



AFRICA INTERDISCIPLINARY HEALTH CONFERENCE

2nd Annual Conference

theme:

**PEOPLE, HEALTHCARE AND
COLLABORATION IN AFRICA**



DATE: July 4-5, 2019

VENUE: Noguchi Conference Facility, Univ. of Ghana, Legon

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Jerry John Nutor, PhD, MS, RN, Secretary General, Africa Interdisciplinary Health Conference

VOLUNTEERS

Jerry John Nutor (Princeton University, USA) Secretary General

Dennis K. A Penu (Erasmus University, Rotterdam, Netherlands) Director of Public Relations

Gideon Dzando (Flinders University, Australia) Information Technology Director

Rachel Thompson (Griffith University, Australia) Director of Logistics

Welcome: Secretary General

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the second annual Africa Interdisciplinary Health Conference (AfIHC). AfIHC is an annual conference organized by Push Aid Africa Inc (PAAF), a non-profit organization which is committed to improving healthcare and education among Africans and African descent around the world. Interdisciplinary collaboration is becoming the dominant model for understanding complex health issues across the globe. However, not much has been done in Africa to promote this collaboration among healthcare professionals. AfIHC is the first of its kind in the Africa sub-region, focusing on connecting policy makers, practitioners, health-related researchers, academics, and students.

This conference is a remarkable event that aims at bringing together healthcare professionals from all disciplines including governmental, non-governmental and bilateral organizations in Africa under one roof to deliberate on interdisciplinary health research and collaborations in Africa. From about 100 participants from 5 different countries at the inaugural conference last year, we received over 200 registrations from 10 countries for this year's conference. I can confidently tell you that AfIHC is growing and we will do everything possible to improve interdisciplinary health research collaboration among African researchers and researchers abroad who focus on Africans and African descents.

As we gather here in Accra for the second annual AfIHC, under the theme “People, healthcare and collaboration in Africa,” it is my hope that we will work together to improve the global north-south and global south-south collaboration for mutual benefits for our people and the healthcare system. We need interdisciplinary collaboration to combat health problems such as HIV/AIDS, malaria, cardiovascular diseases, tuberculosis, maternal and child death, cholera and other diseases. Let us, therefore, strive to remove all the barriers hindering interdisciplinary health collaboration such as lack of knowledge and appreciation of the roles of other health professionals. We must

continue to make compelling arguments for team building to decision-makers and politicians. In these tumultuous times, the voice of researchers is crucial to drive the implementation of policies based on evidence, and not ideologies. We must all get involved and the time is now.

As a team, AfIHC will continue to organize annual conferences that will benefit every health-related researcher, policy maker or academic who is interested in interdisciplinary research and collaborations in Africa and beyond. As a new organization, we are working to open institutional and individual membership application so that members can have full benefits of all the services and networking opportunity that we will offer in the future. It is our hope that you will join and participate in our activities as an institutional or individual member when we open application for membership.

I would like to thank our partners, Princeton University, Drexel University, Push Aid Africa Inc., Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, our Board of Governors, Dr. Geoffrey Anguyo, Dr. Lydia Aziato, Ms Patience Doe, Professor Janet Gross, Dr. Shannon Marquez, Dr Emmanuel Opong, Dr. Elize Pietersen and Dr. Jamie Slaughter-Acey, my secretariat, Dennis, Rachel, Gideon and our other volunteers for the hard work and dedication in helping to organize this conference.

I hope you enjoy your time at AfIHC 2019. Please make new friends and use your social media platforms to share what you learn at the conference. Remember to use the #AfIHC2019

Best wishes,

Jerry John Nutor, PhD, RN

Secretary General, AfIHC

WELCOME: BOARD OF GOVERNORS

We are delighted to welcome you to our second annual Africa Interdisciplinary Health Conference (AfIHC). This year's theme “People, healthcare and collaboration in Africa” is very important as we work together for collaborations that will mutually benefit our patients and the healthcare system.

During this conference, you will have the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with a global network of colleagues while learning about the latest research and interdisciplinary projects. It is our hope that this annual conference will represent a tremendous opportunity for all of us – researchers, educators, clinicians, administrators, policymakers, and specialists across all health disciplines.

The outstanding program we will share together would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our volunteers – Jerry John Nutor, Dennis K. A. Penu, Rachel Thompson and Gideon Dzando. We would also like to thank Drexel University – USA, Push Aid Africa Inc., Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research and Center for Health and Wellbeing, Princeton University for their kind support. Many other volunteers have contributed hours and many efforts to make this conference possible.

Thank you for taking the time to come and share your experience and expertise. We hope you find your time here well spent, and renew old friendships while creating new ones.

On behalf of everyone associated with AfIHC, we welcome you to Accra. We look forward to meeting you as we promote interdisciplinary collaboration.

Sincerely,

AfIHC Board of Governors

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Time	Lobby	Main Auditorium	Breakout Room Session Room A
Pre-Conference – Wednesday July 3			
03:00-06:00	Arrival and Registration		
Day 1 – Thursday July 4			
08:00-08:30	Registration		
08:30-09:15		Welcome & Keynote Speech	
09:15-10:45		Panel Discussion 1 Innovation and collaboration for the future of healthcare in Africa	
10:45-11:15	Break, Exhibition, Networking		
11:15-12:45		Oral Session A Reducing Disparities and Improving Wellbeing among All People	Oral Session B Healthcare Professionals Education and Training
12:45-02:45	Lunch Special Session: How can I make my graduate school admission application competitive?		
02:45-04:15		Session C Health Insurance, Health Systems and Human Resource	Session D Health and Wellbeing for Women and Children

06:00-08:00	Cocktail and Networking Reception, Akuafo Hall Gardens		
Day 2 – Friday July 5			
08:30-09:00	Registration		
09:00-10:30		Panel Discussion 2 The role of Africans in the diaspora in improving the healthcare system in Africa	
10:30-11:00	Break, Exhibition, Networking		
11:00-12:30		Oral Session E Global Health Education	Oral Session F Examples of Hi-Impact Development, Public Health and Sanitation Programs
12:30-02:00	Lunch, Exhibition, Networking		BoD/BoG Meeting/Luncheon (01:00 – 02:00)
02:00-03:30		Oral Session G Issues with Treatment Regimens	Oral Session H Neglected Health Issues
03:30-04:00	Closing		

Wednesday July 3, 2019

03:00 pm – 06:00 pm

Lobby, NMIMR Conference Facility

Arrival and registration

Thursday July 4, 2019

08:00 – 08:30 am

Lobby, NMIMR Conference Facility

Registration

08:30 am – 09:15 am

Main Auditorium, NMIMR Conference Facility

Welcome and Opening Keynote Address

Dr. Jerry John Nutor

Dr. Geoffrey Anguyo

Janet Gross, DSN, RN, Professor Emeriti Morehead State University,
USA, Volunteer Nurse Educator, Mother Patern College of Health
Sciences, Peace Corps Response, Liberia

09:15 am – 10:45 am

Main Auditorium, NMIMR Conference Facility

Panel II: Innovation and collaboration for the future of healthcare in
Africa

Focus: In their collaborative paper, Lola Dare and Eric Buch observed that “chronic underinvestment, interventions by global partnerships that focus only on single diseases, and sporadic financing by both national governments and their partners have left African health systems prostrate”. Being leaders in the African Council for Sustainable Health Development in Nigeria and the New Partnership for Africa's Development in South Africa, respectively, means that

these authors have first-hand information about how Africa features in collaborations regarding the continent's healthcare exigencies. From medical tokens of non-governmental organizations to transnational academic research, to exchange students' repair of dilapidating hospital equipment; collaboration has primarily been a face-saving act of institutions and governments, or public display of kindness towards a 'dark' and dying continent. As such, collaboration with and within Africa in the health sector has become an abstract illusion under the guise of “normally” functioning global economic and health systems. Practical health needs of Africans show, on the contrary, that lip services, superficial gestures, and neoliberal agendas are not enough. Collaboration demands innovative pathways toward addressing everyday health exigencies. This panel focuses, therefore, on understanding the concerns, challenges, commonalities, and avenues of innovative collaboration that places people at the center of the agenda in opposition to exclusive neoliberal corporate profiteering.

MODERATOR:

Favour Esinam Normeshie, MPhil. PhD Student, Rhetoric, Theory and Culture, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI, USA

PANELISTS:

Robert Kaba Alhassan, PhD, Lecturer & Ag. Head, Department of Public Health Nursing, University of Health and Allied Sciences, Ho, Ghana

Abraham Kwabena Anang, PhD, Professor & Director of Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, University of Ghana, Legon Accra, Ghana

Geofery Anguyo, MD, Executive Director, Kigezi Health Care Foundation, Uganda

Lydia Aziato, PhD, RN, Associate Professor & Ag Dean, School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Ghana, Legon, Accra, Ghana

Chambi Chachage, PhD, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA

James Clarke, MBChB, MPH, Ophthalmologist & Director, Crystal Eye Clinic, Accra, Ghana

10:45 am – 11:15 am

Lobby, NMIMR Conference Facility

Break/ Exhibition

Concurrent Sessions I

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

Main Auditorium, NMIMR Conference Facility

Session A: Reducing Disparities and Improving Wellbeing among All People

1. **Helen Arega**, Using a social determinants of health framework to understand Black women's experiences with structural racism.
2. **Obed Kwadjo Asante**, Sexual and reproductive health knowledge and behaviour among in-school adolescents in the Kpando Municipality of Ghana
3. **Maxwell Seyram Kumah**, Modeling health problems that distract student academic performance: Case of student teachers
4. **Bertha Smith**, Household and community perception on the integration of persons with mental illness in the Tema Metropolis

Meeting Room, NMIMR Conference Facility

Session B: Healthcare Professionals Education and Training

1. **Christian Makafui Boso**, Evaluation of examination questions of undergraduate nursing program regarding critical thinking skills
2. **Debora Akua Konadu**, Health worker density in deprived Amansie Central District: Implications for the realization of universal health coverage goal
3. **David Abdulai Salifu**, Experiences and perceptions of the theory-practice gap in nursing in a resource-constrained setting.
4. **Ishmael Norman**, Apologia for youth political vigilantism in Sub-Saharan Africa

12:45 pm – 02:45 pm

Main Auditorium, NMIMR Conference Facility

Lunch/Special Session: How to make my graduate school application competitive

MODERATOR:

Jerry John Nutor, PhD, RN, Secretary General Africa, Interdisciplinary Health Conference

PANELIST:

James Kiawoin, MPA, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University. Princeton, NJ, USA

Precious Adade Duodu, MPH, Commonwealth Scholar, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK.

Annabel S. Lemma, PhD Candidate in Biological Engineering, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA.

Stephen Adombire, MSc, Commonwealth Shared Scholar (2017), King's College London, London, UK

Solomon G. Tesfaye, MPA, Robertson Fellow, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ USA

Concurrent Sessions II

02:45 pm – 04:45pm

Main Auditorium, NMIMR Conference Facility

Session C: Health Insurance, Health Systems and Human Resource

1. **Robert Kaba Alhassan**, Citizens empowerment in health insurance programmes: Replicating a systematic community engagement intervention in Ghana based on lessons learned
2. **Stella Kedjanyi**, Assessing clients satisfaction on quality healthcare delivery among public and private health facilities in the Sunyani Municipality, Ghana
3. **Abubakari Sulemana Watara**, Potential gains in reproductive aged life expectancy if maternal mortality were eliminated from the Kintampo Districts of Central Ghana.
4. **Isaac Yeboah**, Multiple sexual partnership among unmarried young men in Ghana: Analysis of the 2003-2014 GDHS
5. **Emmanuel Kodua**, Complementary feeding and hygiene practices of mothers with children 6-24 month of age in the Hohoe municipality, Ghana

Meeting Room, NMIMR Conference Facility

Session D: Health and Wellbeing for Women and Children

1. **Brittany D. Chambers**, The correlation between pregnant and postpartum Black and Latina women's coping strategies and general health

2. **Doku Innocent Kwau**, Prevalence and Factors Associated with Contraceptive Use among Adolescents in Second Cycle Institutions in Ada
3. **Iddrisu Salifu**, Effect of household water treatment on child diarrhoea in Ghana
4. **Kasim Abdulai**, Obesity prevalence among market women in Tamale Metropolis: A comparison between sedentary and mobile traders
5. **Agbadi Pascal**, A Multilevel Analysis of Predictors of Modern Contraceptive Use among Reproductive Age Women in Sierra Leone: Insight from Demographic and Health Surveys

06:00 pm – 08:00 pm

Akuafu Hall Gardens, University of Ghana, Legon

Cocktail and Networking

Friday July 5, 2019

08:30 am – 09:00 am

Lobby, NMIMR Conference Facility

Registration

09:00 am – 10:30 am

Meeting Room, NMIMR Conference Facility

Panel Discussion II: The role of diaspora Africans in improving the healthcare system in Africa

Focus: As globalization has reduced the distance between people and geographies, so has the African diaspora actively engaged in improving the health conditions of citizens in their countries of origin. With the shrinking of distance comes faster communication, exchange of resources like money, and

faster travel time. Diaspora Africans collaborate with non-governmental organizations, universities, or hospitals and frequently travel to their countries to assist in improving health service in various ways including using mediators and active networkers in facilitating health service delivery. Governments are, however, not the focus of diaspora collaborations. This is understandable. African governments have proven over the years to be saddled with poor accountability and corruption hence cannot be trusted. We cannot, however, deny the vast infrastructure that governments can unleash to assist diaspora Africans to achieve their goals on a large scale. This panel will discuss the feasibility of diaspora collaborations with governments and other institutions to facilitate health service delivery in pragmatic ways. The panel will also address possible ways of curbing bureaucratic bottlenecks that characterize these large-scale collaborations. Beyond these efforts, the African diaspora can also collaborate among themselves, and pull resources toward sustainable health projects on the continent. If this should happen, certain modalities and templates for such engagements must be developed. The panel will brainstorm on the nature of such modalities and templates.

MODERATOR:

Favour Esinam Normeshie, MPhil. PhD Student, Rhetoric, Theory and Culture, Michigan Technological University, Houghton, MI, USA

PANELISTS:

Helen Arega, MA, Program Director, Abortion Care Training Incubator for Outstanding Nurse Scholars (ACTIONS), University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA

Yeetey A.K. Enuameh, MD, DrPH, Senior Lecturer, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana

Chambers Brittney, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor, School of Medicine, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA

Ishmael Norman, PhD, JD, Senior Lecturer, University of Health and Allied Sciences, Ho, Ghana | President and CEO, Institute for Security, Disaster and Emergency Studies, Accra, Ghana

Paul GK Ashigbie, DrPH, MPH, BParM, Postdoctoral Associate, Global Health Department, School of Public Health, Boston University, Boston, MA, USA

10:30 am – 11:00 am

Lobby, NMIMR Conference Facility
Break/Exhibition

Concurrent Sessions III

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Main Auditorium, NMIMR Conference Facility

Session E: Global Health Education

1. **Geoffrey Anguyo**, Lessons learned from establishing an academic and agency partnership for global health research
2. **Gabrielle Brizzi**, TTC: An intimate approach to maternal-child health education in eSwatini
3. **Gloria Essilfie**, Women empowerment and child health outcomes in Ghana
4. **Eric Worlawoe Gaba**, Development of an international online professional learning community between Prosthetic and Orthotic Schools in Ghana and the United States

12:30 pm – 02:00 pm

Lunch

Concurrent Sessions IV

02:00 – 03:30

Main Auditorium, NMIMR Conference Facility

Session G: Issues with Treatment Regimens

1. **Stephen Adombire**, Efficacy and safety of Artesunate Amodiaquine and Artemether Lumefantrine for uncomplicated malaria in children: A systematic review and meta-analysis
2. **Berhanu Damise**, Qualitative to clinical: Community knowledge of causes of child death and biomedical interventions in Eastern Hararghe, Ethiopia
3. **Annabel Lemma**, Investigating the metabolic program and antibiotic survival strategies of bacterial persisters
4. **Gbände Sulleh**, Exploring factors influencing resilience among women who completed chemotherapy for breast cancer

Meeting Room, NMIMR Conference Facility

Session F: Examples of Hi-Impact Development, Public Health and Sanitation Programs

1. **Gifty Asante**, Adoption an option beyond abortion: Initiative in saving mother and child
2. **Rosemary Ami Amegbedzi**, Breast Self-Examination among Female Students of Tertiary Institutions in the Ho Municipality
3. **James Earl Kiawoin**, The ebola crisis in Liberia: Lessons learned and the way forward

4. **Jules Cesar Munyabugingo**, Reducing preterm neonatal deaths: All babies count quality improvement project in rural Rutongo District Hospital

Meeting Room, NMIMR Conference Facility

Session H: Neglected Health Issues

1. **Gabriel Banini**, A Qualitative analysis of factors impacting comprehensive cleft care in Ghana
2. **Ophelia Jonfia-Essien**, Barriers and facilitators to craniofacial care in Ghana: Perspectives from a multidisciplinary focus group
3. **Eyoel Taye Bame**, Societal knowledge and attitude towards causes and risk factors of stillbirth in Kersa District, Ethiopia
4. **Daniel Gyaase**, Perceived causes of epilepsy among community members in the Berekum Municipality

03:30 pm – 04:00 pm

Main Auditorium, NMIMR Conference Facility

Closing Plenary

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