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Brief Profile of



RESEARCH ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

The Nigerian Institute of Medical Research Board of Research Advisers

inaugurated on December 12th, 2017

by

Professor Babatunde Lawal Salako

MBBS(Ib), FWACP, FRCP (Edin), FRCP (Lond), MNIM

Director General / CEO

Nigerian Institute of Medical Research



Dr. Ighowwerha **OFOTOKUN**

Professor of Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine

Dr. Ighowwerha Ofotokun is a Professor of Medicine at Emory University, Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases. His career is devoted to the care for women living with HIV/AIDS, conducting translational research in HIV/AIDS, and the training of the next generation of clinician scientists. Specifically, his research focuses on antiretroviral clinical pharmacology and long-term complications of HIV disease management among HIV-infected women. His work is well supported by extramural funding and he is the Co-PI of NIH funded Atlanta Women's Interagency HIV Study (WIHS). To date, Dr. Ofotokun has served as a mentor for over 20 trainees, a majority of who have remained in academic medicine and have received major career awards, including NIH funding.



Prof. Alash'le **ABIMIKU**

Institute of Human Virology, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore

Co-founder and the Executive Director of the International Research Centre of Excellence (IRCE) at the Institute of Human Virology Nigeria (IHVN), and a Professor at the Institute of Human Virology, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore

Professor Alash'le Abimiku, is a co-founder and the Executive Director of the International Research Centre of Excellence (IRCE) at the Institute of Human Virology Nigeria (IHVN), and a Professor at the Institute of Human Virology, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore; She has over 2 decades of establishing laboratory infrastructure and science in Nigeria with long-term collaborations with the USA. Prof. Abimiku's research focuses on the role of HIV subtypes in disease pathogenesis using mother to child model; and effects of co-infections such as TB on HIV pathogenesis as a successful and funded independent researcher. Prof. Abimiku has trained a cadre of Nigerian scientists and is internationally recognized for her leadership in HIV research, and in promoting laboratory diagnostics and medicine in Africa. She played a significant role in the past as a member of the WHO HIV vaccine advisory committee and the African AIDS Vaccine Program. She currently serves as a member of the international scientific advisory group for University of Cape Town, and as Board chair of the African Society of Laboratory Medicine (ASLM).



Prof. Oni Emmanuel **IDIGBE**

Former Director General, Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR)

Professor Oni Emmanuel Idigbe. Former Director General, Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR). Professor Oni Emmanuel Idigbe is the former director general of the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) in Yaba, Lagos,

Nigeria. He became the Director General in 2000 and served until 2008. His primary research areas are tuberculosis and HIV, and he has published over 65 scientific papers.

Professor Idigbe was a founding member of IANPHI Executive Board. He has provided expertise on site visits to Uganda and Ghana and represented IANPHI at the WHO regional meeting and other events. He was also the first mentor in IANPHI's Mentorship Program and was a key presenter in the mentorship training session during the Annual Meeting. Oni Idigbe received IANPHI's first Exceptional Service Award in 2007 in appreciation of his efforts on behalf of IANPHI.

Professor Oni Emmanuel Idigbe is currently the CEO of Human Development and Public Health Initiative (HUDPHI), a non-for-profit, Non-Governmental Organization (NGO).



Prof. Martin Madu **MEREMIKWU**

Professor of Paediatrics & Clinical Epidemiology at the University of Calabar

Martin Madu Meremikwu is Professor of Paediatrics & Clinical Epidemiology at the University of Calabar and Chief Consultant Paediatrician, University of Calabar Teaching Hospital, Nigeria. Prof Meremikwu's research interests include determining effectiveness of priority health care interventions for malaria, child and reproductive health conditions. Prof Meremikwu is the current Director of Cochrane Nigeria and the Cross River Health and Demographic Surveillance System in the University of Calabar.

Professor Martin Meremikwu is a tenured Professor of Paediatrics and Child Health at the College of Medical Sciences University of Calabar in Cross River State, Nigeria where he also leads the clinical trials and evidence-based healthcare programme of the Institute of Tropical Diseases Research and Prevention. He obtained MBBCH at the University of Calabar in 1985 and a Master of Science in Mother and Child Health at the Institute of Child Health, University London, United Kingdom in 1993. He holds a specialist fellowship of the Faculty of Paediatrics of the National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria and is a Fellow of Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, United Kingdom. He has received additional training and fellowships in disease control, clinical trials, research ethics, evidence-based healthcare and research synthesis. Currently, he teaches these topics in postgraduate programs and as short courses.

He pioneered the Cross River Health and Demographic System which became an INDEPTH member site in 2013. Prof. Meremikwu served as Editor in the Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group for several years and still maintains an active link with the group by providing support to systematic review authors. He is the Director of Cochrane Nigeria and current Chair of the Nigerian National TB/HIV Technical Working Group. He was awarded the Kenneth Warren Prize for excellence in developing Cochrane systematic reviews in 2009.



Prof. Ibrahim **ABUBAKAR**

Professor, Infectious Disease Epidemiology, UCL Institute for Global Health

Professor Ibrahim Abubakar, (MBBS, DPH, MSc, PhD, FFPH, FRCPE, FRCP). A Professor in Infectious Disease Epidemiology, UCL Institute for Global Health. Professor Ibrahim Abubakar is Director of the UCL Institute for Global Health. He led the UCL Centre for Infectious Disease Epidemiology, UCL-TB and was a senior investigator at the MRC Clinical Trials Unit. He was head of TB at Public Health England. Prior to his appointment at UCL, he was Professor in Health Protection at the Norwich Medical School.

Professor Ibrahim Abubakar qualified in medicine in 1992 and initially trained in general medicine before specialising in public health medicine. His academic public health training was undertaken at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of Cambridge and the University of East Anglia. He serves on/chairs several expert/advisory groups for the WHO and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.



Dr. Sani **ALIYU**

Director General, National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA)

Dr Sani Aliyu received his MBBS degree from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria in 1993. He worked as a medical officer at State House Clinic until 1998 when he moved to the U.K. to pursue a postgraduate programme at Imperial College, London.

Dr Aliyu was appointed to the first joint training post in Infectious diseases and Medical Microbiology at Cambridge University Hospitals in 2001. He completed a Master's programme in Medical Microbiology at Queen Mary University of London in 2003 with distinction and was awarded the Draper Company Prize for the overall best graduating student. At the end of his specialist training in Cambridge, Dr Aliyu worked briefly for a year as a Consultant Microbiologist in Birmingham before returning to Cambridge University Hospitals in 2008 as the first joint consultant in Infectious diseases and Microbiology.

Dr Aliyu has membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of the UK and the Royal College of Pathologists. He is also an associate lecturer at Cambridge University. Dr Aliyu was until his recent appointment the Caldicott Guardian responsible for information governance and the Trust lead for antimicrobials at Cambridge University Hospitals.

He currently serves as the national Chair of the ID SCE Exam board responsible for the delivery of Infectious diseases exit exams for trainees in the UK.



Prof. Ayo MJ **ODUOLA**

Professor & Director at the Postgraduate Institute for Medical Research (IMRAT),
College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan

Ayoade MJ Oduola recently retired as Coordinator for Stewardship and Capacity Building for Research at the Special Program for Research and Training on Tropical Diseases at the World Health Organisation (WHO/TDR). He served as Professor and Director at the Postgraduate Institute for Medical Research (IMRAT), College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

He received a US National Research Council (NRC) Fellowship and worked as an Investigator at the Water Reed Army Institute for Research, Washington DC, USA. His research focused on drug discovery and drug resistance in parasitic diseases and applications of biotechnologies. As a Coordinator at TDR, he managed and led several research and capacity building initiatives including regional training centers for bioinformatics created by the Committee on Pathogenesis and Applied Genomics located at University of Sao Paulo, Brazil; South African National Bioinformatics Institute (SANBI), Cape Town, South Africa and CBAG, Mahidol University, Thailand, the South-south Initiative for research on infectious diseases; High Level Ministerial Forum for research on infectious diseases of poverty, and TropIKA.net, a platform for research information sharing (www.tropika.net). He led a team that produced the Global Report for Research on Infectious Diseases launched by the European Commission in April 2012. Oduola continues his research on infectious diseases and facilitating strategic roles for leaders of affected populations through Universities and initiatives in West Africa including the West Africa Institute for Research on Infectious Diseases of Poverty (IIDP/IRPM).



Prof. Oladosu A. **OJENGBEDE**

Consultant Obstetrics/Gynaecology & Director, Center for Population & Reproductive Health
University College Hospital Ibadan, Ibadan.

Professor Oladosu A. Ojengbede is a Consultant in Obstetrics/Gynaecology and Director of the Center for Population and Reproductive Health at the University College Hospital Ibadan. In the past 5 years, he has been engaged in research into a number of interventional studies for reducing maternal/neonatal morbidity and mortality with the objective of identifying or developing best practices for replication. He has actively pursued the development of training manuals in reproductive health for health care providers and has extensive experience in developing and implementing population-based studies.

Professor Oladosu A. Ojengbede has close partnerships with Nigerian Population Commission of Oyo state (where Ibadan is located), community leaders, and community advocacy organizations. Breast cancer because of its link to a woman's reproductive health has become an increasing focus of my work. He participate in the training of postgraduate resident doctors for the FMCOG, FWACS, and MRCOG Programs by giving lectures, tutorials and conducting clinical teaching rounds. He has also participated in technical training of the residents.

He supervised and co-supervised many dissertations, M.Sc. and PhD thesis. In addition he has also served as examiner in final assessment of M. Phil, PhD projects in various disciplines in the University such as Public Health, Health Education and Psychology. In the past 20years, he has been involved in training Physicians, Midwives and Community Extension Workers in EOC services towards improving birthing and delivery processes and procedures.

He has also served as Consultant and Facilitator to train Physicians and Nurses in Management (including prevention and reintegration of Fistula Patients in Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia and South Sudan). He is actively involved in teaching and training of Medical Students, Nursing and Midwifery students, and students of Federal Training Centre for Teachers of Health Sciences. In the past 5 years, he has been engaged with research into a number of interventional studies for reducing maternal/ neonatal morbidity and mortality with the objective of identifying or developing best practices for replication.

Professor Oladosu A. Ojengbede has also actively pursued the development of training manuals in reproductive health for health care providers. Training models have also been designed and tested.



Prof. Oyewusi **GUREJE**

Professor of Psychiatry & Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health, Neuroscience, Drug and Alcohol Abuse, UI, Ibadan, Nigeria

Oye Gureje, MBBS, MSc, PhD, DSc, FRCPsych, FRANZCP, FWACP, is a Professor of Psychiatry and Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health, Neuroscience, Drug and Alcohol Abuse, University of Ibadan, Nigeria and Professor Extraordinary, Department of Psychiatry, Stellenbosch University, South Africa.

He is a member of the WHO International Advisory Group for the Revision of ICD-10 Chapter on Mental and Behavioral Disorders, Chair of the Workgroup on Somatic Distress and Dissociative Disorders and Vice Chair of the Field Studies Coordinating Group of the revision exercise. He is a past President of the Association of Psychiatrists in Nigeria and of the African Association of Psychiatrists and Allied Professions.

Professor Gureje is a member of the Editorial Board of several journals including International Review of Psychiatry, Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology, Drug and Alcohol Dependence, Epidemiology and Psychiatric Services and Lancet Psychiatry. He has been active in global mental health for over two decades with leadership roles in several collaborative studies in epidemiology, randomized controlled trials and health system strengthening. He plays a leading role in mental health policy development in Nigeria as the Chair of the Federal Ministry of Health's Mental Health Action Committee.

A Fellow of the Nigeria Academy of Science, he was, in 2008, conferred with Nigeria's highest award for academic achievement, the Nigeria National Order of Merit, by the country's President for his contributions to medicine.



Mohammed Danjuma **GOJE**

Former Executive Governor and Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Mohammed Danjuma Goje, former Governor and Senator of the Federal Republic of Nigeria was born on October 10, 1952, in Kashere, in Akko Local Government Area of Gombe State, Nigeria. Danjuma Goje attended the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU), Zaria where he graduated with a degree in Political Science. He began his political journey by being a member of the Bauchi State house of Assembly from 1979 to 1983.

He went ahead to work as the secretary of the National Institute for Medical Research in Yaba, Lagos State from 1984 to 1989. Danjuma Goje subsequently became the Chairman and Managing Director of the company established by him, Zaina Nigeria Limited which he named after his mother, Hajiya Zainab. He ran the company from 1989 to 1999. Danjuma Goje contested for the seat of Senator in the Nigerian National Assembly in 1998 and later on became the Minister of State, Power and Steel from 1999-2001 under President Olusegun Obasanjo led administration.

In 2003, he was elected Governor of Gombe State, Nigeria. He was in office from 2003 to 2011. In the April 2011 elections, Muhammed Danjuma Goje competed successfully to be elected Senator for Gombe Central on the PDP ticket. He however later defected to the All Progressive Congress (APC). In the 2015 elections, he again contested for the senatorial seat for Gombe Central and won. This time around, under the platform of the APC.



Dr. Olajide **IDRIS**

Honourable Commissioner for Health for Lagos State, Nigeria

Dr. Olajide Idris is the Commissioner for Health for Lagos State. He is responsible for health care planning, health policy formulation, implementation as well as supervising health service delivery in the State. Under his leadership, initially as Permanent Secretary and recently as Chief Executive, the Lagos State's Health system has been significantly upgraded, through a comprehensive Health Sector Reform agenda covering systems reorganization, human resource development, and infrastructural development, revitalization of the primary care system, healthcare financing, health promotion and disease prevention activities.

Dr. Idris has over 30 years' experience in Medical Practice, Healthcare Systems Management, Consulting, Pharmaceutical and Research. He has worked as a medical doctor in his early and mid-career stages at hospitals and for private companies in Nigeria. His primary research and publications have been in the cardiology field as a post-doctoral research fellow at the Columbia University, USA.

Dr. Idris attended the highly respected King's College, Lagos, Nigeria. He is a graduate of the College of Medicine of the University of Lagos, Nigeria, obtained his Master of Public Health (MPH) degree from the Yale University, Connecticut, USA, and was a post-doctoral research fellow at the Columbia University, New York, USA. Dr. Idris led the Lagos State response team in mobilizing the resources, coordinating the collaboration with the Federal Government of Nigeria and other International partners in the rapid containment of the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in Lagos, Nigeria. He is a member of the American Public Health Association, the Nigerian Medical Association and a Board member, University of Ibadan Research Foundation as well as the Health Reform Foundation of Nigeria. He enjoys listening to jazz and playing golf.



Dr. Echezona Edozie **EZEANOLUE**

Executive Director, NPHCDA

Dr Ezeanolue is Professor of Pediatrics and Epidemiology at the School of Community Health Sciences, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He is the Director of UNLV Global Health Initiatives. His research focuses on the use of implementation science to enhance the quality and effectiveness of maternal child health services. Dr Ezeanolue has several projects funded by private, state and federal agencies including HRSA, CDC and NIH. The comprehensive maternal-

child HIV program he directs has been instrumental to the reduction in mother-to-child HIV transmission in Southern Nevada with no document perinatal HIV transmission among infants born to program participants since 2007. The NIH/PEPFAR funded Baby Shower Trial demonstrated that the Healthy Beginning Initiative, a congregation-based intervention can be an effective framework for maternal-child health interventions in resource-limited settings. He serves on numerous national committees including the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), NIH study sections, American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Committee on Pediatric AIDS, Patient Centered Outcome Research Initiative (PCORI). Dr Ezeanolue has been recognized as Nevada Public Health Leader of the Year (2007), Nevada Health Care Hero (2008), Nevada Immunization Champion (2009) and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Local Hero (2010) for his contributions to Public Health.

Professor Ezeanolue was recently appointed by President Muhammadu Buhari to hold sway as the new Executive Director of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA).



Prof. Stanley N. C. **ANYANWU**

West African College of Surgeons Fellow,
American College of Surgeons & International College of Surgeons

Professor Stanley N C Anyanwu is a Fellow of the West African College of Surgeons, American College of Surgeons and International College of Surgeons. Stanley joined the services of Nnamdi Azikiwe University Medical School in 1989 as Foundation Lecturer in Surgery and Anatomy, and as a Consultant Surgeon at the Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital, Nnewi. He rose through the ranks to be given a Chair in Surgery in October 2000. Professor Anyanwu served the University severally as Head, Department of Surgery, and as Dean, Faculty of Medicine and is currently the Chairman of the University Central Ethics Committee.

Professor Anyanwu has published more than 70 papers in various peer-reviews journals especially in his sub-specialty of Breast Oncology. He served as External Examiner to the Universities of Jos, Calabar, Benin City, Port Harcourt, Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, LAUTECH Osogbo, Imo State University, Orlu and University of Nigeria, Enugu Campus. He has also served as Examiner since 1997 at various levels for National Postgraduate Medical College and since 2000 for the West African College of Surgeons. He has served as Professorial Assessor to the Universities of Lagos, Ibadan, Port Harcourt, Benin City, Ahmadu Bello, Maiduguri, Calabar, LAUTECH Osogbo and to University of Ghana, Legon and Kwame Nkrumah University, Kumasi

Professor Anyanwu has led several Accreditations teams to various institutions on behalf of Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria, National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria and West African College of Surgeons. He has also served the National Postgraduate Medical College as Faculty Board member for Surgery from 1993, 3rd Senate member from 1997 till 2003 and Chairman Faculty of Surgery between 2011 and 2015. He served the Medical Profession as Secretary, ARD UNTH Enugu and Chairman, MDCAN NAUTH Nnewi. He also served MDCAN in many offices culmination in National Presidency between 2000 and 2003. Professor Anyanwu belongs to several professional bodies including Breast Surgery International, American Society of Breast Disease, American Society of Breast Surgeons, American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Association for Cancer Research, International Surgical Society, European Society of Medical Oncology, Nigerian Surgical Research Society and Association of Surgeons of Nigeria. He was a founder of the International Breast Disease Centres based in Paris and served an International Vice President of Senologic International Society [representing the continent of Africa]. He is currently Editor in Chief on the Nigerian Journal of Clinical Practice and of the Nigerian Journal of Surgery [both indexed with PUBMED]. He has also served as Editor in Chief of the Nigerian Medical Journal and sits on the Editorial Board of many journals including Journal of Breast health based in Turkey, SIS journal based in Brazil, Nigeria Postgraduate Medical Journal and Tropical Journal of Medical Research. A widely travelled all continents and geographical regions of the world either as a travelling fellow or to present seminal papers. Professor Anyanwu is the Treasurer, National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria



Prof. M. B. **SHITTU**

Professor Muhammad Bello Shitu, a Community Development and Innovations Diffusion Specialist holds a PhD Rural Development with specialization in Community Development. Highly experienced teacher, facilitator and researcher with teaching and research experience in community development, innovations diffusion, rural

development, health & development, and Community participation in education, health and environment. He has supported some state governments in Nigeria through PATHS2 and MNCH2 projects to facilitate the development of Community Participation in Health policy guidelines, institutionalization framework for Facility Health Committees, MNCH Steering Committee Operational Guidelines among others. He has been involved with the development of community literacy action guides for RANA/FHI360/UNICEF project in Nigeria.

He is currently a Professor in the Department of Adult Education and Community Services, Bayero University Kano, Nigeria, and the President/CEO of the Institute of Community Development Practitioners (www.icdpnigeria.org) Nigeria. He is also the Chairman/Team Leader of an NGO, Inclusive Community Education & Development Association (www.iceada.org) based in Kano, Nigeria. He has served as consultant on various programmes/projects for USAID, DFID, World Bank, IITA, UNICEF, and Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA), as well as the Nigeria Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC) in the area of education, health, social development, Community participation, climate change and literacy. Prof Shitu is also the Regional Director/Board Member representing Sub-Saharan Africa and Vice President of the International Association for Community Development (www.iacdglobal.org) based in Scotland, UK (IACD).