (MDAs) were at the forefront of the COVID-19 pandemic response and management, acting as key figures in safeguarding the health and well-being of Nigerians.

As public health and community physicians, we possess a unique set of skills that blend medical expertise with a deep understanding of population health dynamics. Our knowledge and skillset in disease epidemiology, biostatistics, disease modelling, surveillance, etc. which allowed for close monitoring of disease patterns, transmission, timely identification of emerging threats contributed to the rapid deployment of interventions, helping to contain and mitigate the impact of the pandemic. We also leveraged on integrating technologies such as data analytics, modeling, and digital communication tools which enhanced the speed and accuracy of decision-making, allowing for more efficient resource allocation and response strategies.

During the pandemic, public health physicians were at the forefront, collaborating with various stakeholders, including policy makers, government agencies, healthcare providers, and community leaders. Our leadership skills were paramount in coordinating a cohesive and effective response. In managing the pandemic, public health physicians engaged in comprehensive risk assessments to understand the potential long-term consequences of the outbreak. We also contributed to the development of evidence-based policies, protocols and guidelines aimed at mitigation and strengthening the overall health infrastructure. Our collaborations went beyond the Nigerian borders as public health physicians engaged in regional and global efforts to address the pandemic. Our members participated in collaborative research, development of regional and global health policies, as well as information sharing on best practices to improve our collective ability to mitigate the effects of the pandemic.

Since clear and timely communication is essential for gaining public trust, we also played a critical role in risk communication as we bridged the gap between scientific knowledge and public understanding. Members were involved in health education and promotion programmes by encouraging adherence to mitigation measures, and dispelling misinformation that could have exacerbated rumours and panics. By empowering individuals with the necessary tools and knowledge, public health physicians contributed to building a resilient and informed Nigerian populace. We also provided technical expertise in the area of facilitation of training workshops and seminars on outbreak preparedness, response protocols, and mitigation methods to enhance the knowledge and skills of healthcare professionals, community leaders, and the general public.

Our multifaceted skill sets and expertise as public health physicians became indispensable in the response and management of the COVID-19 pandemic, waging war in a frontline battle against a new and unpredictable enemy, wreaking havoc across the world. From early detection and effective coordination to risk communication, policy development, education, and regional/global collaboration, we were instrumental in safeguarding public health and mitigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic while ensuring the health and well-being of the Nigerian populace.

APHPN Consultancy Services Limited (ACSL)

The APHPN Consultancy Services Limited (ACSL) was incorporated in Nigeria on the 13th of May, 2022 as a business arm of the Association of Public Health physicians of Nigeria (APHPN). ACSL was established with the aim of providing management services for healthcare projects in Nigeria. The Board of Directors, consisting of seasoned public health physicians and leaders of the parent organization APHPN, include Prof. (Mrs) Clara L. Ejembi, Prof. Ayuba I. Zoakah, Prof. Alphonsus R. Isara, and Dr. Alphonsus O. Aigbiremolen.

The ultimate goal of ACSL is render quality consultancy services in the Nigerian health sector through professionals practicing public health in communities across the length and breadth of Nigeria. Services

provided include public health research proposal development, implementation and dissemination of research information; health promotion and related activities; development and deployment of appropriate digital technology for public health; trading and supplies of health commodities useful for public health care services and development, among others.

ACSL is supported by over 1500 members of APHPN spread across 31 states in Nigeria who have vast experiences in surveillance, disease outbreak response, hazard control and risk management, monitoring and evaluation, project management, environmental impact assessment, programme development, research development and implementation, and other aspects of public health practice.

APHPN Partners/Sponsors



APIN Public Health Initiative

APIN Public Health Initiatives is a leading non-governmental organization that focuses on the provision of prevention, care and treatment services to patients with diseases of public health significance such as HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. APIN also provides technical assistance to relevant government agencies to strengthen the delivery of Reproductive Health, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, Laboratory services.

Ave Health Sense Limited

Ave Health Sense Limited is an employee-owned public health social enterprise organization for quality public health research and sustainable public health program implementation. Ave Health Sense is created for people and organizations that want evidence to make informed decisions to achieve great health status, maintain and restore their health and that of their communities.



Breakthrough ACTION Nigeria



Breakthrough ACTION Nigeria is a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded social and behavior change (SBC) project designed to increase the practice of priority health behaviors in the areas of malaria; maternal, newborn, and child health, including nutrition (MNCH+N); family planning/reproductive health; and tuberculosis. The project works closely with Federal and State Ministries of Health and other USAID implementing partners.

Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria (CS-SUNN)

The Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria (CS-SUNN) is a non-governmental, non-profit alliance of organizations with a shared vision to transform Nigeria into a country where every citizen has food and is nutrition secure. CS-SUNN engages government and non-state actors to raise awareness, and sustain a commitment and actions to tackle malnutrition in Nigeria effectively.



National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA)

The National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) is a parastatal of Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Health. Since its inception, the Agency has made remarkable and innovative progress in the development of primary health care and improving the health and quality of life of Nigerians especially in developing communities



International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

The work of the ICRC is based on the Geneva Conventions of 1949, their Additional Protocols, its Statutes – and those of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement – and the resolutions of the International Conferences of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. The ICRC is an independent, neutral organization ensuring humanitarian protection and assistance for victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence. It takes action in



response to emergencies and at the same time promotes respect for international humanitarian law and its implementation in national law.

The ICRC Nigeria, in collaboration with the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) developed the Health Care in Danger training module. The training module was aimed to serve as a guide and source for medical trainers in Nigerian tertiary institutions when delivering lectures on the Protection of Health Care in Nigeria.



Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Ltd (SPDC)

The Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Limited (SPDC) is the pioneer and leader of the petroleum industry in Nigeria. SPDC is the operator of the NNPC/SPDC/Total Energies/NAOC Joint Venture and supplies onshore and shallow water oil and gas to domestic and export market from its operations in the Niger Delta. The health-in-motion is Shell's flagship health intervention programme that provides free comprehensive medical services for host communities in the Niger Delta.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. Established in 1973, UNFPA in Nigeria is located in the Federal Capital territory of Abuja, with four sub-offices, to respond to population issues throughout the six geo-political zones of the country: The North-West, North-East, North-Central, South-West, South-East and South-South.



World Continuing Education Alliance (WCEA)



WCEA is a social impact technology company focused on assisting low- and middle-income countries to build capacity in the training of healthcare professionals through the use of technology. This is achieved through partnerships with local stakeholders, NGO's, local and global education providers.

Future Projections

1. A functional and active AHPN State Branch in the remaining seven states in Nigeria that are either in abeyance or are yet to inaugurate an AHPN State Branch. The States include: Osun, Niger, Kebbi, Katsina, Jigawa, Yobe, and Adamawa.
2. To build a permanent AHPN secretariat named AHPN House in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. The secretariat will be manned by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO), with the full complement of an administrative team as obtained in similar organizations like the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA).

Sights from Past AHPN Conferences







APHPN Golden Jubilee Celebration Committee



Prof Vivian Omuemu
Chairman



Dr. Deboye Oyewole
Secretary



Dr. Kingsley Okafor
Member



Dr. Nonye Egenti
Member



Dr. Obiageli Okwara
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Dr. Demilade Ibirongbe
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Dr. Tolutope Falana
Secretary, Protocol, Security & Logistics

Dr. Olubukola Olajide
Chairman, Welfare/Catering Committee

Dr. Folushola Akeke
Secretary, Welfare/Catering Committee

Dr. Olorunfemi O.
Golden Jubilee Awards Committee

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Chairman, Media/ICT

Dr. Omowunmi Afolabi
Secretary, Media/ICT

Dr. Adewale Fayanju
Chairman, Accommodation/Transportation Sub-Committee

Dr. Stephen Fagbemi
Scientific/Editorial Committee

Dr. Adetumi Subulade
Scientific/Editorial Committee

Dr. Yetunde Olagbuji
Ceremonial/Organizing Committee



APHPN
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