

JOURNAL OF COMMUNITY MEDICINE AND PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

SPECIAL ARTICLE

History and Development of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (1974 – 2022)

Asuzu MC

Department of Community Medicine, University of Medical Sciences, Ondo-City, Ondo State.

Keywords

Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria;

Development;

History

ABSTRACT

In the consideration of the value of history in the developmental process of any group of people or programme, after almost 50 years of her existence, the history and development of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN) is being documented here for the benefit of the association and her members both now and in the future, as the history is updated from time to time as is the case of progressive bodies as APHPN surely is. Having been created at a meeting in Lagos as the Association of Community Physicians of Nigeria (ACPN) in 1974, this article traces its life and development up till 1985 at Ibadan when it became an association of a sizeable number, including the establishment of its journal and the quarterly newsletter.

The association then got reorganized between 2005 and 2007, with a new constitution, as the present ACPN, with the first Board of Trustees and registration with the Corporate Affairs Commission in the Presidency. The constitution was again revised in 2021 to accommodate the several growths that had taken place therein.

The establishment from the APHPN of two other non-physician-only public health associations in Nigeria with wider global activities and other developments within the APHPN are captured in this paper so that younger members of the association may learn from these and so grow more seriously and efficiently in their personal and group benefits; and especially for the country and the world at large.

Correspondence to:

Prof. M.C. Asuzu
Department of Community Medicine,
Unicersity of Medical Sciences,
Ondo-City, Ondo State.
Email: mcasuzu2003@yahoo.com

PREAMBLE

It is in the habit of many frontline human endeavours to keep a good record of themselves, in their origins and the developments that they have undergone over the years. Usually after the first of such history is written, periodically (in many cases, after about 10 years) an updating of such history would be done. The purpose of these is to let the upcoming leaders of the body to see the strides that

their enterprise had undergone and the difference they had variously made in their endeavours, so that they will be inspired by those. In that way, they will be able to do so as well or even better, with greater ease and impact; having learnt from those histories. So, after almost 50 years of the existence of the Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria (APHPN), it is only good that we are able at this time to record its history and development as far as we are now able to do so. Unfortunately,

the records between 1974 and 1983 when the author participated at its intended annual conferences and began to be involved with its history and development have not been well ascertained. The 1983 conference held that year at the University of Ife, as then called, with Dr. I. O. Abayomi, the Head of Department of Community Health as our host. An accurate account of the association between 1974 and 1983 is not known at this time, except that it was created at a meeting in Lagos, as the then capital city of Nigeria, with the name of the Association of Community Physicians of Nigeria (ACPN). The ceremonial president elected at that time has been unable to avail to us the names of the rest of the officers elected therein from his records. The ACPN was to be an association of only people who had acquired the full professional fellowship in the discipline, as usually acquired through a residency training programme. Membership of the association therefore remained very few indeed because of that limitation. There was as of then, no residency programme in community medicine, both in Nigeria and indeed many parts of the world.

Incidentally, community medicine only got to be created as the last of the broad specializations in the medical profession, from a 4-year long (1968 to 1972) meetings of the Medical Officers of Health of the United Kingdom (UK) and the newer university-based practitioners of the evolving practices of epidemiology and preventive and social medicine. The office of the Medical Officers of Health and their practice of the globally integrated public health and community medicine had started since 1847/1848, and the evolving practices of preventive and social medicine, only since the 1930s. The Faculty of Community

Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of the UK was formed and established in 1972 and the first Part 1 final examinations in the specialty took place in October 1974.1 The ACPN had the office of a national president and 2 vice-presidents. These officers were only ceremonial in nature. However, the executives of the association were made up of the national chairman, two national vice-chairmen, the secretary-general and a few other usual officers for such an association. Only the national president of the association, in the person of Professor Umaru Shehu, then employed at the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) in Zaria, could be confirmed as at this time of writing this first report of the origin and history of the association. By the time that the 1983 conference held at Ife and this author began to take part in the activities of the association, the ceremonial offices of the national president and his presidents remained unchanged until vice 2006/2007. The Chairman and other national officers had been changed in the interval; but we are unable to find out now for how many times, at what dates, and by whom. However, the original constitution prescribed 2 years as tenures of each executive and which may only be extended to only the second term, but no more. The national chairman in 1983 was the late Professor Paul Osuhor of the University of Benin and the secretary was Dr. M. Y. I. Salami. Dr. Salami was a Medical Officer of Health in the Lagos State Government. The case was made by a presentation at that conference that it is inappropriate to exclude from membership in the association, the only group of medical doctors who may ever be able to practice all of public health integratedly in themselves as well as community medicine in full, as the Medical Officers of Health (MOH) were.³

That paper was subsequently published in the Nigeria Medical Journal.³ Most, if not all, of these MOHs will not have fellowship qualifications; yet they will be very vital in the exercise as well as in the membership of the association. The 1983 conference therefore resolved that any medical doctor who has chosen disciplinary public health in community medicine as their primary career and obtains an MPH/DPH, a membership, or part 1 fellowship in the specialty (all of which are recognized by the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria) should henceforth be admissible as full member of the ACPN.

The Association of Community Physicians of Nigeria (ACPN) - 1985 to 2005

In October 1984 Professor O. O. Kale as the Head of Department of Preventive and Social Medicine at the University of Ibadan, who had volunteered to host the next conference after the Ife 1983 conference, charged the then Dr. M. C. Asuzu on his return from the national residency training programme "one year abroad" activity, to get this conference organized.⁴ The next ACPN conference then held in March 1985 in the College of Medicine Auditorium of the University of Ibadan in the University College Hospital (UCH), Ibadan. At this time, the policy of the association was to hold alternative conferences in Lagos, as it was always easier to get more sponsors and participants from conferences held in Lagos, for the economy of the association. However, since the 1985 conference was extremely successful, the attendees resolved at the general meeting that the 1986 conference should still be hosted by Ibadan. Professor O. O. Kale was elected the national chairman of the ACPN at this conference and Dr. Babatunde Adeyefa (later to change his surname to

Adeyoluwa) as secretary. The first Quarterly Newsletter of the ACPN started to be published by the Professor Kale led national executive, from the office of the publicity/social secretary; and post-circulated to all specialist public health physicians in Nigeria whose addresses could be availed in the directory of same at the office of the social/publicity secretary for 1985 to 1997. Dr. E. E. Edet as a younger resident doctor with Dr. Asuzu at the UCH, assisted greatly in the organization of these two Ibadan conferences as well as in the production of the newsletters and their circulation while he remained at Ibadan.

The Journal of Community Medicine and Primary Health Care commenced under the national chairmanship of Prof. Kale with the best papers presented at the 1985 and 1986 Ibadan conferences, as peer reviewed, as the articles in that Vol. 1 No. 1 and 2 issues of the journal. The place of an association journal and the office of Editor-in-Chief had been indicated for the association in 1974, but nothing else had been done in that regard until this time. The production costs of the new journal were borne by the money obtained from the gains of the 1985 and 1986 conferences. As informed. these Ibadan conferences were the 8th and 9th annual conferences of the association, since the 1983 Ife conference of the ACPN was recorded as the 7th annual conference. The association had therefore held 6 conferences between 1974 and that 1983 one. The venues of these conferences could not be ascertained by us; but like the Ife conference, the population of attendees must have been very small. ⁴ Apart from starting the journal and the newsletter, the Professor Kale led executive also started actively to promote the formation of state branches

of the association in order to enable the hosting of the conference all over the country. However, only the Lagos and Oyo State branches could be started during the lifetime of that executive.

In 1987, the annual conference was held at the University of Lagos at the Akoka campus. Professor S. Oludaisi Oduntan of Ibadan was elected national chairman of the association while Dr. Adekolu-John of the University of Ilorin was elected secretary. However, before the committee could take off on their appointments, Dr. Adekolu-John had a severe road traffic accident which incapacitated him for all of the duration of the Oduntan led executive. Dr. M. C. Asuzu of Ibadan therefore combined his publicity/social secretary office with that of the secretary throughout this executive's interregnum. The rest of the venues of the ACPN annual conferences as well as the chairmen and secretaries of the association are shown in the Tables 1 and 2, respectively. The publicity/social secretary office however was consistently retained in Ibadan at every election for all the years from 1985 until 2001.

Change of Name and Associated Factors

At the 2005 conference at Ibadan, the need to change the name of the association was discussed as well as other related factors. This conference was organized mainly by the efforts of Dr. A. O. Adebiyi on our request, as a second annual conference was again to fail to hold within the four years since 2001. The change of name to the "Association of Public Health Physicians of Nigeria" (APHPN) was agreed upon, the creation of the Board of Trustees instead of the past ceremonial presidents only, and the registration of the association for the first time with the

Presidency (Corporate Affairs Commission) were approved as the major issues in the envisaged advancement of the association. The need to get state branches of the association in all the states of the federation including the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Abuja formed, was also agreed upon as well as emphasized. In that way, we will be able to have branches hosting the conferences in the next three years to be known at each of these conferences. In that way, they will be able to prepare well for it. Ebonyi State members at this conference, led by the then Dr. L. U. Ogbonnaya, pledged to get the Ebonyi State branch formed and to host the next conference along these understandings. The agreed changes in the association were worked upon by the elected executive (again very dynamically facilitated by Dr. A. O. Adebiyi); and all of these changes approved at the 2006 conference at Abakaliki. As Professor Taiwo Lawoyin who had been elected treasurer at Ibadan retired from Ibadan to relocate permanently to the USA, Dr. Adebiyi graciously accepted to fill in for the treasurer for this executive's interregnum. This direct membership of the executive enabled him to do all the facilitation in this transition as possible. The needed funds for the CAC registration was raised on the floor of the Abakaliki conference AGM, thanks to the motivational enthusiasm of Dr. Ngeri Benebo, who was also at the conference and undertook the raising of the funds on the floor of the house.

In developing the agreed odd-number Board of Trustees, it was adjudged that the membership should be as broad as possible because of the breadth of disciplinary public health and community medicine, as well as the variety of practice bases of the specialty. Consideration of the geographical (or "geo-political") locations of these memberships, the minority ethnic nationalities representation, their past practice exposures and experiences including the frank public services outside the universities and teaching hospitals, gender considerations, the very senior serving or better still ex-military, whose colleagues are likely to be in our political decision making for some time to come, and of people who can speak to power, were considered of great importance in these regards. The selection of the inaugural Board of Trustees followed these principles and they were in attendance at the 2007 Awka Conference with their terms of reference fully discussed therein. (Table 3) The national executive agreed after the Abakaliki conference to develop a pre-conference or post-conference training workshop for which the national executive and local/hosting branch and/or their local organizing committee (LOC) will look for a sponsorship. The sponsorship would be particularly to sponsor carefully selected younger colleagues (residents or young lecturers) to be able to attend the conference, especially those who had sent in accepted conference presentations. It will also help everybody attending to have new areas of knowledge to look up to. Dr. Ifeome Modebe (as she was at that time) who had joined the teaching faculty at the Nnamdi Azikiwe Medical School at Nnewi from previous employment with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) facilitated the UNICEF-sponsorship of the training workshop at this conference as the first of it, ever, in the association. Dr. A. A. Onayade (as he was then) followed this up at the next (Osogbo) conference with inviting the World Health Organization (WHO) team he worked with to give a

preconference workshop on the integrated management of childhood illnesses in which he served them as a consultant. The WHO taught and distributed a software to the attendees for use in this area of service. The next (Benin) conference invited the Institute of Human Virology and Lassa fever in Irrua to give a training workshop on Lassa fever and the other emerging diseases, courtesy Professor Obehi Okojie and the LOC.

The admission of younger colleagues with as yet no registrable qualification for life careers in disciplinary public health and community medicine as associate members was also agreed on at the Awka conference, for people who have clearly decided to undertake a life career in the specialty. This would however, not apply to people who have career choices in other specialties of medicine, even if they obtain the DPH or MPH qualifications. If such people, or indeed any other medical doctors, distinguish themselves in any community-oriented or community-based public or community health services, and desire close association with us, they may be offered the honorary membership or fellowship of the association. In this regard, Dr. Tunde Fakunle, a paediatrician originally, but who with the close assistance from Dr. E. E. Edet had done a great deal of community health and promotion work as Community Health Adviser for the Shell Petroleum Development Cooperation (SPDC) and had kept a partnership for the promotion of our annual conferences since then, was inducted in this category. Currently, one of us in the person of Dr. Akinwumi Fajola is the SPDC Community Health Adviser for Africa, resident in Nigeria; and has not only continued the SPDC Community Health partnership with us, but continues to perfect it year after year. Dr. Wale Okediran who is a private medical practitioner but also a community leader and health promoter, an entrepreneur, a literary artist (in book writing and public writing and speaking) as well as one time an Oyo State member of the Federal House of Representatives had also been inducted in this way.

As the APHPN began to grow in numerical strength, in participation in its conferences, in the number of state branches and their capacities to host our conferences all over the country as well as the subspecialty specializations or emphasis of the members, the progression of our conferences into semi-congresses was becoming evident. So, the need to create subspecialty caucuses in the association became evident. This has grown now that up to date six (6) caucuses had been created; namely, currently, epidemiology, occupational health, reproductive and family health, public health nutrition, health management (which started first as the mentorship caucus) and environmental health. However, the public health nutrition would appear to have stopped functioning. In this way, the congress stature of our annual conferences will not only keep growing but the growth of those other specialties and any sub-specialty associations that develop in their regard in the country. The Professor Okojie led executive also produces the first published directory of the members of the association which has continued to be improved electronically with more details of the other issues concerning these members; viz, subspecialty caucuses that they belong to, offices they had held, etc. At the Abuja conference in 2011, it was also resolved that conferences will return to Abuja every five years; as compared with every other

year to Lagos as in the foundation bylaws of the association (as ACPN then).

Impact of the APHPN outside its Membership

During the Professor S. Olu Oduntan led executive, she registered the then ACPN as associate member of the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA). However, as we could not renew the prescribed dues and did not attend their annual meetings in Geneva, that membership lapsed. However, when Professor Obehi Okojie became the national chairman, she again registered us with the WFPHA in the same sustaining or associate membership as any single professional public health association may be registered if they do not as yet have an all-inclusive public health association. She attended the annual meetings in Geneva as well as the regional one in 2011 for the formation of the regional branch of the federation in Africa - the African Federation of Public Health Associations (AFPHA). Both at the WFPHA in Geneva and in the AFPHA, we could not be admitted as full members for the reason of being a single profession public health association. On the contrary, we were requested to help to form an all-inclusive public health association for Nigeria as required for the only one association per country admitted to the federation. So, Prof. Okojie returned and got us to form the Society for Public Health Professionals of Nigeria (SPHPN) in that regard in early 2012; and so, were able to attend the World Congress of Public Health in Ethiopia in that 2012 and the AFPHA side meeting thereat. SPHPN is the federation of all the disciplinary public health associations in Nigeria as well as all other individuals in disciplinary or mere independent public health practice or service in Nigeria, who desire to join as an individual.

SPHPN was eventually presented to the annual meeting of the WFPHA in May 2014 in Geneva by Professor T. M. Akande who succeeded Professor Okojie as APHPN national chairman (Figure 1). At this event, the president of the WFPHA urged APHPN to ensure that SPHPN works fully and maximally even as they replace her properly at the WFPHA on the basis that APHPN has all that it takes to be the key part of the SPHPN as duly formed and reported. During the Prof. Akande led executive, three members were added to the Board of Trustees.

The next association that APHPN spearheaded its formation for the country is the Epidemiological Society of Nigeria (EPiSON). With the former ACPN transformed into the APHPN and going on smoothly, after the Benin 2009 conference, it was considered expedient to establish an epidemiological association in Nigeria. This is mainly in response to the persistent call by the leadership of the International Epidemiological Association (IEA) that we do so. So, an electronic forum of the top epidemiologists in Nigeria was created from Ibadan and held several discussions that ended at the APHPN 2010 conference in Lagos. In the evening of the first day of the conference, a hybrid physical and electronic meeting was held in the side room of the Sickle Cell Centre of the conference in Idi-Araba as previously agreed. Professor K. Sabitu of ABU Zaria was elected inaugural president and Dr. A. O. Adebiyi as secretary. Again under the dynamic facilitation of Dr. Adebiyi, EPiSON was registered with the CAC in Nigeria. Joint membership of the International Epidemiological Association by members of EPiSON was also sought and obtained. By the time that EPiSON members attended the World Congress of Epidemiology in Edinburgh in 2011, 94 Nigerians had become members of the IEA from the 6 to 10 of old since the 1984 of our membership in the association. The IEA leadership at this conference requested the EPiSON leadership to do to Africa what they had just done to Nigeria. So, in 2012 at the Tinapa Calabar conference, APHPN held her conference back to back with EPiSON with the inauguration of the Africa Epidemiological Association, as EPiSON had been able to achieve, with members from Cameroun, Nigeria and South Africa for a start. Dr. Adebiyi had gone on to serve as IEA Council member for Africa and subsequently the de-facto president of the Africa Epidemiological Association (AfEA). Currently, he is the president elect of the IEA.

Current Constitution of the Association from 2019 and associated Developments

The constitution of the association was again revised and approved in 2019; and the office of the national chairman was changed to national president; the position of the ceremonial national president and vice-presidents having ended with the creation of the Board of Trustees whose head is now the Chairman of the Board and not president any longer. After the death of one of the original members of the Board of Trustees, three more people were added to the Board in 2016. In 2022, one more member was added to produce the new registered Board of Trustees as shown in Table 4. In addition to all these, the 2021 executives as led by Prof. A. R. Isara resuscitated the quarterly newsletter in July 2021; and have had it circulated electronically since then.

Table 1: Hosting centres of the ACPN/APHPN conferences, 1983 to 2022

Year	Hosting Centre/Branch	
1983	University of Ife, Ile-Ife	
1985	College of Medicine, University of Ibadan	
1986	College of Medicine, University of Ibadan.	
1987	University of Lagos, Akoka Lagos	
1988	University of Ilorin, Kwara	
1989	College of Medicine, University of Ibadan	
1992	University of Lagos, Akoka Lagos	
1995	University of Nigeria, Enugu	
1996	Lagos Team at the Gateway Hotel, Ijebu-Ode	
2001	University of Nigeria, Enugu	
2002	University of Jos, Jos	
2003	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria	
2005	University of Ibadan, Ibadan	
2006	Ebonyi State University, Abakiliki	
2007*	Nnamdi Azikiwe University Nnewi & Anambra State Branch, Awka*	
2008,	Obafemi Awolowo University/Osun State Branch, Osogbo	
2009	University of Benin, Benin City	
2010	University of Lagos, Idi-Araba Lagos	
2011	FCT Abuja Branch	
2012	University of Calabar/ Cross River State Branch	
2013	Kwara State Branch	
2014	River State Branch	
2015	Benue State Branch	
2016	FCT Abuja Branch	
2017	Ekiti State Branch	
2018	Delta State Branch	
2019	Enugu State Branch	
2020	Plateau State Branch	
2021	FCT Abuja Branch	
2022	Kwara State Branch	

^{*}ACPN renamed as APHPN

Table 2: Ceremonial Presidents, Chairmen and Secretaries of the ACPN/APHPN 1974 to 2022

Year	President/Chairman	Secretary
1974 - 2007	Professor Umaru Shehu (Zaria)	-
	Foundation Ceremonial President	
	Chairman of the BOT at transition of ACPN to APHPN	
	in 2007	
1974 - 1983	Not yet ascertained	Not yet ascertained
1983 - 1985	Prof. P. Osuhor (Benin)	Dr. M. Y. I. Salami (Lagos)
1985 - 1987	Prof. O. O. Kale (Ibadan)	Dr. B. Adeyefa (Ibadan)
1987 - 1991	Prof. S. Oludaisi Oduntan (Ibadan)	Dr. Adekolu-John (Ilorin)
		Dr. M. C. Asuzu (Ibadan)*
1991 – 1996	Dr. M. O. Oduwole (Lagos)	Dr. T. M. Akerele (Lagos)
1996 - 2001	Prof. B. Nwakoby (Enugu)	Dr. O. Akpala (Enugu)
2001 - 2005	Dr. A. Zoakah (Jos)	Dr. C. Ogbonna (Jos)
2005 - 2009	Prof. M. C. Asuzu (Ibadan)	Dr. K. O. Osungbade (Ibadan)
2009 - 2013	Prof. Obehi Okojie (Benin)	Dr. A. R. Isara (Benin)
2013 - 2017	Prof. T. M. Akande (Ilorin)	Dr. S. A. Aderibigbe (Ilorin)
2017-2021	Prof. B. S. C. Uzochukwu (Enugu)**	Dr. N. Ugwunna (Enugu)**
2021 till date	Prof. A. R. Isara (Benin)	Dr. AO Aigbiremolen (Irrua)

^{*}Acted as secretary all through this time as Dr. Adekolu-John was incapacitated by an accident

^{**}First executive President and Secretary, respectively (2019-2021) following the constitution revision in 2019 at the end of their first tenure

Table 3: Registered members of the Inaugural APHPN Board of Trustees (2007)

Prof. Umaru Shehu (Chairman)

Prof. S. Oludaisi Oduntan

Prof. B. A. N. Nwakoby

Dr. S. B. S. Afiesimama*

Gen. (Dr.) B. E. Abang (Ex-Military as specifically deemed important)

*Late

The Chairman and Secretary of APHPN are <u>in attendance</u> at the meeting of the BOT to provide them information and secretarial support for their meetings.



Figure 1: Chairman of APHPN, Prof. TM Akande (extreme left) at the WFPHA 2014 meeting at Geneva where he presented the President of the SPHPN, Prof MC Asuzu (next to him) as the requested Nigerian single association member of the WFPHA.

Table 4: Current Registered Members of the Board of Trustees (2022)

Prof. O. K. Alausa (Chairman)

Prof. C. N. Obionu

Prof. A. Zoakah

Prof. Clara Ejembi

Gen. (Dr.) B. E. Abang

The President and Secretary of APHPN are <u>in attendance</u> at the meeting of the BOT to provide them information and secretarial support for their meetings.

Table 5. Editors-in-Chief of the Journal of Community Medicine and Primary Health Care

Year	Editor-in-Chief
1988 – 2005	Prof. O. K. Alausa
2005 - 2009	Dr. Clara Ejembi
2009 - 2013	Prof. O. O. Odusanya
2013 - 2017	Prof. A. A. Onayade
2017 till date	Prof. Vivian O. Omuemu

The Journal of Community Medicine and Primary Health Care

Even though the ACPN formation in 1974 had articulated the need for a professional journal for the association as well as for an editorial board thereof, none had been created before the Professor Kale-led national executive of 1985-1987. So, after the good sponsorship and participation we were able to get for the 1985 and 1986 conferences at Ibadan, the executive went ahead to develop a name for the journal, to create the Editorial Board to review the papers presented at these two conferences and to publish them in the first volume (Vol. 1; Nos. 1 and 2) of the journal. Professor O. K. Alausa was appointed the inaugural Editor-in-Chief of the journal and the journal has been published faithfully since then. During the Professor Onayade Editor-in-Chief era, we became able to have it accessible via the African Journals Online (AJOL) medium for the articles and their titles as well as the abstracts only. Table 5 shows all the other editors-in-chief for the journal from the beginning till date. During the current Editorin-Chief era of Professor Vivian O. Omuemu, the number of issues of the journal per volume increased from 2 to 3.

Conclusion

As mentioned in the preamble of this document, it is important that people learn of the history of themselves and other matters such as any associations and the families from which they come, as great sources of wisdom. In that way, they will be inspired by the good things that they should be proud of, as well as to learn from them so as to be able to grow in them, with greater efficiency. We will hope that this presentation will do exactly that to all our up-coming leaders in this most important medical specialization; so that they will be able to do better and more efficiently than these ancestors thereof.

Such aspects of the association as the Isaac Ladipo Oluwole Memorial Lecture as an important aspect of our annual conferences and the list of these lectures and their lecturers remain some aspects of this history which we are not able to ascertain as fully as we would like to do it. It must therefore remain one of those issues that our coming leadership should begin to assemble now. Same would apply to the missing details of 1974 to 1983 as already informed; as well as the topic and sponsors of the pre- or post-conference training workshops. In that way, it will be well done when that chance rears up its head again for updating this history.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Professors Umaru Shehu (earlier), O. O. Kale and S Olu Oduntan (latterly) for their helps in providing some of the information contained in this article or confirming some of them that the author was not fully sure of, as such. We also thank Professors A. A. Onayade, A. O. Osibogun, Yetunde Kuyinu and S. J. Yahya through whom we tried to reach Dr. I. O. Abayomi,

Dr. M. Y. I. Salami, Prof. O. O. Humponu-Wusu and Prof. Umaru Shehu respectively, lately, for some of the outstanding information in the 1974 – 1983 interval when our personal efforts at reaching them kept failing; even though all these extra assistances were still to no avail as yet.

We thank Dr. E. E. Edet and Dr. A. O. Adebiyi for all the background work that they were largely responsible for in the intervals of 1984 – 1987 and 2000 – 2022 respectively, for all the things that were able to be done for ACPN and APHPN (and the societies it birthed) in those times from Ibadan. We thank Prof. A. R. Isara for bringing to our attention or clarifying some valuable things that we are still able to verifiably include in the article especially since 2019.

REFERENCES

- Warren MD. The genesis of the Faculty of Community Medicine of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom. Centre for Health Services Studies, University of Kent at Canterbury. UK. 1997.
- 2. Winslow C-EA. The evolution and significance of the modern public health campaign. Yale University Press. New Haven. 1984.
- 3. Asuzu MC. Towards health for all by the year 2000: A critical analysis of the role of community (Public Health) physicians in the Nigerian health service. Nig. Med. J. 1988 April/June; 18(2): 367-370.
- 4. Kale OO. Mike Asuzu: A value-added investment. In: Many facets of the life of the man called Michael whose father's name is Asuzu. A retirement publication from the Department of Community Medicine, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan in honour of MC Asuzu. 2020. Pp. 4-7.