



Dr. Chika K. Onwuamah, Ph.D. (Cell Biology and Genetics), is the head of the **Centre for Human Virology and Genomics** (formerly Human Virology Laboratory). Since

2001, this Centre, a national HIV reference laboratory, has pioneered the use of high-tech assays for diagnosing and monitoring viral infections in Nigeria.

Dr. Onwuamah commenced work here in 2005, diagnosing and monitoring markers for viral infections using ELISA and nucleic acid tests. Dr. Onwuamah supervises the sequencing of HIV-1 strains to identify drug options available for patients failing antiretroviral therapy. From the implementation of quality management system in 2006 till our accreditation in 2017, he has managed the quality assurance processes at the Centre.

In 2007, within Nigeria CRAN Dr. Onwuamah played a pivotal role in investigating the genetic basis for orofacial clefts in Nigerian children. He is interested in understanding host-pathogen-environment inter-relationships amenable to developing durable interventions. His main research interests include:

- 1) Genomics and molecular epidemiology;
- 2) Genotoxicity of antiretroviral drugs;
- 3) Quality assurance for molecular diagnostics.