

A Publication of the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Gwagwalada - Abuja. Volume 7, No. 1, January-March, 2024



#### **HIGHLIGHTS!**

- Engr. Bala Mangut Emerges Best Staff of the Year
- NASS Pays Oversight Visit to UATH
- Dr Fatima Kyari Appointed MDCN Registrar
- Management Meets with Consultants and Union Leaders
- **▶ UATH Resident Doctors Win Prizes at WACS Sierra Leone Conference**
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#### UATH BOARD OF MANAGEMENT (2018 - 2023)

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# From the Editorial Desk

ermit me to wish us a Happy New Year (2024), since this is our first Bulletin for the year. It's our hope that we shall keep fit and stay in good health full of happiness and excitement. In this edition Vol 7 No1 Jan-March, 2024, we promise you an interesting time. Our Guest Column has a write up by the celebrated literary guru, **Lasis Olagunji** on a very topical issue!

As it is the tradition, our SERVICOM Unit organized a Staff Award ceremony to deserving staff members and corporate organizations in December 2023. Fifty-four (54) staff from different departments and units were recognised and honoured in a colourful ceremony which had visiting Chief Medical Directors and Medical Directors of Federal Tertiary Institutions as Special Guests. The climax of the ceremony was the commissioning and allocation of six (6) one-bedroom flats at the Junior Staff quarters (Workers Village), to six lucky junior staff members by balloting. The block of flats was deservedly named after the 2023 overall BEST STAFF - Engr Bala Mangut.

We celebrate one of our own, Associate Professor Fatima Kyari, Consultant Ophthalmologist, who was appointed Registrar, Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) by President Bola Tinubu. We congratulate the Registrar and wish her an impactful tenure! This edition also captured Management meetings with Consultants; the newly recruited Resident Doctors and the meeting with in-house union leaders of JOHESU, ARD and NANNM.

This first quarter witnessed courtesy visits by individuals and organisations such as the CBN, the new Controller of Correctional Centre, FCT Command and Rotary Club of Abuja. We also had



an accreditation team from the National Post Graduate Medical College of Nigeria to the Department of Family Dentistry. We had visitors from the Medical Research Council, Gambia in collaboration to conduct Lassa fever vaccine study in Nigeria.

On our social diary segment, we have the award to the Pharmacist Garba Mohammed by the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria; the Prize award to **Dr Amina** 

**Buba** as the best candidate at the 2023 WACS Fellowship examinations in the speciality of Urology and **Dr Abiola Adejumo** clinching the Professor Boadu's Prize in Anaesthesia at the Freetown, Siera Leone Conference.

UATH MDCAN, as a mark of tribute and respect to a former Head of Histopathology, Late Dr. Bawa Abimiku, organised a procession in his honour on the 10th of January, 2024 which has been captured in this edition.

On a sad note, we lost Mrs. Laraba Mathias, a Chief Clerical Officer; Malam Musa Ibrahim, a Driver/Mechanic; Pharm. Gamde Samson David, a Principal Pharmacist and Nurse Blessing Abdullahi to the cold hands of death. May their souls rest in peace.

Meanwhile, relax and enjoy this first quarter package. Happy reading.!!!

#### 'GUEST COLUMN'

#### KUMUYI, TORTOISE AND LOOTERS OF NOODLES

By Lasisi Olagunju

ise old Tortoise sat his children down. "My dear ones, two things are essential for your growth and wellbeing in life: Always tell the truth, and never ever take whatever is not yours." The attentive children nodded; they promised to do as their father counselled. They bowed before their dad and left. Four years down the road, there was a severe famine in the land. Food was as scarce as masquerade's shit. Husbands bartered their wives for grains; wives traded their husbands for a basket of yam. It was as bad as Ireland's Great Hunger of 1845 which killed one million out of a population of eight million people.

Upright Tortoise's household was hit by this mother-of-all-famines. There were casualties in his neighborhood. His own children may soon join the fallen. Tortoise panicked. What was he going to do? He talked to himself. He went out one day and came back home with a solution to hunger in his home. On his head was a big basket containing a variety of food items. Tortoise told his children that he found the foodstuffs abandoned in the forest. "It must have been God at work," he told his children. His disappointed children exchanged looks. They knew that their father had just lied. He stole the items and they told him so: "Father, but you told us never to take what is not ours, and never to lie." Embarrassed, Tortoise could only mutter some incoherent words. Then he found his voice: "I did it for you, my children. These are terrible times."

This last Friday at a place called Dogarawa near Zaria, a truck driver transporting cartons of noodles thought it was time to say his Jumat prayers. He parked his BUA truck and joined the congregation. Like predatory soldier ants swarming a bunch of palm nuts, an army of looters invaded the truck and stripped it of every item it was carrying. "Not a single carton of the noodles the truck was carrying was left by the hoodlums," an eyewitness told a

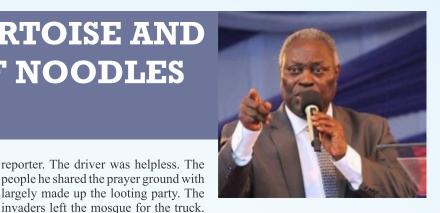
people he shared the prayer ground with largely made up the looting party. The invaders left the mosque for the truck. They were contemptuous of the law and disdainful of morality. They had no fear of God to whom they prayed. They chose food over faith. "Ba imani (they have no faith)," a disappointed man who video-recorded the event lamented. Ten of the looters were arrested. I will be shocked if the looters agree that they committed any offence. People react differently to hunger. Dirty, hungry Tortoise tells the soap hawker at his backyard: "When I have not washed my inside, how can I wash my outside?" Last December, the General Superintendent of the Deeper Life Bible Church, Pastor William Folorunso Kumuyi, asked members of his church to redirect their offerings from the church to the poor and the needy in their communities. He said: "All the offerings are not just for the church. There are poor people around. There are unemployed people around. There are indigent people around. We must build our campground - I understand; we are going to build it. But, while you are building (the church), your neighbours are dying. Those who do not have anything to feed are there. Your brothers, your sisters have nothing to send their children to school. Which one comes first when your house is leaking and your mother is dying? How will you spend it (your money) -mending the leaking room or taking care of your mother?" He said his church would go back to "the good old days" when religion served God by taking care of the poor. And, truly,

Pastor Kumuyi's sermon was a breath of fresh air. In that short message, he radically redefined religion's engagement with the people. The former should subsidise the latter; it should not be the other way round. I am

unlike now, the poor used to have a

space in the heart of priests and

prophets.



not a member of Kumuyi's church and, so, I do not know how far he has gone in making real what he said on the pulpit. But he did well and should not be alone. Others, particularly the Imams of northern Nigeria, should extend their mandates beyond leading prayers and mobilising the poor for politics. A Jumat service and a looting spree happened at the same place, same time in Zaria last Friday. How else do we define failure of religion? People are stealing to survive. Pastors are losing their flock to satanic fodders; Imams are losing their followers to grains of haram.

Nigeria can't be tired of helping the poor. Forget about the government and its voodoo economics on subsidy. The social consequences of mass hunger are never pleasant. The developed world today has various social safety nets for vulnerable families and individuals in poverty. The society that does this is neither stupid nor is it a spendthrift. It has simply come to accept that people can be poor without being hungry. My people say when hunger is removed from poverty, poverty is dead. Looting of stores and trucks are bad omens. These acts nudge us to wake up and act responsibly. We may not eradicate poverty but every good society, from the earliest times, knows that the way to peace and security is in taking starvation out of people's poverty.

We should give a helping hand to our neighbour. The times are really hard. Let us help the poor and the needy. Nothing is too small!

#### God bless!

\*The original article was published in Nigeria Tribune of March 4, 2024.

#### **PRESIDENT TINUBU APPOINTS** DR FATIMA KYARI AS MDCN REGISTRAR



n furtherance of his determination to bring world class standards to Nigerian public health administration and regulatory frameworks commensurate with best international practice, President Bola Ahmed Tinubu approved the appointment of Dr. Fatima Kyari as the Chief Executive Officer/Registrar of the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN)

Fatima Kyari is an Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Director of the Institute for Advanced Medical Research and Training (IAMRAT) at the University of Abuja. She is an Honorary Consultant Ophthalmologist and Clinical Glaucoma Lead at the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Gwagwalada, Abuja, Nigeria.

She has a strong public health background, and has applied academic knowledge beyond academia having been involved in international policy development and strategy forums, including the editorial committee of the WHO's "World Report on Vision," and as lead consultant for the "Nigeria National Eye Health Policy" and the "Nigeria National Glaucoma Guideline and Toolkit."

In a voluntary role, Fatima is a subregional co-Chair (West Africa) for the International

Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), and a member of the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of IAPB. She is involved in high level advocacy, influencing decision-makers on eye health policy and planning in Nigeria and globally. She chairs the Glaucoma Society of Nigeria (GSN).

We congratulate her on this well-deserved appointment and wish her an impactful tenure at the MDCN.

#### MANAGEMENT MEETS WITH CONSULTANTS **AND UNION LEADERS ON VISION 2024**

he Chief Medical Director, Prof. Bissallah Ekele and other management staff met with consultants and union leaders of the hospital with the aim to promote service delivery and achieve the Managements desired goals for the year 2024.

CMD in his presentation highlighted the expectations for 2024 to include; the Remediation Training for Foreign Trained Medical Graduates anchored by the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN); upgrade and expansion of Electronic Medical Records; more subspecialty out-patient clinics (at least twice a week for each subspecialty) and full accreditation of all subspecialities. Others include continuous human capital development; renovation of the Paediatrics Medical Ward; Consultants' Office Block II to be completed and occupied; purchase CT scan & MRI machines; furnishing of the ENT and Mental Health Block, and to start Tissue typing and Endourology services.

CMAC, Dr Bob Ukonu, in an earlier presentation highlighted the achievements of 2023 to include; procurement of an operating Microscope for Neurosurgery; C-ARM machine for Orthopaedics; new Gastroscope for Gastroenterology Unit; OCT machine for Ophthalmology; Endoscopy accessories; basic



CMD Addressing the Consultants at the Consultative Meeting



IVF equipment; and a new 850KVA generator...

Similarly, the CMD tasked the Union leaders to ensure industrial harmony, imbibe good conduct, and adhere to the ethics of the professions to help promote service delivery.

Mrs. Modupe Adebanjo,

Director of Administration, UATH, in her remarks called on the union leaders to exhibit good conduct and adhere to the guiding principles of unionism as their demands would be looked into to help promote service delivery in the hospital. The in-house unions that attended the interaction include JOHESU, ARD, and NANNM.

#### NASS PAYS OVERSIGHT VISIT TO UATH

Representative Members, Public Accounts Committee in the 10th National Assembly have visited the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital (UATH), Gwagwalada, FCT, to supervise equipment purchased for 2020 COVID-19 appropriated funds by the Federal Government to the hospital.

The House of Representative Committee members who were on an oversight function included; Hon. Stanley

he House of Olajide Adedeji, as the Committee Chairman, Hon. Ojema Ojotu, Hon. Sean Dzuatynzyom, Hon. Abdulraman Ajiya and Hon. Sanni Ejidi Abdulkareem.

> Hon. Stanley Olajide Adedeji, while reading the breakdown on the COVID-19 appropriated funds, said money was released for the procurement of Molecular Laboratory equipment; equipping of the 10 bedded Intensive Care Unit (ICU); purchase of equipment at the Isolation Centre;

procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and installation and repairs of Oxygen plant.

The Committee members were taken round the facilities by the Chief Medical Director, Professor Bissallah A. Ekele and some Top Management staff and were satisfied with what was on ground!



# UATH CELEBRATES 2024 BABY OF THE YEAR

he Management of UATH, Gwagwalada, on Wednesday, February 14, 2024 awarded gift items to Alif Yusuf (M) and Nahid Yusuf (F), both twins and delivered in the hospital as the first babies of the year 2024.

Alif Yusuf was delivered at 7.47a.m. with a weight of 2.7kg while Mahid Yusuf was delivered at 8.05am with 2.8kg weight to Mr/Mrs Ibrahim Abdulahi Yusuf.

The Chairman, Medical Advisory Committee (CMAC), Dr. Bob Ukonu who represented the CMD while presenting the gift items to the parents, prayed that the children will grow and become responsible citizens for the development of the country. Mr Ibrahim Abdulahi Yusuf, father of the twins, thanked UATH for the gift items and promised to take good care of the children to the best of his ability.

The presentation of the gift items was witnessed by the Head of Department of Nursing, Mrs. Rose Musa, the Unit manager, Mary Yusuf Ibrahim, Nurse Shuaibu Safiya, Nurse Abdulahi Aisha - the midwives that took the delivery.





Mr and Mrs. Ibrahim Abdulahi Yusuf (parents) of the Twins

#### **CENTRAL BANK OF NIGERIA SUPPORTS INDIGENT PATIENTS**

n 27th of December, 2023, staff of the Central Bank of Nigeria, Abuja branch, under the auspices of the Corporate Social Responsibility Committee paid a courtesy visit to the UATH and donated the sum of 1,000,000 (one million naira) to indigent patients. They were received at the Board Room by the CMD, Professor Bissallah A. Ekele; the CMAC, Dr. Bob Ukonu, and members of the Indigent Patients Welfare Committee of the Hospital.

Professor Ekele appreciated and commended them for their concern towards the plight of the patients and for choosing UATH as the donor site. Earlier, the leader of the team, Mr. Dawa Mohammed said they were in the hospital as representatives of the Corporate Social Responsibility Committee of CBN to alleviate the suffering

and settle the bills of some of the patients.

The CBN officials were later taken to some of the wards to include: female medical, postnatal, male and female surgical and paediatrics wards where they made cash donations to the patients.



CBN staff with the CMD, Prof. B. A. Ekele (middle) during the Visit

#### **COURTESY VISIT BY THE NEW CONTROLLER OF NIGERIAN CORRECTIONAL SERVICE, FCT COMMAND**

ollowing the recent changes in the leadership of the Nigerian Correctional Service, FCT Command, Abuja, the new Controller of Correctional Service, Francis John accompanied by some Principal staff officers on the 17th of January, 2023 paid a courtesy visit to the Chief Medical Director, Prof. Bissallah Ekele.

Francis John, while stating the purpose of his visit deeply appreciated the Management of UATH for their tireless care and treatment towards their staff and

especially the inmates whenever they sought medical attention at the hospital.

He further stated that the FCT correctional command is saddled with the responsibilities of reforming, transformation and rehabilitation of inmates in FCT solicited for synergy when referrals are made to UATH from their facility.

The Chief Medical Director, who was ably represented by the Chairman Medical Advisory Committee, Dr Bob Ukonu heartily welcomed Controller Francis John and said it was a 'delight having such distinguished guests in UATH.

He further commended the Controller for his proactiveness towards his inmates and assured him that any staff or inmate brought into the facility will be given proper treatment. Dr Ukonu also stated that it is vice versa as UATH could need help



The new Controller of the Correctional Services, F.C.T command, Francis John (3rd from right) with the CMAC, Dr. Bob Ukonu (3rd from left)

### STAFF AWARD FOR THE YEAR 2023

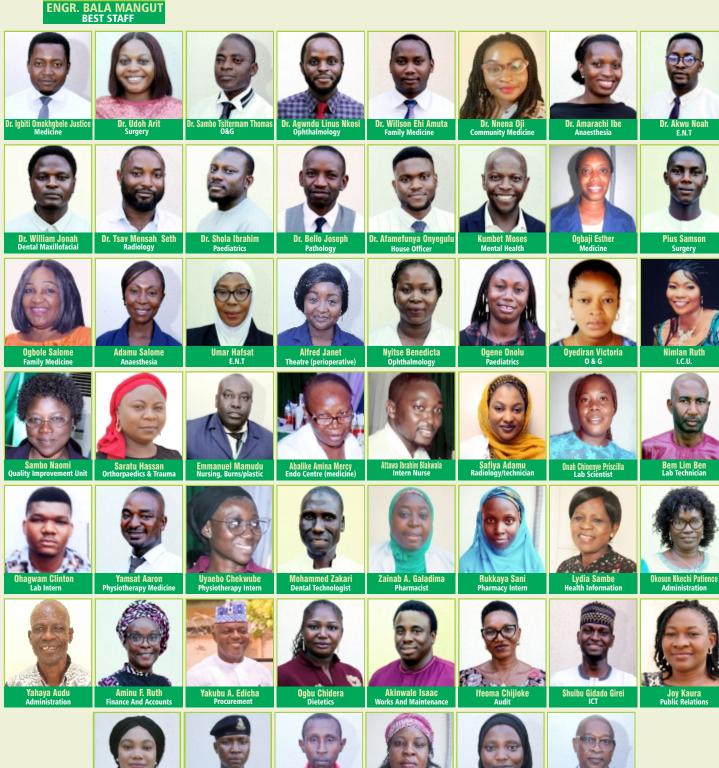




**BEST DEPARTMENT/UNIT: EMERGENCY PEDIATRICS UNIT (EPU) BEST NGO: MÉDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (MSF)** 

(Doctors Without Boarders)





#### **2023 UATH STAFF AWARDEES**

SN	NAME	DEPARTMENT			
	PHYSICIANS				
1	DR. IGBITI OMOKHGBELE JUSTICE	MEDICINE			
2	DR. UDOH ARIT	SURGERY			
3	DR. SAMBO TSITERMAN	O & G			
4	DR. AGWNDU LINUS NKOSI	OPHTHALMOLOGY			
5	DR. WILLSON EHI AMUTA	FAMILY MEDICINE			
6	DR. NNENA OJI	COMMUNITY MEDICINE			
7	DR. AMARACHI IBE	ANAESTHESIA			
8	DR. AKWU NOAH	ENT			
9	DR. WILLIAM JONAH	DENTAL MAXILLOFACIAL			
10	DR. TSAV MENSAH SETH	RADIOLOGY			
11	DR. SHOLA IBRAHIM	PAEDIATRICS			
12	DR. BELLO JOSEPH	PATHOLOGY			
13	DR. KUMBET MOSES	MENTAL HEALTH			
14	DR. AFAMEFUNYA ONYEGULU	BEST HOUSE OFFICER			
NURSES					
15	OGBAJI ESTHER	MEDICINE			
16	PIUS SAMSON	SURGERY			
17	OGBOLE SALOME	FAMILY MEDICINE			
18	ADAMU SALOME	ANAESTHESIA			
19	UMAR HAFSAT	ENT			
20	ALFRED JANET	THEATRE (PERIOPERATIVE)			
21	NYITSE BENEDICTA	OPHTHALMOLOGY			
22	OGENE ONOLU	PAEDIATRICS			
23	OYEDIRAN VICTORIA	O&G			
24	NIMLAN RUTH	ICU			
25	SAMBO NAOMI	QUALITY IMPROVEMENT UNIT			
26	SARATU HASSAN	ORTHOPEADICS & TRAUMA			
27	EMMANUEL MAMUDU	NURSING, BURNS/PLASTIC			
28	ABALIKE AMINA MERCY	ENDOCRINE CENTER			

28	ABALIKE AMINA MERCY	ENDOCRINE CENTER		
29	GLADYS ISHABOR	AMENITY		
30	ATTAWA IBRAHIM BLAKWALA	BEST INTERN NURSE		
OTHER DEPARTMENTS				
31	SAFIYA ADAMU	IMAGING SCIENCE RADIOGRAPHY		
32	ONAH CHINENYE PRISCILLA	LAB. SCIENCE		
33	BEM LIM BEN	LAB. TECHNICIAN		
34	OHAGWAM CLINTON	BEST LAB. INTERN		
35	YAMSAT AARON	PHYSIOTHERAPY		
36	UYAEBO CHEKWUBE	BEST PHYSIOTHERAPY INTERN		
37	MOHAMMED ZAKARI	DENTAL TECHNOLOGY		
38	ZAINAB A. GALADIMA	PHARMACY		
39	RUKKAYA SANI	BEST PHARMACY INTERN		
40	LYDIA SAMBE	HEALTH INFORMATION		
41	OKOSUN NKECHI PATIENCE	ADMINISTRATION		
42	YAHAYA AUDU	ADMINISTRATION		
43	OMINU R. RUTH	FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS		
44	YAKUBU A. EDICHA	PROCUREMENT		
45	OGBU CHIDERA	DIETETICS		
46	AKINWALE ISAAC	WORKS AND ENGINEERING		
47	IFEOMA CHIJIOKE	AUDIT		
48	SHAIBU GIDADO GIREI	ICT		
49	JOY KAURA	PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT		
50	NIMMYEL FELIX	CROWN SECURITY		
51	AHMED DAUDA	ICON		
52	RACHEL YAHAYA	OCHIJA		
53	AISHA UMAR DARAZO	NYSC MEMBER		
54	MR. NATHAN ELIAS	GRET SPECIA, RECORMINE		
55	ENGR. BALA MANGUT	BEST STAFF OF THE YEAR 2023		
		<u> </u>		

NGO OF THE YEAR 2024: MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES

#### THE BEST STAFF OF THE YEAR 2023



ngr. Mabas Bala Mangut is a COREN certified Engineer and member of the Nigerian Society of Engineers (NSE). He hails from Bokkos Local Government Area of Plateau State and attended Local Education Authority (LEA) Primary School, Mbar. Bokkos LGA and Nakam Memorial Secondary School, Panyam, Plateau State.

He holds a National Diploma (OND) in Civil Engineering from Plateau State Polytechnic, Barkin Ladi, a Higher National Diploma (HND) in Civil Engineering from Kaduna Polytechnic Kaduna, and a Post Graduate Diploma (PGD) in Civil Engineering (Water Resources) from Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi. He is currently pursuing Master's Degree in Engineering from Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University, Bauchi.

Engr. Bala started his career as a project supervisor with Nkems Building and Civil Engineering Company, Kaduna in 1992, a Project Site Engineer with Dakus International Building and Civil Engineering Company, Jos, Plateau State in 1993. In 1994, he got employment with the Plateau State Ministry of Education and Plateau State Primary Education Board as Head of Section, Works in 1995. He was employed by the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital in 1998 where he rose to the rank of Director and Head of Department, Works and Engineering where he retired after 35 years of meritorious service.

His hard work and dedication to duty has earned him several awards that include: Departmental Best Student Award 1991 from the Department of Civil Engineering, Kaduna Polytechnic; Best Staff of the year Award 1995 from Government Secondary School Ropp, Plateau State; Award of Recognition 2021 from the Church of Christ in Nations Youth Fellowship Kutunkul Gwagwalada, Abuja; Excellency Award 2023 from Global Watch Magazine Abuja and now the UATH Best Staff of the year Award 2023.

He diligently supervised the construction of the very many elegant buildings and renovations of structures in UATH over the past seven years under the leadership of the CMD, Prof BA Ekele. It is to his credit that a Junior Staff Quarters was built at the Workers Village which was appropriately named after him. He is happily married and blessed with Children.

# DONORS AND UATH SUPPORTERS FOR THE 1ST QUARTER OF 2024

Management sincerely appreciates the generosity of the following individuals/ organization for their kind donations/ support toward our patients and the hospital.

S/N	NAME OF ORGANIZATION	DONATION (S)
1	Central Bank of Nigeria	N1,000,000
2	The STEM cuddle school Abuja	N3,000,000
3	PSHI Initiative for public health	Diabench Rapid all in -one- Rapid blood type and infections combo test kits.
4	NLNG	2 Incubators; (Neonatal respiratory support devices)
5	Tribem pharmaceutical company	Injection Amoxicillin/clavulanic acid 1.2g 100 vials.
6	Nazel Radiation Ltd, Jabi, Abuja.	N257,000
7	NCDC	Lassa Fever Drugs and commodities
8		



#### **MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL GAMBIA PAYS COURTESY VISIT**

he Medical Research Institute of Human Virology Nigeria, paid a courtesy visit to the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Gwagwalada, FCT, with an aim to conduct a Lassa fever vaccine study in Nigeria.

The Research Evaluation Manager, Dr. Nakiorobo during the visit, said UATH being a long standing collaborator is one of the site the organizations wish opportunity to meet with the

highly supportive Management.

According to him, the essence of the visit to UATH was to look for more opportunities to Research Council Gambia and also build a good partnership with the Hospital.

The Chief medical Director of UATH, Prof. Bissallah Ekele, was represented by the Chairman, Medical Advisory Committee (CMAC), Dr. Bob Ukonu who was glad and delighted to receive both teams.

Dr. Ukonu maintained that UATH has been in partnership Virology, Nigeria for close to 20 years which according to him have brought a lot of development in the hospital

Among the Departments visited Molecular Research Laboratory, Special Treatment Clinic, Gynaecology Department and New Accident and Emergency Unit.



he CMAC, Dr. Bob Ukonu (middle) with Representatives of IHVN

# NGOs DONATE BLOOD SCREENING KITS TO UATH

he Progressive Standard of Health Initiative (PSHI) in partnership with AFAS, a Singapore based NGO, donated blood screening kits called DIABENCH to the University of Abuja Teaching h o s p i t a l, (UATH), Gwagwalada, FCT.

The Founding Director of AFAS Foundation, Pamy Chin during the donation said both Organisations goals are aimed at supporting health care facilities, strengthening diagnosis value chain and make provision for basic health care commodities

in the country.

According to Pamy, the two organisations have a common objective to seek and bridge the gap in field blood screening and reduce wastage.

The Project Manager of PSHI, Mr Iheanacho Nkwachi, said the donation would be a continued process to help improve health care services in the country whose mandate is to deliver zero or subsidies diagnostic services to her subscribers.

The Deputy Chairman, Medical Advisory Committee - Training (DCMAC), Prof. Aliyu Yabagi

Isah, who represented UATH Management commended the organisations and said the donations would go a long way to impact positively on the health and wellbeing of patients in the hospital.

The PSHI team included, Chichi Chen as AFAS Coordinator, Nnaji Ihioma, PSHI media officer, Ikena Adukye, PSHI Admin Officer and Miss Nicole the AFAS manager.



Prof Aliyu Isah, DCMAC -Training (3rd from left) with Representatives of Progressive Standard of Health Initiative (PSHI) and AFAS

#### **ROTARY CLUB, ABUJA METRO PAYS COURTESY VISIT TO UATH**

he Rotary International Club 9125 Abuja, Metro paid a courtesy visit to the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Gwagwalada, Abuja with the aim of donating "hearing aid equipment" to ENT Department the hospital.

The Spokesperson of the club, Professor Titus Igbekwe thanked the Chief Medical Director, Professor Bissallah Ekele for honoring them. According to Prof Igbekwe, the essence of their visit was to serve humanity.

The Grant Chairman of the club. Robert Hawa, commended the hospital for their well-equipped ICT presentation, noting that there is a hearing aid project they are working on which is advancing.

However, he also revealed that the club has good reasons why they decided to choose the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital for the project.

The Chief Medical Director.

Professor Bissallah Ekele in his remarks said that the institution was ready to do anything to increase the value and vision of the hospital.

The Chairman Medical Advisory Committee, Dr Bob Ukonu, thanked the Rotary Club for choosing the Hospital to carry out their project and hoped for more partnerships in the future.



#### **UATH-MDCAN Honors Late Dr Bawa Abimiku**

he University of Abuja Teaching Hospital (UATH), MDCAN, held a valedictory procession on 10th January, 2024 in honour of the late Consultant and Head of Department of Histopathology, Dr Bawa Abimiku, who died on 19th December, 2023.

The procession that started from the Composite Laboratory Building was led by the MDCAN Chairman, Dr. Mrs Grace Otokpa and the participants were received by the Chairman Medical Advisory Committee (CMAC), Dr Bob Ukonu who represented the Chief Medical Director, Professor Bissallah A. Ekele. In her remarks, the MDCAN Chairman, Dr Mrs Grace Otokpa, thanked all who turned up for the procession and

described Dr. Abimiku as a bridge builder.

The Head of Department Histopathology, Dr Oluwaseun Abdul eulogized the late Dr Bawa Abimiku, saying "we should not dwell solely on the pain of saying goodbye but rather we should reflect on the richness of the life we were privileged to witness."

ARD President, Dr. Abah said, Dr. Abimiku was a great teacher, trainer, and mentor as well as a true definition of what a teacher should be and pleaded with the Management of the hospital to find a project to immortalize him.

Dr Ibrahim Wada (Nisa Premiere Hospital) said, Dr. Abimiku was a personal friend and a doctor to the core. He said "what is important is the soul of Dr. Abimiku and that the reward of the soul is in what the physical body has done while it was alive."

The Chairman Advisory Committee Dr. Bob Ukonu said "one great thing about Dr. Bawa Abimiku was his humility and simplicity", adding that Dr Abimiku will be missed greatly by the Management and urged the family to remain steadfast. On his part, Prof. Terna Yawe, who gave a vote of thanks, said, " Dr. Abimiku was firm but also humane and thanked staff. friends and relations of late Dr. Bawa Abimuku for attending the procession despite their tight schedule."



Past President, WACS, Professor Terna Yawe and other Senior Fellows at the Valedictory Procession in Honour of Late Dr Bawa Abimiku

# UATH TASKS NEWLY EMPLOYED RESIDENT DOCTORS TO CONCENTRATE ON THE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

he Chief Medical Director, University of A buja Teaching Hospital, (UATH), Prof. Bissallah Ekele, has advised the newly recruited resident doctors to be dedicated and concentrate on the residency program since it is time bound.

Prof. Ekele gave the advice during the meeting between the doctors and the Top Management of the UATH on 4th January, 2024.

The Chairman Medical Advisory Committee, (CMAC),

Dr. Bob Ukonu, on his part admonished the newly recruited resident doctors to always be patient in communicating with their patients.

Dr. Ojoma Grace Okwoli, Department of Community Health and Dr. Alao Victor, Department of Orthopaedic and Trauma, who spoke on behalf of the new resident doctors, appreciated the Management for the opportunity given to them and promised to be diligent and law abiding in discharging their duties.

The forty (40) resident doctors are part of the one hundred and fifty (150) new staff that were recruited in December 2023. They have all been captured and migrated to the IPPIS platform!



The CMD, Prof. Bissallah Ekele addressing the newly recruited resident doctors.

#### **COURTESY VISIT TO UATH BY THE NEW MANAGEMENT OF FCT** SCHOOL OF NURSING SCIENCES, GWAGWALADA.

he new Management of the School of Nursing, FCT-College of Nursing S ciences Gwagwalada, on the 1st of March, 2024, paid a familiarisation visit to the Chief Medical Director of University of Abuja Teaching Hospital Gwagwalada, Professor B.A Ekele.

The visit was led by the principal of the school, Comrade Deborah Yusuf, who was a former Chairman of the National Association of Nigeria Nurses and Midwives (NANNM) FCT.

She said that the familiarization visit was necessary to the college as a new Management of the institution for acquaintances based on the achievements recorded by the Chief Medical Director in order to benefit from his wealth of experience and the progress so far made at the UATH.

She thanked the CMD and Management for the support given to the school and solicited for more advice and encouragement as well as a strengthened synergy.

Comrade Deborah added that the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital is a pivot to the clinical training experience for their students, stressing that while they give the theoretical knowledge they also need more practical experience to blend with the theoretical aspect so as to get the best, noting that when training students, the target is to achieve the best, but more importantly the practical aspect which requires skills.

Responding, the Chief Medical Director, Professor B. A. Ekele, appreciated the visit of the new Management of the school to UATH and said their visit was a signal for a stronger relationship.

Prof. Ekele informed the visitors of the recent selection of the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital as a centre for the training of the foreign trained medical graduates of which 88 foreign graduates are already present and undergoing training. He said acceptance of students is based on the availability of space, facilities and capacity while emphasising the need to give priority based on merit and excellence in the discharge of duties.



#### **MEDICAL OUT PATIENT DEPARTMENT (MOPD) AT PROFESSOR** FELICIA ANUMAH ENDOCRINE DIEBETES CENTER

	SENATOR DARIYE BLOCK	FIRST LADY BLOCK
MONDAY	Dermatology Clinic I	-
TUESDAY	Dermatology Procedure	Endocrinology Clinic I
WEDNESDAY	Gastroenterology Clinic I	Neurology I
THURSDAY	Dermatology Clinic II	Endocrinology Clinic II
FRIDAY	Gastroenterology Clinic II	Neurology II

With Effect From 1st March, 2024.

#### LASSA FEVER AWARENESS!

trust this message meets us well.

As some of us may be aware that this is a season of Lassa Fever (VHF) outbreak.

As Healthcare Workers who attend to Patients especially at the Emergency or Entry Point into the healthcare facility.

A very High Index of Suspicion is needed at this period to avoid morbidly and mortality.

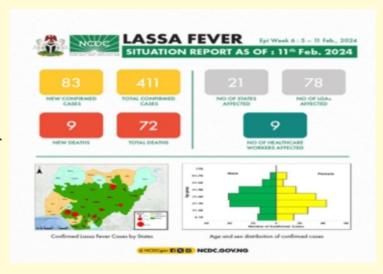
Safety Precautions and the Practice of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) guidelines should strictly be engendered.

Affliction shall not arise in NMA-FCT

Stay Safe! & Stay Alive

Dr. Adewale S. A-Premiere

Asst. Sec. NMA-FCT



## QUOTE **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT**



People you served might not serve you,

people you loved might not love you,

people you helped might gang to pull you down and people you stand for might stand against you.

But always remember that anything

you do for humanity is never a waste & God that sees everything has a way to reward and compensate all the Good things you did for others.

Do not regret any good deed whether it is appreciated or not.

Do good always & leave the rest to God

#### FIRST ENDOUROLOGY LASER SURGERY

he University of Abuja Teaching Hospital (UATH), Gwagwalada, Abuja, has carried out its first Endourology Laser Surgery in the hospital with support from the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) Grant.

The Associate Professor of Urology, UATH, Dr. Terka Atim, who disclosed this in an interview with the Hospital Information Unit, said the development was a step in the direction for treatment of urinary tract disorders in the country.

He said recently the University of Abuja got a TETFUND grant

for Endourology and Kidney Transplant Project through the support of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Abdul-Rasheed Na'allah and the Chief Medical Director of UATH Prof. Bissallah Ekele. Dr. Atim described Endourology as a minimally invasive surgical subspecialty within urology that specializes in surgical procedures performed using endoscopes and other instruments inserted into the urinary tract.

According to him, Endourology techniques often involve procedures such as laser lithotripsy (which means breaking of stones into tiny particles or powder),

ureteroscopy and percutaneous nephrolithotomy.

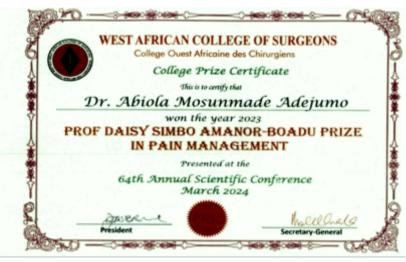
Meanwhile, he said Laser surgery is typically less invasive, resulting in smaller incisions or no incisions at all, less bleeding, reduced scarring and faster recovery times compared to traditional surgery. In addition, laser surgery may be more precise and allow for greater control over the depth and area of tissue affected.



#### **PHOTO NEWS**



Dr. Abiola Adejumo, Winner of the Prof. Boadu Prize in Anaesthesia.





Dr. Amina Buba, Winner of the 2023 Prof Mbonu Prize in Urology



#### PHOTO NEWS



#### PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NIGERIA

(FOUNDED 1927)

nal Pharmaceutical Federation (FSP) realth Pharmacists Association (CPR)

PHARMACY HOUSE 32, Faramobi Ajike Sireet, Ambany Fillage, P. O. Box 531, Mashir Lagon, Nigeria Tel: 6806-658-1622 E-mail:pon1927@ponutional.org, www.ponutional.org

January 31, 2024

#### Pharm. Muhammad Garba

Dour Sir.

#### REAPPOINTMENT AS THE MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE FOR BIOGENERICS INTEGRITY AWARD FOR PHARMACISTS IN PUBLIC HOSPITALS.

I am delighted to inform you that the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN), Pharm. (Prof.) Cyril O. Usifoh, 175X 17C7how, PAPhow has reappointed you the Member of Biogenerics Integrity Award For Pharmacists In Public Hospitals.

Do kindly note that this reappointment lasts till November 8, 2024.

This appointment is in recognition of your immense and selfless contributions to the Society and also, a call to even greater service. We have confidence in your ability to succeed and also wish to assure you that the President and NEC will give you all the support you need to perform.

#### Members of the committee are listed below:

Chairman Pharm. (Prof.) Stella Usifoh Secretary Pharm. Irene Oseghale Mombor Pharm. (Dr.) Chidozie Ibezim. Momber Pharm. Midia Adugo Member Pharm. (Dr) Sunny Nduka Pharm. Soji Adeboye Momber Pharm, Abayomi Omotosho Momber Momber Pharm. Muhammad Gorba Pharm, Funso Fakolujo, FPSN Advisor

Thank you for accepting to serve the Society in this capacity.

Yours faithfully,

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NIGERIA

PHARM, GAFAR MADERIN, FPSN NATIONAL SECRETARY

Para Miles Jane Kiryses Ram Pol Rose Asmy, PS DEDMOGTS Rum (II: Stony-Swotopu,ro Rum (II: Hopky ), Ander, my Plant Seri Challand, no re-re-re-re-re-re-Farit Life Rev Rebro. Plants Felix Rélukes

#### **HEAT AND HEALTH: THE SURVIVAL TIPS**

#### WHO Key facts

- Population exposure to heat is increasing due to climate change, and this trend will continue. Globally, extreme temperature events are observed to be increasing in their frequency, duration, and magnitude. Between 2000 and 2016, the number of people exposed to heat waves increased by around 125 million. In 2015 alone, 175 million additional people were exposed to heat waves compared to average years.
- Single events can last weeks, occur consecutively, and result in significant excess mortality. In 2003, 70 000 people in Europe died as a result of the June-August event, in 2010, 56 000 excess deaths occurred during a 44-day heatwave in the Russian Federation.
- Exposure to excessive heat has wide ranging physiological impacts for all humans, often amplifying existing conditions and resulting in premature death and disability.
- The negative health impacts of heat are predictable and largely preventable with specific

public health actions. WHO has issued public health guidance for the general public and medical professionals on coping with extreme heat. (WHO, 2018)

Hot weather in Nigeria is not a new phenomenon, it comes with every season of the year usually between February and April with higher temperature recorded in the Northern than the Southern part of the Country.

However, the recent experience of excessive heat is becoming a course for concern especially after

the disclosure by the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMET) on their official X page on the Valentine Day that we may experience more days of excessive heat as the Air Temperature hit 410C in the North and 390C in the South.

The following Measures can be adopted to survive and minimize the impact of environmental heat on health:

Stay Hydrated: Drink, I said drink and drink a 1. lot of water throughout the day in this season, even if you don't feel thirsty, to prevent dehydration, drink an

- average of about 3-4litres (minimum of 5 Sachets water) in a day to stay hydrated. Avoid excessive alcohol and caffeine consumption, as they can contribute to dehydration, yellowish (Concentrated) urine may be an indicator that you are dehydrated.
- Stay Cool: Your asylum to this heat will be to seek out air-conditioned or shaded areas during the hottest parts of the day. Use fans or take cool showers to lower body temperature.
- Dress Appropriately: Wear lightweight, loose-fitting clothing in light colors to reflect sunlight and keep your body cool. Use hats and sunglasses to protect yourself from the sun's rays. This is not the best time to wear cardigan and hood for fashion and are you aware that black-body (Cloth) is a good absorber of heat? They absorb all the wavelengths of light viz-a-viz the heat that fall on it. So, behave!
- Limit Outdoor Activities: This is the time to minimize outdoor activities under the scorching sun especially during the peak of heat hours, typically between 10am and 4pm. If you must be outside, take frequent breaks in the shade and avoid strenuous activities.
  - 5. Check on Vulnerable Individuals: Being a brother keeper this period is a virtue, keep an eye on children, elderly and those with chronic illnesses who may be more susceptible to heat-related illnesses. Make sure they have access to cool environments and stay hydrated.
  - 6. Use Sun Protection: Apply sunscreen or sun cream with a high Sun Protection Factor (SPF 30-50) before going outside to protect your skin from sunburn and reduce the risk of skin

cancer. Sunscreen is a topical photoprotective product that offers protection to your skin.

Know the Signs of Heat-related Illnesses: Learn and be aware of the symptoms of heat rash, heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heatstroke and seek medical attention immediately if you or someone else experiences them.

"No one has ever become poor by giving." Anne Frank

> Dr. Adewale S. A Dept. of Community Medicine & Public Health, UATH.



Mr. Nathan Elias receiving the CMD Special Recognition Award from the Chairman of CCMDFTH, Dr. Emem Bassey.



Prof. J. Y. Chinda, Dean, Faculty of Clinical Sciences with Trainees at the Phase 2 Tissue Typing Training at UATH Research Molecular Laboratory on 03/02/2024



Training on the newly acquired Zeis Neurosurgical Operating Microscope!



The Six Lucky Staff Allocated Flats at the Engr Bala Mangut Block



New ARD Exco Led by Dr Innocent Abah (2nd right) with the CMD, Prof. B. A. Ekele (middle) and the CMAC, Dr. Bob Ukonu (2nd left)



Members of NPMCN visiting the Department of Family Dentistry for accreditation with the Top Management team



The CMD, Prof. B. Ekele (3rd from left); Registrar MDCN, Dr. Fatima Kyari (Middle) and Some Senior Medical Educators at the Opening Ceremony of the Remediation Program for Foreign Medical Graduates. 26/02/24



The new controller of the Correctional Services, F.C.T command, Francis John in a handshake with the CMAC, Dr. Bob Ukonu.



National Institute of Health Research- Global Surgery Research Unit with the Top Management of UATH



Dr Amos Magaji, Chairman, House Committee on Health Institutions, Courtesy Visit to UATH, Conferring with the CMD and CMAC.



Staff of National Blood Service Commission with the CMAC, Dr. Bob Ukonu (3rd from left)



Staff of Nazel Radiation Ltd with staff of UATH during their donation visit to UATH



Cildren of the late Dr Bawa Abimiku during the Valedictory Procession



HOD Pharmacy, Pharm. Mohammed Garba (middle) with representatives of Tribem Pharmaceutical company during their donations of drugs to the Pharmacy Department.



CMAC, Dr. Bob Ukonu Speaking During the Valedictory Procession in Honour of the Late Dr Bawa Abimiku



Cross section of staff and students of the STEM Cuddle School Abuja during their visit to UATH



Cross section of staff and students of the STEM Cuddle School Abuja during their visit to UATH



Top Management team during their condolence visit to the DCMAC- Clinicals, Dr. Joseph Obande (3rd from right) on the demise of his daughter



Staff of UATH Condolence Visit to the DCMAC- Clinicals, Dr. Joseph Obande

#### **SOCIAL DIARY**



Dr Bibiana Nonye Egenti New Head of Department, Community Medicine



Dr. Tsav Nensha Seth, Senior Registrar (Radiology) tied the nuptial knot on 30th December 2023



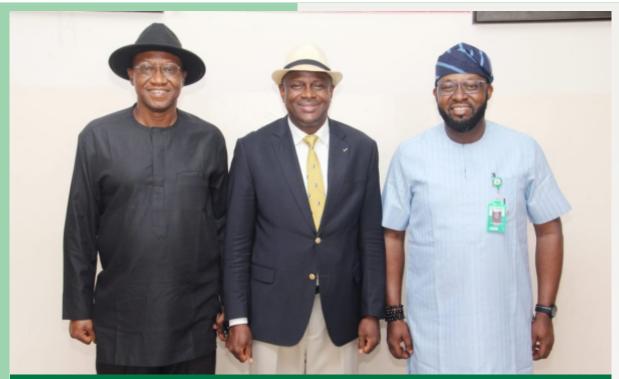
Mr. Ibrahim Lawal of Admin. Department welcomed a baby boy, Muhammed Lawal (Farhan) on 9th January, 2024



Newly Appointed Registrar/CEO, Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN), Dr Fatima Kyari with Prof Bissallah Ekele, CMD, UATH, Gwagwalada, during her Courtesy Visit.



Dr R. Ciroma (HOD, Ophthalmology, UATH); Dr. Fatima Kyari, CEO/Registrar, MDCN and Prof. B. Ekele (CMD, UATH) during the Courtesy Visit of the New MDCN Registrar on 26/02/2024



Dr. Charles Ugwuanyi (Chairman, NMA FCT); Prof B. Ekele (CMD, UATH) and Dr Benjamin Olowojebutu (NMA, Lagos State) in a group photograph after the courtesy call



Dr Innocent Abah, (UATH, ARD President); Dr. C. Ugwuanyi (Chair, NMA FCT); Dr Grace Otorkpa (Chair, UATH-MDCAN); Prof B. Ekele (CMD, UATH), Dr B. Olowojebutu (Lagos State, NMA) and Dr. Bob Ukonu (CMAC, UATH) during the courtesy visit of the NMA FCT Chairman

#### **OBITUARY**



**Mallam Musa Ibrahim Motor** (Driver/Mechanic). Died on Saturday 24th February, 2024. Aged 52 years



**Gamde Samson David** (Principal Pharmacist). Died Sunday 25th February, 2024. Aged: 38 years.

















# STOP! DIPHTHERIA

#### HOW TO PREVENT DIPHTHERIA



Ensure that your children are fully vaccinated against diptheria



Visit a nearby health centre if you notice any symptoms of diphtheria



Get your vaccine if you missed it as a child



Wash hands frequently with soap under running water



Healthcare workers should maintain a high index of suspicion

If you notice any of these signs and symptoms go to the nearest Health Centre immediately or call 6232

Early reporting and treatment saves lives









