



UATH BULLETIN

A Publication of the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Gwagwalada - Abuja.

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Nigeria First Lady Commissions Endocrine Center
- Trauma Center Named After Dr. Mrs. Aisha Muhammadu Buhari
- UATH to Get MRI Machine
- Japanese Ambassador Commissions Medical Equipment
- Procurement Planning Committee Inaugurated
- First Cochlear Implant Surgery Performed by ENT Department

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(2018 – till date)

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FROM THE EDITORIAL DESK

The year 2021 had come and gone with a mixed feeling of nostalgia! And as a family, we give thanks, glory and adorations to the Almighty God for us to witness year 2022. On behalf of the editorial crew, I am particularly pleased to welcome our readers and the entire hospital community to the New Year and to the first edition of "UATH BULLETIN" for 2022. It is our sincere hope that throughout the New Year, we shall dwell in tranquility, progress, and development, Amen!

The period under review was remarkable in many aspects, particularly as the hospital played host to several distinguished personalities. Of note, was the historic visit of the First Lady of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Her Excellency, Dr. (Mrs.) Aisha Muhammadu Buhari on December 9th, 2021. On this day, the hospital was in the limelight when the First Lady and her entourage came to commission the Diabetes and Endocrine Centre for the management of endocrine disorders which she graciously named after Professor Felicia Anumah - a Professor of Endocrinology who conceptualized the Centre. The edifice is the first of its kind in Nigeria.

While welcoming the First Lady, the CMD, Professor Bissallah Ahmed Ekele used the opportunity to request her kind intervention to get the hospital a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine. A request that Her Excellency promised to consider and ensure we get the machine! In



the same visit, Dr. Sam Sam Jaja, Chairman of the UATH Board of Management, reciprocated the First Lady's gesture by naming the Trauma Centre as: "Dr. Aisha Muhammadu Buhari Trauma Centre". All these happened on the same day of Her Excellency's visit!

Under the banner of our new column - Know Your Public Service Rules, Work Ethics and Values from the Admin Directorate, **Team Work in the Hospital** is presented in this edition that also features the winners of the 2021 Annual Staff Award that were honored by the Hospital Board in an elaborate ceremony.

Other news items include the foundation laying of the Composite Pathology Building; the commissioning of anew Oxygen Plant; the visit of the Japanese Ambassador to commission some medical equipment; the visit of the officials of Public Complaints Commission and the first cochlear implant surgery in the Hospital by the ENT Department.

Touched by the precarious and debilitating nature of blood cancer known clinically as Leukaemia, the victims were shown some kindness by **AAA Memorial Foundation** who donated handsomely to all categories of cancer patients on admission. Other donations have come from Admin Staff that donated N400,000:00 to indigent patients at a symbolic cheque presentation by the Director of Administration, Mrs. K. M. Adebajo on February 15th, 2022. We want to encourage other Departments to emulate this gesture.

On a sad note, the hospital was greeted early this year with the demise of our CMD's father, Chief Moses Ekele on the 11th of January 2022 and we also lost an amiable, calm and committed staff, **Mrs. Sarah Usman Sani**, a Chief Internal Auditor which sad event occurred on 2nd February 2022. We pray for the repose of their souls, Amen!

Despite several warnings against fraudsters who for ages have posed as Chief Medical Director, UATH, via fabricated Facebook accounts and other social media accounts to scam innocent people, some of our staff are still falling victims. We want to reiterate that Professor B. A. Ekele does not operate any social media account. Any individual that transacts business with such fraudulent person(s) do so at his/her peril. Please be warned!

Finally, even though COVID-19 pandemic has gradually been brought under control by the combined efforts of immunization and non-medical approaches, compliance to the required protocols is still very relevant. Do have a pleasurable reading moment!

**FOOD
FOR
THOUGHT:**

A CUP OF PORRIDGE

"I sat with my friend in a well-known porridge hotel in Venice (Italy), the city of lights and water. As we enjoyed our porridge, a man entered and sat at an empty table beside us. He called the waiter and placed his order saying, 'Two cups of porridge, one here, one on the wall.'

We heard this strange order with interest and observed that he was served with one cup of porridge, but he paid for two. As soon as he left, the waiter pasted a piece of paper on the wall saying, 'A Cup of porridge'. While we were still there, two other men entered and ordered three cups of porridge, two on the table and one on the wall. They had the two cups of porridge but paid for three and left.

This time also, the waiter did the same; he pasted a piece of

paper on the wall saying, 'A Cup of Porridge'. It was something unique and perplexing for us. We finished our porridge, paid the bill and left.

After a few days, we had a chance to go to this porridge shop again. While we were enjoying our porridge, a poorly dressed man entered. As he seated himself, he looked at the wall and said, 'One cup of porridge from the wall'. The waiter served porridge to this man with the customary respect and dignity. The man had his porridge and left without paying.

We were amazed to watch all this, as the waiter took off a piece of paper from the wall and threw it in the dust bin. Now it was no surprise for us – the matter was very clear. The great respect for the needy shown by the inhabitants of this town

made our eyes well up in tears. Ponder upon the need of what this man wanted. He enters the porridge shop without having to lower his self-esteem. He has no need to ask for a free cup of porridge without asking or knowing about the one who is giving this cup of porridge to him. He only looked at the wall, placed an order for himself, enjoyed his porridge and left.

Probably the most beautiful wall you may ever see will be our wall of good deeds on the Day of Judgment. This is what charity is when you give from one hand & other hand does not know about it.

May the Almighty help us all to care for the poor and the needy this New Year 2022"

***Copied and edited from the JUMSA 85 Platform.**

TEAMWORK IN A HOSPITAL SETTING

Introduction

A hospital is an institution whose central objective is to provide care to the patients. It has in its employ an aggregate of health care personnel which for reasons of convenience are classified as Medical Staff and Health Workers. Sometimes they are also categorized as First Line Staff (FLS) and Support Service Staff (SSS).

Either of the categories, the main pre-occupation of Hospital Staff wherever they are placed, is provide care to the patients and clients in a direct or indirect form.

Medical Staff consist of all members of the Medical and Dental profession trained to provide diagnosis and treatment of individuals needing health care or medical services.

They include the General Practitioners, Physicians and Surgeons. Other specialties include Orthopaedics,

Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Paediatrics, ENT, Ophthalmology, Dental and Maxillofacial, Anaesthesia, Pathology, Radiology among others.

Health Workers as they are so referred consist of both health and non-health professionals. The health professionals include Pharmacists, Physiotherapists, Medical Lab Scientists, Dieticians, Health Information Managers, Nurses, Optometrists, Medical Social Workers etc. The non-health professionals include Administrators, Accountants, Store Officers, House Keepers, Engineering and Maintenance staff, drivers and other out-sourced service staff such as cleaners, security staff, porters, etc.

The Medical and Health Staff referred to as clinical staff, and non-health Professionals referred to as non-clinical staff all together provide a comprehensive definition of



Mrs. K. M. Adebajo
Director of Administration

health care services. They are in “Every Respect Mutually Inclusive and collectively exhaustive”. Without any of the inevitable partners, no hospital in any part of the world will be able to achieve its mission and vision. Synergy must thus be built among the various components to enhance stability, efficiency and effectiveness. Same applies to group and system theory advanced by David Easton.

Application

Using the above theoretical illustrations to mirror hospitals in Nigeria, the reflection is simply that of a system made up of different personnel in clinical and non-clinical departments to perform one function or the other leading to the

attainment of qualitative health care services to patients. No one member can do it all alone. Nurses, Pharmacists, Lab Scientists, Doctors, Record Officers, Admin, Social Workers, Accountants, Cleaners, Security etc., all require the services of others to perform effectively and optimally. No one is insignificant however anybody may perceive.

At the level of the Management, Chief Medical Director, Director of Administration, Chairman Medical Advisory Committee, Director of Finance and Director Internal Audit, need synergy, scalar chain, unity of direction and unity of command to succeed. Their vision must be convergent and not divergent – all eyes (left and right) ought to look in one direction. If contradictory instructions are coming out from the TMC members or the Board members, it shows lack of synergy, lack of unity of command and lack of sense of direction. The consequences are confusion, anarchy and poor productivity. It is like a car in front gear but moving back ward – no one needs to tell you that there is a serious problem!

Benefits Of Teamwork

- It improves productivity, customer service and increase motivation.
- It creates greater synergy.
- It engages employees and enhances flexibility
- It enables employees' socialization, and greater bond.
- Increases sense of belonging and mutual trust.
- It simplifies conflict resolution and gain fresh perspectives.

Challenges to Teamwork in a Hospital

- Concern about who gets the credit
- Array of stars, big men and women with an ego question. Related to this is preferential treatment and policy crisis e.g wages and relativity
- Complex – superiority and inferiority complex
- The thinking that “I can do it all alone”

Way Forward

- Mutual respect and recognizing that we all

have stakes in the business of caring for the patient

- Recreational activities (sports) e.g. Inter-departmental competition to enhance mutual interaction among staff

Conclusion

In the words of Victoria Osteen: “We talk a lot about hope, helping and teamwork. Our whole message today is that we are more powerful together”. And as Mother Theresa puts it “I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot: together, we can do great things”. “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together”.

TEAM makes lots of meaning because

T = Together

E = Everyone

A = Achieves

M = More

This is an Extract from Admin's Department Presentation at the Monthly Hospital Ground Round

FIRST LADY

COMMISSIONS PROFESSOR FELICIA ANUMAH DIABETES AND ENDOCRINE CENTER

The First Lady of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Her Excellency, Dr. (Mrs.) Aisha Buhari commissioned the Diabetes and Endocrine Center built by the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) named after **Professor Felicia Anumah** (a Professor of

Endocrinology and initiator of the Center) on 9th December 2021.

The Chief Medical Director, UATH, Prof. B. A. Ekele in his welcome address, congratulated the First Lady on her recent and well-deserved election as the President, Africa First Ladies Peace Mission. He seized the opportunity to disclose to Her Excellency that

the hospital lacks Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine and requested for her kind intervention. In his address, he said: “The Diabetes and Endocrine Center is the ‘baby’ of our own Dr. Felicia Anumah, a Professor of Endocrinology, and the delivery of this baby has been made possible by the Obstetrician, Her Excellency, Dr. (Mrs.) Aisha Buhari”.



Dr. (Mrs.) Aisha Buhari Commissioning the Center

“The hospital has become popular of recent not because we were the first to separate conjoined twins in FCT, not because of our modern Cardiology Unit, but because we were the first Teaching Hospital in Nigeria to manage COVID-19 patients, and we have managed over 1,000 cases of the severe form of the disease with about 90% recovery rate! And to the glory of God, we have not lost any staff to COVID-19! After today's event, our rating shall even go higher“.

The Vice Chancellor, University of Abuja, Professor Abdul-Rasheed Na'Allah his speech said the care of endocrine diseases is specialized and multi-disciplinary, and Nigeria has a

huge gap to fill. Responding, Dr. (Mrs.) Aisha Buhari congratulated the CMD over the successes recorded in the management of COVID-19 pandemic. She said, she will advocate for an MRI machine to be provided for the hospital and enjoined all stakeholders on more awareness on the endocrine diseases to enable early detection and treatment. Also speaking during the occasion, the Honorable Minister of Health, Dr. Osagie Ehanire congratulated UATH and Prof. Felicia Anumah who conceived the idea of the Center. He said endocrinopathy has not been very well attended to of late due to the focus on Corona Virus which still dominates the headlines. He stated that it is a

relief to see that attention is also diverted to non-communicable diseases, particularly the endocrine disease which has more fatality and mortality than infectious diseases if compared to the number of fatalities occasioned by hypertension, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and so on. Dr. Osagie commended the hospital for the role it played in saving the lives of many Nigerians in the treatment and management of COVID-19. He promised the hospital another Oxygen Plant to further strengthen the work. Earlier, Prof. Felicia Anumah, explained that it became necessary to build the center to enhance early diagnosis of overt disease, stressing that the

PROFESSOR FELICIA ANUMAH DIABETES AND ENDOCRINE CENTRE (PFADEC)



TRAUMA CENTER NAMED AFTER FIRST LADY

The UATH Board Chairman Dr. Sam Sam Jaja, appealed to the First Lady of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr. (Mrs.) Aisha Buhari to accept the request of the Board to name the Trauma Center after her and she consented!

Dr. Sam Jaja made this appeal during the commissioning of **Professor Felicia Anumah**

Diabetes and Endocrine Center built by the office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and commissioned by her Excellency the First Lady Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr. (Mrs.) Aisha Buhari on 9th December 2021.

“Your Excellency, you are the first 1st Lady to visit University of Abuja Teaching Hospital. Silver

and gold we don't have but, we have a Trauma Center. One of the best in the country with world class facilities. The Board of Management had asked me to request you to kindly accept that our Trauma Center be named after you,” he said.

The Board Chairman promised her Excellency, Dr. (Mrs.) Aisha Buhari that “the edifice is going to be well managed. We also have a Management that is articulate and the University of Abuja which is standing as a rock behind us. We have Federal Ministry of Health giving us all the support, most especially the Hospital Services Directorate. We have students who are hungry to learn and subject themselves to tedious academic challenges and a Board that cares and monitors”. The Chairman said because the hospital has a culture of maintenance, the Centre will remain the same even in five years' time.



The Trauma Center (Before Renaming)

DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY FETES RETIREES

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, UATHI honored Dr. E. Okoh, Dr. D. D. Barau and Dr. P. A. Sende at the end of the year party organized by the Department to bid them farewell after serving the hospital meritoriously for either 35 years or for attaining the statutory retirement age of 60 years on the 9th December, 2021.

The Chief Medical Director, UATH, Prof. B. A. Ekele, while

making his remarks said, it was a pleasure to celebrate with his colleagues in the department. He stated that Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and indeed the entire hospital community cherish the role played by the three consultants the Department is sending forth.

The Head of Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Dr. T. E. Agida said, “today is a day of mixed feelings because the department is not happy to

send forth experienced hands, but on the other hand, we thanked God for their lives and services to humanity”. He stressed that one cannot continue to work indefinitely but for the fact that they are retiring in peace is something worthy of celebrating.

Dr. Agida further stated that in appreciation for their lives and their services to the department, the department decided to put up the program to honor them. He appreciated the Management and his colleagues for making out time to attend the occasion.

Finally, Dr. Agida prayed for success in the private lives and businesses of the retirees. He also prayed for those still in service to retire peacefully and in good health.



L-R: Dr. Peter A. Sende, Prof. B. A. Ekele (CMD) and Dr. David D. Barau



Dr. Sam Sam Jaja, Board Chairman and Prof. B. A. Ekele (CMD) laying the foundation block for the Composite Pathology Building

BOARD LAYS FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE COMPOSITE PATHOLOGY BUILDING AND COMMISSIONS NEW PROJECTS

The Chairman, Board of Management, Dr. Sam Sam Jaja in company of other Board members laid the foundation block of the Composite Pathology Building and commissioned the new Oxygen Plant and the new 10-bed Intensive Care Unit (ICU) during the last Board meeting that took place on 15th and 16th December 2021. Other project sites visited by the

“the quality of the oxygen produced in our Plant is high and very pure as compared to what can be purchased outside”

Board members for project monitoring and inspection include Mental Health Block, Call Duty Block, a new X-Ray machine in Radiology Department, and the new elevator installed at the

Trauma Center. He said that it is a thing of joy to see that the Board initiated some of the above projects, completed and commissioned them. He further stated that the Board will be pleased to execute other projects before the end of their tenure so that history will judge them kindly. While laying the foundation block, Dr. Sam Sam Jaja lauded the efforts of the CMD, Prof. Bissallah Ekele for being

prudent in the management of resources to see that UATH attains her vision and mission statements.

At the commissioning of the Oxygen Plant, the Manager of the plant, Mr. Nathan Elias recounted the ordeals of the hospital in the past, especially in year 2020 during the peak of COVID -19 pandemic. He appreciated the Top Management and Board members for the initiative that led to the installation of the Oxygen Plant, adding that the hospital now has surplus to sell to other hospitals. He said “the quality of the oxygen produced in our Plant is high



The New 10-bed Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

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and very pure as compared to what can be purchased outside”.

The Board Chairman also commissioned the new 10-bed intensive care unit (ICU).



Dr. Sam Sam Jaja (Board Chairman) and Prof. B. A. Ekele commissioning the new Oxygen Plant.



**Baby of the year
- Baby Bethel Udor**

UATH

CELEBRATES
FIRST BABY OF THE YEAR

In line with our tradition of celebrating the first delivery of the year, the UATH Management celebrated the “baby of the year” 2022 in a brief ceremony at the conference room on Friday 21st January, 2022.

The delivery was conducted by a team of doctors and midwives on New Year day at about 11:40am. The CMAC, Dr. Bob Ukonu congratulated the family of Mr. and Mrs. Udor, saying that

the birth of every child comes with excitement and baby Bethel is a special child, therefore Management rejoices greatly with them. He said it is a thing of joy to carry pregnancy to term, but it is God who gives the grace to deliver safely.

Similarly, the Head of Department of Nursing Services, Dr. (Mrs.) Lydia Chukwu joined the CMAC to congratulate the Udor's family. She enjoined the parents to

take proper care of the child. She said Bethel came in an atmosphere of celebration and prayed that the baby will continue to bring celebration and joy to the family.

In commemoration of the occasion, certificate of birth, alongside cash and gift items for the baby were presented to the family by the CMAC on behalf of Management.

In responding, Mr. Udor expressed his deep appreciation to the Management of UATH on behalf of the family for the show of love from the antenatal stage till the delivery of the baby, saying that he is overwhelmed by the gesture.

2022 PROCUREMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE INAUGURATED

The Chief Medical Director, University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Prof. B. A. Ekele inaugurated Procurement Planning Committee on 2nd February 2022 in the hospital Conference Room. Members of the committee are:

- **Professor B. A. Ekele**, Chief Medical Director, Chairman
- **Mrs. K. M. Adebajo**, Director of Administration
- **Dr. Bob Ukonu**, Chairman Medical Advisory Committee (CMAC)
- **Mr. Nimfa Zwalbon**, Director of Finance and Accounts.
- **Dr. Teddy Agida**, Head of Department of Obstetrics and

gynaecology

- **Engr. Bala Mangut**, Head of Department of Works and Engineering
- **Dr. B. A. Abimiku**, Head of Department of Histopathology
- **Dr. Emmanuel O. Oguche**, Head of Department of Orthopaedics/Trauma
- **Barr. Jonathan Muru**, Hospital Legal Adviser
- **Mr. Olatunji Komolafe**, Head of ICT Unit.
- **Mrs. Eunice Swam**, Head Procurement Unit, Secretary

The Chief Procurement Officer, Arch. Yakubu Edicha Achimugwu, who gave a brief background on the responsibilities of the Committee said, “in line with the

procurement guidelines and the recent circular from the Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, it is mandatory that at the beginning of every financial year, all procuring entities are expected to establish a Procurement Planning Committee for the year in line with the budget”. He stated that having received and collated the list of needs from different departments of the hospital; the Procurement Planning Committee has the duty of analyzing and planning before uploading to the Nigeria Open Contracting Portal (NOCOPO) platform. He said the essence of this exercise was to promote transparency as the appropriated capital projects are uploaded to this open portal for the general public.



Procurement Planning Committee Members at Inauguration

UATH HONOURS STAFF AND NGOS AT THE 2021 STAFF AWARD DAY

On 17th December 2021, the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Gwagwalada had set aside its busy routine to reward 57 distinguished staff & NGOs who have worked diligently in the year to make positive impacts that fostered development of the hospital. Board Chairman of the hospital, Dr. Sam Sam Jaja congratulated the 2021 Awardees for their hard work and dedication to duty. He also gave kudos to all other staff as well for putting in their best in one way or the other and urged them to work harder in the following year to earn recognition and to give the hospital more prestige in the comity of tertiary health institutions in Nigeria. He thanked the eight NGOs selected for their immense contributions which had greatly helped in uplifting the hospital in diverse ways. He

hoped that such partnership would be sustained for the benefits of the patients.

Earlier during the award ceremony, the CMD, Prof. Bissallah Ekele welcomed everyone present and said the tradition of having such an event was to encourage and inspire staff to put in their very best in the line of duty for the progress of the hospital. He congratulated all the recipients of the year 2021 for their

excellent performance at work. Prof. Ekele also thanked the NGOs for their support especially during the COVID 19 pandemic, which went a long way in saving the lives of patients.

Highlights of the occasion include the presentation of the Certificate of Honour to the Best Staff of the year, **Prof Felicia Anumah** because of consistent availability for clinical duties, passion to teach and train, impactful research activities and attraction of projects to the Hospital.

The School of Post Basic Critical Care Nursing emerged the Best Department for 2021 having had 100% at Council Examinations for four consecutive years! Other winners from the various Departments were equally presented with their certificates and token by Management.

*Highlights of the occasion include the presentation of the Certificate of Honour to the Best Staff of the year, **Prof Felicia Anumah** because of consistent availability for clinical duties, passion to teach and train, impactful research activities and attraction of projects to the Hospital.*

STAFF AWARD FOR THE YEAR 2021

BEST DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR
POST BASIC CRITICAL CARE NURSING SCHOOL



PROF. FELICIA ANUMAH
BEST STAFF OF THE YEAR



UDEMEZUE CHINEHO ELIZABETH
YOUTH CORPER



LOVETH ABALAKA
COMMUNITY MEDICINE



DOROTHY MASHOR
PROCUREMENT



WILLIAMS ISHAYA
PHARMACIST



ESTHER DANIEL
LABORATORY



SUNDAY O. LAWAL
FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS



YAKUBU MU'AZU
PHYSIOTHERAPY



ABUBAKAR SANI
PHYSIOTHERAPY (INTERN)



PERPETUA CHIZOBA UDEH
PAEDIATRICS



ATTAH ABASHI YAKUBU
HEALTH INFORMATION



HADIZA HARUNA
ANAESTHESIA



OLORUNTOABA SJI
ICT



DR. ADETAYO OPEYEMI
COMMUNITY MEDICINE



MONDAY DARIUS DOGWO
ADMINISTRATION



MUSTAFA ONOKUS SULE
PUBLIC RELATIONS



ESTHER OJELADE
CROWN SECURITY



CHRIS ATABO MONDAY
HEALTH INFORMATION



DR. FABIAN EJEMBI A.
SURGERY



DR. ISHOLA IBRAHIM
PAEDIATRICS



GRACE ANI STEPHEN
DIETETICS



DR. AYEGBA EBIKWU
DENTAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL



HELEN ONUH
ENT



DR. ATIM TERZUGWE
RADIOLOGY



BETTY RIZAMA
RADIOLOGY



DR. VICTOR AMEAH
FAMILY MEDICINE



GLADYS ISHABOR
MEDICINE



ALIYU JIMOH
WORKS AND MAINTENANCE



JOY AIBE
O&G



JOYCE ATENIOLA
SURGERY



JUBRIL NDAH
DENTAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL



KAUNA MADAKI
OPHTHALMOLOGY



PRINCE ONUOHA
LABORATORY (INTERN)



MARYAM MUSA
ADMINISTRATION



MURAINA TAIWO
PHARMACY (INTERN)



RUTH OWOLABI M.
FAMILY MEDICINE



DR. SAMBO THOMAS
O&G



ANIBUEZE CHIDINMA
LABORATORY



PONTIP S. GAMBO
AUDIT



DR. ADEDOKUN A. TAIWO
MEDICINE



DR. ROSTIA UJUNWA AKASIKE-ENUH
OPHTHALMOLOGY



DR. PETER ONIPE
ANAESTHESIA



DR. ZAIYAD HABIB
INFECTIOUS DISEASE CENTRE



BEULAH EJEKWONE AJAEZE
INTERN NURSE



CHINOYE AMEACHI
ICON



LAMI SHANWA
OCHIJA



DR. PRECIOUS MUKORO
HOUSE OFFICER



RAHILA BODAM
THEATRE



DR. ELIZABETH OMOSULE
ENT



NIGERIA CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL (NCDC)



NIGERIA LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS LIMITED



MEDICAID CANCER FOUNDATION



AISHA CHILDREN FOUNDATION



MAINSTREAM ENERGY SOLUTIONS LIMITED



UNIQUE 38 RC LADIES



UNTOLD STORY BEHIND THE STORY FOUNDATION



OKAPI CHILDREN CANCER FOUNDATION

THE VERONICA BUCKET: The Local Innovative to Fight Against Covid-19

Veronica Bucket is a mechanism for hand washing originating in Ghana which consists of a bucket of water with a tap fixed at the bottom, mounted at hand height, and a bowl at the bottom to collect waste water.

The Veronica bucket was developed by Veronica Bekoe. It serves as a simple way to encourage proper hand washing using flowing water. Bekoe in an interview stated that the bucket was originally made to help her, and her colleagues wash their hands under running water after each lab session.

She said, "We are used to washing hands in a bowl with others washing in the same water, which will do more harm than good." These colleagues were contaminating their hands rather than decontaminating them.

In addition to the Covid-19 benefit of hand washing, Veronica Bucket is also essential for areas where potable water is not readily available.

Uses

The bucket is also used in other African countries including Nigeria. It is common in places such as schools, hospitals, churches and in areas with no running taps. It has become very popular in Ghana following the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) as citizens engage in frequent hand washing to stem its spread. In Ekiti State, Nigeria, the Governor, Kayode Fayemi directed all public places to provide running tap water or

Veronica buckets "to encourage frequent hand-washing" as part of the measures to contain COVID-19.

Before the COVID-19 outbreak, the invention was used in some schools and hospitals but it is in high demand due to its role in curbing the outbreak. Now, the set up could be spotted in places like the malls, hospitals, corporate institutions and government offices. It was invented by a Ghanaian, Veronica Bekoe, whom the invention was named after. She claimed the bucket was named after her in 1993 by Joan Hetrick. Bekoe is a biological scientist who has worked at the Public Health and Reference Laboratory of the Ghana Health Service from 1972 to 2008.

Production

The invention was initially produced by local artisans with aluminum utensils used in selling

Hausa koko attached with a tap which was a prototype, popularly known as *Akorlaa gyae su* and currently it is made of plastic with a tap attached to it which has an area for holding soap and towels. Variations available today come in all colours.

In February 2021, Veronica Bekoe launched an updated version of the bucket to reduce physical contact with the unit and further help halt the spread of COVID-19

Reference:"Veronica Bucket: The Ghanaian invention helping in coronavirus fight". www.ghanaweb.com. Retrieved 2020-03-26.

**Compiled by:Dr Adewale Samuel Adeleye,
Dept. of Community Medicine (UATH)
Vice Chairman, UATH
Bulletin Editorial Board**



AAA MEMORIAL FOUNDATION DONATES TO CANCER PATIENTS IN UATH

In commemoration of the 2022 World Cancer Day with the theme “**Close the Care Gap**”, Aisha Abba Abdullahi (AAA) Memorial Foundation donated Twenty thousand naira to each of the fifteen (15) cancer patients and Personal Protective Equipment to Health workers in UATH on 3rd February 2022.

The Foundation whose ultimate objectives are to maintain and improve facilities and programs for the benefit of blood cancer patients, their families and caregivers, was borne out of the founder's personal experiences as a primary caregiver to her daughter, Aisha Abba Abdullahi, who battled blood cancer and later died on 20th November 2019.

AAA Memorial Foundation (a.k.a 3AM Foundation) is a

non-profit organization dedicated to realizing a blood cancer-free Nigeria, by creating awareness, driving advocacy and delivering support that ranges from affordable and effective treatment options to research and counseling.

The Founder of this organization, Mrs. Hussein Baba-Inna said the Foundation is primarily for blood cancer patients, but in the spirit of the celebration of the World Cancer Day, it decided to reach out to all cancer patients with a token that can at least help to buy some medications. She stated that the fight against cancer is very expensive irrespective of one's status. Hussein noted that their visit to UATH was in 3 phases; to encourage the caregiver, make donations to the patients, and

give Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the Oncology health workers.

Similarly, the President, Nigeria Cancer Society, Dr. Adamu Alhassan Umar said, the symbolic presentation that 3AM Foundation has come to make might not be huge to cater for everything, but it is a show of concern and empathy for the cancer patients. He added that it is also a way of telling them that they are not left alone in the fight against this dreaded disease. Dr. Adamu stated that he canceled three official appointments to enable him to attend this function because of the antecedent of the 3AM Foundation since its inception and for his personal love for UATH as a facility where he received training as a house officer.

The CMAC, Dr. Bob Ukonu who represented the Chief Medical Director Prof. B. A. Ekele, welcomed and thanked the 3AM Foundation for choosing the hospital as a facility to identify with. He said managing cancer patients has not been easy in the hospital because the patients are emotionally traumatized even before visiting the hospital, because of the general notion that cancer is a death sentence. Dr. Bob thanked God for the caliber of professionals that UATH is endowed with.

Finally, the CMAC appreciated the Foundation for the good work, saying in this kind of endeavor, it is only God that can reward them.



Mrs. Hussein Baba-Inna (Founder), Dr. S. A. Sani (UATH-MDCAN Chairman) and Dr. Bob Ukonu, CMAC at the Event.

CBN DELEGATION VISITS UATH

A delegation from the Central Bank of Nigeria led by Dr. Shehu Muhammad, the Special Adviser on Health to the Central Bank of Nigeria Governor, Dr. Godwin Emeziele paid an impromptu visit to University of Abuja Teaching Hospital on 24th February 2022. The purpose of the visit was to conduct a need assessment as

authorized by the CBN Governor following the Hospital's appeal for a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine.

The team lead disclosed that the visit was to discuss with Management and user Department before writing their report and recommendations to the Governor. He stated that due to the prudent nature of the CBN and the capital-intensive nature of the project, it was necessary to follow due process and transparency till project completion. They said it was also necessary to visit the proposed site to verify its suitability.

In his welcome address, the CMD, Prof. B. A. Ekele appreciated the effort of the CBN Governor. While giving a narrative account of the events that led to the appeal for an MRI machine, he said that because of the absence of the MRI machine

some patients needing further imaging are referred to other hospitals which demeans the standard of the institution as a University Teaching Hospital.

Speaking, Dr. Kolade –Yunusa, Head of Radiology Department said that the presence of an MRI machine in the hospital will remove deficiencies in training of residents, medical students and research. She also recommended an M.O.U with the vendor that shall supply the machine to address maintenance concerns.

Engr. Bala Mangut, Head of Works and Engineering confirmed that a space was already earmarked for the MRI machine at the Trauma Centre.

After the round table discussion, a site inspection was conducted by the delegation after which the CMD thanked the team for the meeting and prayed for a positive outcome.

Cross section of the CBN Delegates with UATH stakeholders





*Ambassador Matsunaga
Kazuyoshi Commissions
the donated medical
equipment at the SCBU*

JAPANESE AMBASSADOR COMMISSIONS MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

The Ambassador of Japan to Nigeria, **Matsunaga Kazuyoshi** commissioned some medical equipment donated to the Hospital by the Japanese Government on the 21st February 2022. The medical equipment donated include Incubators for preterm babies, Ventilators, C-pap Machine, Infusion Pumps, Syringe Pumps, Pulse Oximeters, and Bilirubinometers. Ambassador Kazuyoshi, while making his speech said he was honored to have the

opportunity to speak to his Nigerian friends on behalf of the people and Government of Japan at the commissioning and handing over of the Medical Equipment to the Hospital. He expressed his appreciation to everyone present at the ceremony. He thanked particularly the implementing

partner, UATH, and Taichi Holdings, the Technical Partner. He said due to his contact with many languages, ethnic cleavages and cultures, most of whom are Nigerians, he became interested in the diversity of the world and this led him to become a diplomat.

“The objective of the project we are launching today is to reduce infant mortality. I am the father of a daughter, and I used to visit the hospital every month until she turned three years old. Therefore, I understand very well the

importance of Medical Equipment for infants” he said. Similarly, the Technical Partner of the project from Taichi Holdings, Mr. Ono Yasuhiro said over a long period of time as Nigeria's population continues to grow, infants mortality is on the rise. Under these circumstances, the government of Japan thought it wise to do something to ameliorate this problem. Mr. Ono said he will be very happy if Japanese medical equipment and technology will enhance the survival rate of newborns in

Nigeria. Mr. Ono stated that the support is not intended to be temporal, as this is just the beginning. He added that in the long term, what is important is to save as many lives as possible with mutual cooperation. The Chief Medical Director, UATH, Prof. B. A. Ekele welcomed His Excellency, Amb. Kazuyoshi Matsunaga and other very distinguished guests to the commissioning of these vital Medical Equipment donated by the Government and good people of Japan.

The CMD used the opportunity to appeal to the Ambassador concerning other equipment that is lacking in the hospital. In his own word, “we do not want to be called Oliver twist! But one equipment we lack now is a modern CT Scan machine. The old 16-slide machine that we have can no longer cope with the demands of our patients. I am sure His Excellency – the Ambassador will remember us when another opportunity to assist comes!”



PUBLIC COMPLAINTS COMMISSION

LAUDS

UATH

The Public Complaints Commission, FCT - Abuja on 11th January 2022 paid a familiarization visit to the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital. The visit which was due to the need for acquaintance and fact findings was led by Hon. Dalhatu Ezekiel Musa.

Hon. Musa while narrating the roles of the Commission, said part of her functions is to inform the public on some issues that appears to be of great concern and also bring to reality any issue of necessity after verifications.

The head of delegation presented a number of complains ranging from alleged lopsided recruitments and inadequate representation of natives of F.C.T, limited bed space, delay in pension payment to retirees, among others. He also added that as the host community, about 60% of the employment, especially of the junior staff cadre is to be allotted to the

indigenes by the principle of federal character for equity and justice.

The Chairman Medical Advisory Committee Dr. Bob Ukonu who represented the Chief Medical Director Prof. B. A. Ekele alongside the Director of Administration, Mrs. Adebajo K.M appreciated the Commission for the fact-finding visit. The CMAC in his remark to the commission also gave a background history of the hospital in respect to service delivery. He said "UATH is a 550-Bed capacity, though still expanding and as a Teaching Hospital, most of the patients seen are from other hospitals; most of whom come in a very bad and critical state. Such categories of patients would come with high expectations, some elements of frustration, believing that magic would be performed in restoring their health. As a matter of policy, a social welfare committee was set up and empowered to cater for

indigent patients who have no means of paying their hospital bills and are in dire need of urgent medical attention. About 80% of the fund is contributed by Hospital staff from their salaries through the medical social services".

In respect to the challenge of limited bed space, the government through the Federal Ministry of Health has built and equipped a 18-bed capacity A & E for medical emergencies while the former 16-bed capacity is reserved for surgical emergencies.

On the issue of recruitment, the Management always places essential service, merit and Federal Character in the front burner.

The Director of Administration, Mrs. Adebajo K.M added that UATH has been an indigene-compliant and friendly institution all along while referencing the recent meeting held with the indigenous people "Abare" which comprises all the 6 Area Councils in FCT led by one Mr. Musa. "Your mandate is also our mandate, which is service delivery as expressed by SERVICOM to render services in a timely and in the most effective way" she assured.

Mrs. Adebajo appealed that where there is room for improvement, the hospital Management will not hesitate.



Prof. Firas Alzoubi and Dr. Enoch Dahilo during the implant surgery

UATH

P E R F O R M S

FIRST COCHLEAR IMPLANT SURGERY

It was an atmosphere filled with so much joy on the eventful afternoon of Friday 18th February 2022 when Prof. Firas M. Alzoubi from the school of Medicine, Jordan University of Science and Technology and a team of surgeons in the department of Ear, Nose & Throat, Head & Neck (ENT, H&N) successfully performed a **Cochlear Implant Surgery** in the University of Abuja

Teaching Hospital. This is the first of its kind for the hospital in recent time, though the department has been performing a series of sophisticated surgeries such as Endoscopic Sinus Surgery as far back as 2013 with outstanding success rates.

The recent successful Cochlear Implant Surgery which lasted several hours was carried out on the right ear of a 33-year-old lady who developed sudden

hearing loss 2 years ago after involving in a military training exercise.

Dr. Dahilo E. A, a Senior Consultant and one of the surgeons that carried out the operation said the department is happy with the development and the outcome of the Surgery; he also anticipates a good prognosis as the follow-up visit will be in the next 3 months.



In Memoriam of Pa Moses Ahmed Ekele

(1932-2022)

Time defines the finite existence of humans and numbers us among God's saintly candidates through our labours. Thus, it was a celebration of life at Ofante, Olamaboro LGA of Kogi State, for the eternal homebound journey of Pa. Moses.

The crowd at the colorful funeral ceremony by United Evangelical Church, shunned businesses and other personal engagements in solidarity, honour, and prayerful thoughts for the Ekele's family.

In his sermon, Evangelist Sunday Oguche reiterated the inevitability of human mortality which calls us to daily self-examination in view of heavenly rewards. He described Pa. Ekele as a man of integrity and a shining light to his family and the entire Community of Ofante, while challenging his family to imitate his

virtues. He concluded by urging people to turn to Christ and rededicate their lives.

In attendance were dignitaries from far and wide; members of the 5th Board of Management of University of Abuja Teaching Hospital ably led by Dr. Sam Sam Jaja, Top Management Staff of UATH, representatives from Medical and Dental Consultants of Nigeria (UATH-MDCAN) led by the Chairman, Dr. Samuel Ali Sani, Nigeria Medical Association, FCT Branch led by the Chairman, Dr. Job Amodu; National Association of Resident Doctors; Medical and Health Workers (FCT Council); Staff of University of Abuja; ICON Services; Crown Intercontinental Securities; National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Midwives ably led by Director of Nursing Dr. (Mrs.) Lydia Chukwu; Administration Directorate led by the Director of Administration, Mrs. K.M Adebajo; Finance and Internal Audit Departments led by Mr. Ninfa Zwalbong and Mrs. Nneoma Agulanna respectively; other Heads of Departments / Units, Associations, Unions, etc. In a brief chat with the press, Prof. Bisallah Ekele, the Chief

Mourner

acknowledged that Pa. Ekele strongly believed in the saying: 'No place like home and Charity begins at home' hence he shared what he had with the community. He was an Elder Statesman, and his demise touched all and sundry.

Others who spoke with Journalists at the event stated that Pa. Ekele exemplified loyalty and dedication with the love of his Community in Service, adding that he remained in the village after retirement as a grassroots mobilizer and Community Leader until his glorious home call. The community leader confessed that no amount of commendation could be enough for Pa. Ekele, and prayed that members of his family will be greater than he was in the service to the community.

Late Chief Moses Ekele began his career in the Premiers Office in Kaduna between 1955 to 1958 before his secondment to the United Nations Plebiscite for Northern Cameroon in 1959. He retired in 1976. He is survived by Wives, Children, Grand and Great Grand Children.

PHOTO GALLERY



The Director of Admin, Mrs. K. M. Adebajo Donating a Cheque to the Medical and Social Services Department for Indigent Patients.



Dr. Shehu Muhammed, Special Adviser to the CBN Governor on health Signing the UATH Visitor's Book



Mr. Nathan Elias, Oxygen Plant Manager; Prof. B. A. Ekele, CMD; Mrs. K. M. Adebajo, DA; Dr. Sam Sam Jaja, Board Chairman and Dr. Bob Ukonu, CMAC at the Commissioning of the Oxygen Plant.



The ENT Surgery Team During the Cochlear Implant Surgery



Prof B. A. Ekele (3rd from LT) and Ambassador Matsunaga Kazuyoshi (3rd from RT) During his Visit to the Hospital



PLAQUE Commemorating the Major Achievements of the UATH 5th Board of Management Under the Leadership of Dr. Sam Sam Jaja.

PHOTO GALLERY



Prof. Felicia Anumah speaking during the commissioning of the Endocrine and Diabetes Centre



Dr. Sam Sam Jaja – Board Chairman and Prof. Bissallah Ekele – CMD



Minister of Health- Hon. Dr. Osagie Ehanire speaking during the commissioning of the Endocrine and Diabetes Centre



Dr. (Mrs.) Aisha Buhari commissioning the Professor Anumah Diabetes and Endocrine Centre.



The CMD, Prof. B. A. Ekele (2nd from RT) Signing the MOU for the NLNG Hospital Support Program with Engr. Bala Mangut (1st from right)



The CMD, Prof. B. A. Ekele Speaking at the MOU Signing Ceremony

PHOTO GALLERY



Cross section of AAA Memorial Foundation and UATH Staff



Newly elected ARD-UATH EXCO led by Dr. Utukunama with the CMD and CMAC



The CMAC- Dr. Bob Ukonu presenting the "Baby of the year" certificate to Mr. & Mrs Udor.



Observers and company reps during the Bid Opening of the Amenity Ward Project



Dr. T. Agida (HOD O & G), Dr. P. A. Sende (Retiree), Prof. B. Ekele (CMD), Dr. D. Barau (Retiree) at the Send forth Party.



L-R: Dr. (Mrs) Aisha Buhari (First Lady), Dr. Osagie Ehanire (Minister of Health), Dr. Sam Sam Jaja (Chairman, UATH), Prof. Bissallah Ekele (CMD), Prof. Abdulrasheed Na'Allah (VC, UoA), Hon Adamu Mustapha Danze (Gwagwalada LGA Chairman).

PHOTO SPEAK: BURIAL CEREMONY OF CHIEF MOSES EKELE AT OFANTE



Professor B. Ekele responding to the Press at the Burial Ceremony



Board Chairman, Dr. Sam Sam Jaja and the Chief Mourner (Prof Ekele)



With the IDC Team (Mr. Isaac Udugh, Nurse Julie Tat, Dr. Vivian Kwaghe and Mr. Nathan Elias)



With Board Chairman, Dr. Sam Jaja and Professor Solomon Avidime at the Wake Keep



Dr. Abu Haruna, Dr. Enoch Dahilo, Dr. Samuel A. Sani (Chairman, UATH-MDCAN) and Chief Mourner (Prof Ekele)



Mr. Constantine Nwaka, Mr. Abbas, Matron Khadijat Umar, Matron Memuna Ocheni, Matron Cecelia Odaudu, Mr. Alex Okopi and Prince Oliver at Ofante.

PHOTO SPEAK: BURIAL CEREMONY OF CHIEF MOSES EKELE AT OFANTE



SO Lawal, DR. (Mrs) L. Chukwu, Mr. Nimfa Zwalbong, Prof Agida, Mrs MK Adebajo, Chief Mourner, Board Chairman, Hajia A. Pawa, Dr. Olateju, Prof Avidime, Mrs Agulanna and Engr, Bala Mangut @ the Burial Ceremony.



Final Journey of Chief Moses Ekele on the way for interment!



With Professor E. T. Agida, Mrs MK Adebajo (DA), Hajia Abu Pawa, Dr. Eynade Olateju (DCMAC) and Professor Aliyu Yabagi Isah



Mr. Jangula, Matron, Pauline Usman, Chief Mourner, Matron Hajara Yusuf and Matron Omagbon of Main Theater at the event



Barrister Jonathan Muru, Engr Bala Mangut, Arc Edicha, Tunde KOMe, QS Alhassan and Builder Mrs Oshodin at Ofante



Nurse Juliana Tsiamiu, Mr Isaac Udugh, Dr Usman Galadima, Prof Ekele, Dr Vivian Kwaghe, Mr Agada, Mr Peter Dung and Dr F. Adebayo at the burial ceremony

OBITUARY

With total submission to the will of Almighty God, the management and Staff announce the call to glory of the following staff:



**Mrs. Sarah Usman Sani,
Chief Internal Auditor
Died on 2nd February 2022
Aged 55 years.**

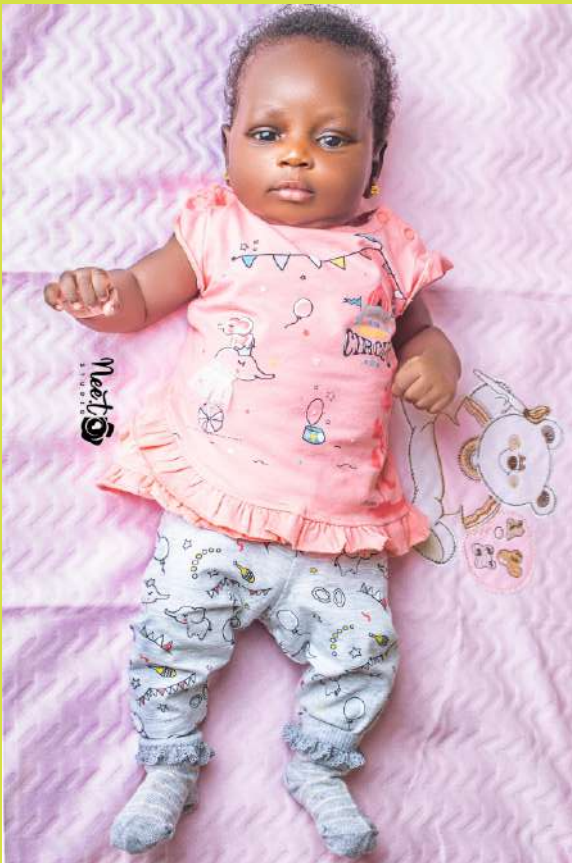
**“Don’t count
the days,
make the
days count”**

– Muhammad Ali

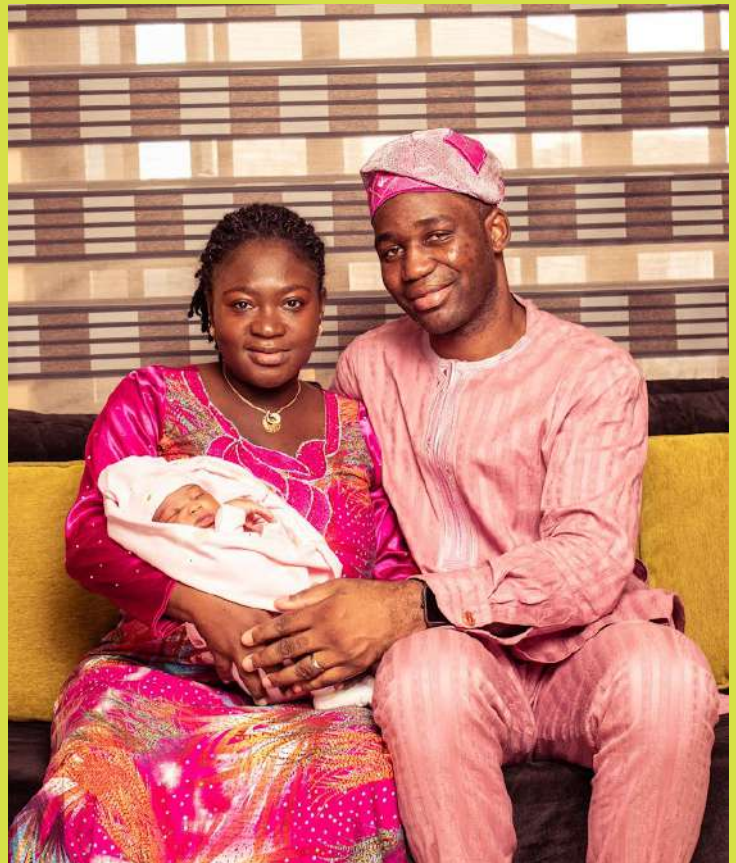
SOCIAL DIARY



Mr. David Shaibu of Admin. Department and wife during their child's naming ceremony



The family Dr. Manchan Dogo, of the Paediatrics Department were blessed with a baby girl recently.



Dr. Omosule Ikeoluwa Elizabeth of the ORL/ENT department during their child's naming ceremony