



UPTH WATCH



A PUBLICATION OF UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT TEACHING HOSPITAL

SPECIAL EDITION



UPTH DEDICATED TO GOD

JOINT
MATRICULATION
CEREMONY
OF SCHOOLS
IN UPTH



**PROF. HENRY ARINZE ANTHONY UGBOMA
as C.M.D., UPTH**

AU AND OTHER
RENOWNED
ORGANISATIONS
RECOGNISES
ONE OF UPTH BEST:
IGOCHE J. PETER



**UPTH CELEBRATES FIRST ASSISTED
REPRODUCTIVE DELIVERY**



BOARD CHAIRMAN VISITS VCC LONDON



**BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
SETS DOWN TO WORK**

D.A. KEYS INTO CMD'S VISION



UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT TEACHING HOSPITAL

OUR VISION:

**TO BE A FIRST RATE,
WORLD-CLASS HOSPITAL**

OUR MISSION

to provide excellent medical services, manpower training and research, using well-trained and well-motivated workforce and the best affordable modern technology with a culture of courtesy, humanness and patient friendliness.

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EDITORIAL

PROF HENRY UGBOMA: CHAMPIONING A NEW FACE FOR UPTH

On assumption of office as Chief Medical Director, Professor Henry Ugboma left no one in doubt about his readiness for the onerous task ahead, that of restoring the lost glory of University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital.

In terms of leadership, he demonstrated a style of leading from the bottom, by engaging critical stakeholders both within the hospital community as well as the host communities on whose land the hospital is found.

Vision, passion and direction have been notable features in his deliberations and the response has been one of

renewed hope and faith that this Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology may well be the face of change the hospital desperately needs after a long period of negative and uncomplimentary narrative that characterized the public space.

Indeed his administration's Zero tolerance for corruption, hard stand against indiscipline and readiness to show erring staff the way out, has gone a long way in cultivating an atmosphere of productivity, performance and recognition.

For a man widely known to be always on the move, what many would consider as

significant achievements worthy of commendation are rather in his opinion, modest to be celebrated as more still remains to be done in order to deliver on its core mandate.

Perhaps one of the major steps taken to drive innovation was the constitution of a think tank to collate view and contributions from the hospital community with a view to fashion out a working vision to guide Management deliver on its promises.

Dr. Kelechi E. Okonta
Chairman, Editorial Board

A wind of change currently sweeps through the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital. This is evident in the upgrading of facility and equipment at the institution and an improvement in service delivery that has got the general public commending the hospital.

Staff motivation is at an all time high and this has led to a much improved disposition towards work.

This ongoing change is at the instance of the current Chief Medical Director, Professor Henry A. A. Ugboma. He has made it his main objective to restore the University of Port

EDITOR'S CORNER

Harcourt Teaching Hospital to its glory days.

Such thoughts have given birth to this publication, the UPTH WATCH which replaces the hospital's previous quarterly publication UPTH NEWS, last published about six years ago.

The UPTH WATCH will hopefully become a regular feature, capturing and documenting events as they happen, within and outside the hospital community.

This special edition from the media unit will focus mainly on highlighting the great efforts

taken by the current administration in bringing about the noticeable change in the hospital. We hope to improve with subsequent editions but promise to strive to deliver the best professional standard possible.

We welcome your support and comments as we do our bit to foster the greater objective of bringing back the glory days of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital.

**ELABHA ALEXANDRA
MENI**



2019: UPTH HOLDS DEDICATION SERVICE

Wednesday the 16th of January 2019, saw management and staff of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital troop out in numbers, for a dedication service to commit its staff and affairs of the hospital into the hands of God.

Chief Medical Director Professor Henry Ugboma leading management in prayers and praise applauded the sense of unity currently being experienced, as well as the momentum of turnaround underway in various parts of the hospital.

Professor Ugboma expressed delight that the hospital is making excellent progress, assuring that in spite of his busy schedule, the

open door policy he adopted since assumption of office as CMD will be sustained.

He also commended the coordinator of the UPTH chapel Dr Somiari Harcourt and other members of the chapel, for sustaining their intercessory prayers for the hospital and charged staff to be dutiful and committed to their assignment.

Earlier the chaplain of Our Saviour's Chapel, Rev. Idika Mbah preaching on blessings inherent in dedication service, commended the hospitals management for recognising and according a place of exaltation to God in the affairs of the hospital.

He assured that the dedication service will usher

the teaching hospital into a new season of progress, prosperity and general well-being.

The Director of Administration Mr Akie Hart took the first bible reading, while Professor Jebbin took the second, with prayer sessions for staff and management taken by the Deputy Director Nursing Services Mrs Patricia Gad-Harry and a guest minister Pastor Oti respectively.

The two hour solemn assembly which held in the open foyer, is the first to be held since the coming on board of the new management team led by Professor Ugboma.



BOARD OF MANAGEMENT SETS TO WORK

The thirteen member board of management appointed by the federal government to oversee the affairs of the University Of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital has since its 106th inaugural meeting in March 2018, taken far-reaching decisions towards repositioning the hospital and thus restoring its lost glory.

Following its interactive session with heads of departments and units as well as professional associations and their respective workers' unions, the Muktar Ahmed Anka led board applauded the level of cooperation between management and staff, noting

that such cooperation will go a long way in facilitating the restoration of the fortunes of the hospital.

“I assure you that the board will do its best to cooperate with the unions and management to push the hospital cases with the federal ministry of health and other organisations that will help restore UPTH to its glory days,” said the board chairman.

The board members who were conducted round the physical infrastructure and facilities by the Chief Medical Director Prof. Henry Ugboma, saw first hand the level of encroachment on yet to be

developed portions of hospital lands by speculators.

Since its inauguration, the board of management has met twice, taking telling decisions including appointment of an acting Director of Administration in the person of Mr. Akie O. Hart, the consideration and subsequent approval of appointment and promotion for all categories of staff as at when due.

It will be recalled that President Muhammadu Buhari GCFR had only in 2018 reconstituted the boards of agencies parastatals and various organs of government, while the minister of health, Professor Isaac Adewole subsequently inaugurated the boards of the respective agencies, charging them on the roles expected of them towards the full implementation of the present administration's programs and policies.

CLINICAL SERVICES TRAINING IMPROVEMENT

Bed space capacity of the hospital was increased to 850 beds with a record of 85% occupancy ratio of 700 beds, a significant achievement when compared to last year's 400 patient's capacity. This was made possible following a much improved working environment, availability of drugs, more skilled manpower, motivation of staff and provision of much needed working materials.

The birth rates within this

period rose to 1,481 babies as opposed to 1,209 last year, while admission rate increased from 8,184 in 2017 to 10,342 in 2018.

There is tremendous improvement in the waiting time of patients in the hospital. It takes only 5 minutes on arrival at the A&E to be attended to. The story is almost the same in other departments.

An improvement in clinical facilities and staff on ground has seen our resident doctors now passing their exams as a total number of 46 of 49 resident doctors, who sat for the Part 1 Fellowship College Examination passed, while 33 of 50 resident doctors sat and passed the Part 2 examinations. Also the foreign

medical graduates with their positions in the various clinical departments had a pass rate of well over 80% in the recent medical and dental council examination.

TRAINING SCHOOLS BOARD

The dogged efforts of the current board of management has resulted in a better and efficient running of the following programs and schools:

- Undergraduate Clinical Medical and Nursing Training
- The Residency Training Programme
- School of Health Information Management
- Community Health Officers School CHO
- School of Post Basic Nursing (A/E)

-School of Post Basic Nursing (Paediatrics)

The high pass rate of the students of these above-mentioned schools range from 80% in 2017 to 90% in 2018 and this encouraged the current board to establish the school of Social Welfare And Occupational Therapy. In fact, the Post Basic Paediatrics recorded a 100% success, in the sense that 25 students sat for the examination and all of them made it.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SCHOOLS

Plans have reached advanced stage for the establishment of two new schools, namely:

- School of Mental Health Nursing
- School of Pre-Operative Nursing

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE BOARD

ACCREDITATION

It is also heart warming to note, that in the short lifespan of the current board, no department has lost accreditation. Those who lost accreditation in the past have regained it in full. Also, School of Post Basic (Paediatric and A/E) got full accreditation for 5 years, for the first time since inception of the school.

*Interaction and dialogue with clinical and non-clinical departments with the principle of joint stakeholding.

*Reconciliation of accounts by the various departments/units

on a monthly basis, thus reducing leakages and increasing internally generated revenue (IGR).

*Motivation of clinical departments by funding the Revolving Fund Committees, thereby improving healthcare delivery through a 400% to 1000% increase in allocation when compared to last year's figures.

Equipment purchases and repairs in various departments are currently ongoing as seen in:

*Refurbished and commissioned 500KVA incinerator machine for human waste treatment and 10KVA incinerator machine for other wastes for the entire hospital.

*Microbiology refurbishment of BACTAC 950 Blood Culture Machine that was donated by the university of Port Harcourt and abandoned 8 years ago along with provision of fund for its consumable.

*Chem. Path - Hormonal E/U Assay Analysis and Ion Selective Electrode Machine.

*Haematology- Blood Component Therapy and the only Apheresis machine in the South South and the first in WestAfrica.

*Ophthalmology- repair of slit lamps and provision of Retinoscopes, purchase of surgical microscope and slit lamps.

*SCBU- Incubators

Stimulation of private sector participation in the UPTH vision with resultant equipment donation vis:

*Donation of Ambulance by the Japanese Government.

*Donation of ventilators and monitors in the ICU by First City Monument Bank, FCMB.

*Donation of equipment by Sterling Bank to SCBU

*Coca-Cola Initiative- Provision of equipment in maternal/child care. They have also trained two Biomedical Engineers. Their program is ongoing.

*Revamping Repair preparing of the central air conditioner unit for the main theatre.

*Repair of the recalcitrant oxygen plant which has aided smooth life-saving operations in the hospital and saved substantial outflow of expenses.

*Rationalization of hitherto stifling PPP agreements in the Laboratories, Radiology and Ophthalmology.

*Facilitation of correction of the huge budget allocation from the federal Government from being the lowest to one with improved funding.

*Facilitating, planning, executing, monitoring/evaluating of hospital procurement processes to ensure progress in the delivery of services to patients.

*Setting up of a servicom standard of operation (SOP) Technical Committee in line with SERVICOM requirements for MDA's.

*Establishment of LIFESTYLE MEDICINE CLINIC domiciled at NHIS as part of the staff welfare package.

*The Drug Revolving Fund Service was revamped through the injection of more funds and the consequent improvement of the availability of drugs. There is now 24 hours services at Paediatrics and Accident and Emergency Departments.

*Opening and equipping of CEPU unit with admission of the elderly.

*The first IVF baby was born on the 7th of January 2019 with many others on the way.

*Purchasing of equipment like treadmills for Physiotherapy Department.

*House Officer's Quarters rehabilitation is ongoing presently.

*Sponsorship/Training is ongoing and debt owed from as far back as 2010 is being paid.

*Deceased staff have been paid of their outstanding entitlements.

POWER SUPPLY

Power supply has greatly improved in the hospital. The hospital has almost 24 hours daily power supply, thereby enhancing healthcare delivery. This improvement in power supply came as a result of the refurbishment of two 1000 KVA generators (Caterpillar and Perkins) and an 800 KVA

Perkins generator. Also four 100 kva generators attached to A/E, Paediatric And Water Treatment plant are functioning, providing power to the above-mentioned departments. Finally the brokerage of an agreement with the Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution



Company to supply power to UPTH for an average of 18 - 22 hours daily, thus reducing diesel supply cost.



WATER SUPPLY

There is uninterrupted water supply and quick response to any water supply problem in the hospital. Purchasing of new sumo pumps and cables were done, to the effect, the Department's of Burns Plastic will be moving over to their new building by the end of January 2019 following the completion of ongoing work.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Board/Management has also commenced the process of executing value-added 2019 capital projects.

IMPROVED LIGHTING SYSTEM

There has been great improvement in illumination of the hospital as more street lights have become functional. The offices and their surroundings are now better illuminated.

COVERED POT HOLES

The portholes which dotted roads at the hospital are now a thing of the past, as works and services have covered them through direct labour.

PETITIONS COMPLAINTS

Staff and patients complaints are speedily looked into with positive results on merit.

DISCIPLINE

Most disciplinary cases have been dealt with, some are ongoing.

TRADE UNION PROFESSIONAL GROUPS.

There is good working relationship between the management and the unions which has brought peace and stability to the hospital. The unions have written formal letters of commendation to the management.

MANAGEMENT AND HOST COMMUNITIES

The present administration carries along the host communities in its activities. Positive and constructive engagement with the communities, ensures the presently sustained peace.

INTERNSHIP FOR NURSING

The Chief Medical Director graciously approved the commencement of internship in UPTH which started with the present administration.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A POSTAL AGENCY

The management initiated and provided the logistics that enabled the takeoff of the first postal agency in the hospital.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A RADIOLOGY MONITORING COMPANY AT UPTH

The management provided the enabling environment that led to the establishment of the Radiology Monitoring Private Sector Company Of Ugwema

Integrated Services Limited at the Nuclear Medicine Block. This company was given a space to site Dosimetry Laboratory which will be of international standard.

*Mortuary: The UPTH mortuary has been rebranded under the present administration. The mortuary which was in very poor condition has under the present management recorded the following achievements:

- Repairs and maintenance of all faculty refrigerators
- Good working environment
- Excellent service delivery
- Increase in revenue
- Employment and regularisation of appointments
- Payment of adhoc staff as at when due.

CMD INAUGURATES THINK TANK

In its bid to improve the quality of service delivery, the management of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital has constituted a Think Tank Committee whose terms of reference are both far-reaching and broad in scope.

From the onset of its inauguration earlier in the year, the thirteen person body with Professor Chijioke A. Nwauche as Chairman and Mr. Akie Hart as Secretary have engaged critical stakeholders, receiving memoranda from various quarters and thus fashioning out new ways of doing things, in order to improve the quality of service delivery, staff welfare, as well as restore the hospital's

pride of place as a center of excellence.

The ideas generated from the works so far done by the Think Tank are already being implemented by management, some of which include the stoppage of the cashless payment system due to loss in Internally Generated Revenue, a personnel audit exercise to ascertain the actual size of the hospital's workforce, as well as the resuscitation of Revolving Fund Schemes to reposition the clinical services to deliver on their mandate.

Although the Prof. Nwauche led committee is almost concluding its assignment, without however

waiting for its final report, management has wasted no time by proceeding to address the most urgent concerns and this has already started yielding handsome dividends such as a marked upswing in Internally Generated Revenue, clarity about the actual size of the workforce and remarkable boost in the momentum of clinical services.

Going by this unprecedented trend of events, there is no doubt that the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital is on the verge of recording a major milestone, the restoration of its lost glory as set out by the current chief executive Professor Henry Ugboma



It is worth noting that within a relatively short period of assumption of office of the Chief Medical Director, Professor Henry Ugboma has helped turn around the hospital positively, to the satisfaction of patients and staff.

Appointed Chief Medical Director on the 31st of

December 2017, Professor Ugboma and the Board of management inaugurated in March 2018, reawakened an attitudinal change, resuscitating and rebranding vital sectors of the hospital.

The board and management has laid a solid foundation for the sustainable development of the hospital,

evidenced by verifiable positive deliverables in primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare. Research is also not left out as several single and collaborative efforts are ongoing.

These efforts and achievements are in a huge way making positive impact on patients, staff, host communities and other stakeholders.

Such efforts are enumerated below:

STAFF MOTIVATION

After assumption of office, the Chief Medical Director (CMD)/Board released the delayed 2017 senior and junior staff promotions result and implemented it in full.

The administration conducted staff promotion interview (APC III) for 2018 and went ahead to release and also implement it in the same year. This unprecedented move, which had never happened in the hospital's history saw 140 junior staff promoted as opposed to 46 promoted in the previous year.

It was same for Senior Staff in 2018 where 150 of them got promoted by the Appointments and Promotions Committee (APC II). In the same year 2018, 26 officers on Directorate Cadre were promoted.

2019 Junior Staff promotions have been conducted and results have

already been presented awaiting implementation by management.

Such implementation of promotions has helped boost staff morale at the hospital.

BOARD CHAIRMAN VISITS VCC LONDON

Upon the inauguration of the Board on the 28th of March 2018, the Board Chairman, Alhaji Muhktar Ahmed Anka, his Board members together with the management team led by Professor Henry Ugboma have made sustained efforts to ensure that the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital lives up to expectation as one of Nigeria's leading Tertiary Health Institution.

The Chief Medical Director and his management team, have had the needed support from the Board that have translated into remarkable progress in all clinical and non-clinical areas of the hospital. To mention just a few is the launch of the Nuclear Medicine, unveiling of the South – South Regional Burns and Plastic Center, Re-equipping of Dialysis Center and Radiology Department, as well as the Laboratories and improvement in clinical intervention in Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynaecology etc.



The Board Chairman, Alhaji Anka, recently has made the necessary move to ensure UPTH keys into the National Policy frame work on healthy aging in Nigeria. Collaborating with the Federal Ministry of Health and Pat Willis Eco Limited (A Health and Social Care systems solutions and PR Firm in London), the Board Chairman paid a visit to the Victoria Care Center (VCC) of the aged in London last May with the Federal Ministry of Health Coordinator of HEPIQ – C Project.

His excellency, Alhaji Anka visit to the Mayor of London Borough of Brent was to consolidate the partnership that is necessary and to replicate such in UPTH. The

good thing is the Board and Management working in synergy has given the necessary support to the UPTH Center for Care of Elderly Person (CEPU) ably led by Dr Hope I. Bell-Gam. To show particular interest is given to the care of the elderly. The center with management's approval received the West African College of Physicians team for accreditation of the center together with the sub-specialties of Dermatology



and Neurology in the Department of Internal Medicine, to give a boost for optimal clinical care.

Care for Elderly also known in clinical field as Geriatric is a rare clinic care in our country. And the center in UPTH will be a huge relief, as it will ensure our elderly live healthy as they age.

Acute Geriatric Medicine Alias Care of Elderly Persons Unit (CEPU) started in UPTH on 4th

of May 2013 with bed allocations spread evenly between male medical ward and female medical ward.

This has evolved to a 16 bed geriatric centre, inclusive of two sets of a twin bedded private rooms. This is currently set-up in a section of the popular bungalow in the hospital.

The centre admits physical disabilities derived from multi – organ morbidities, mental

health issues such as depression, Anxiety, Dementia and suicides, heavy economic challenges leading to inability to self-care, variety of abuses, homelessness and abandonment, poverty and early death remain rampart in this vulnerable group.

The Management of the University of Port Harcourt puts in all effort to sustain a good course. A new hope awaits the elderly in the society of today.

AU AND OTHER RENOWNED ORGANISATIONS RECOGNISES ONE OF UPTH BEST: IGOCHE J. PETER



DR IGOCHE: MY EBOLA INTERVENTION MISSION

Dr Igoche James Peter, a Principal Medical Officer of Accident and Emergency of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital narrates his near death story of Ebola in 2015.

“It was like going into war, if I live, I live, if I die, I die. Whatever be the case, I am going there for Christ.”

These were the thoughts of Dr Peter Igoche and other Health workers and expatriates that went on a clarion call to Liberia and Sierra Leone.

The University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital acknowledges the survival of a dedicated doctor who against all the odds, accepted to embark on a mission that seemed impossible to many.

On the event of the outbreak of ebola, in 2014, Doctor Peter Igoche, a Principal Medical Officer of Accident and Emergency and other health workers of the hospital attended a sensitization workshop for health workers on ebola.

The Federal Ministry of Health in collaboration with World Health Organisation and other sister agencies working in consonance with the Ministry of Health Rivers State organised the workshop.

This workshop started the beginning of another Phase in the career of Doctor Igoche. A bold step that other health workers saw as death sentence.

It was indeed a thing of interest that a disease as deadly as Ebola was in the country. However, when the word was put out for possible volunteers to the most feared mission “mission impossible”, Doctor Igoche accepted the clarion call in Rivers State.

Intensive tutorials were then given on Preventive measures, that is, managing patients and how to protect one's self.

Following the development of events, the family of Dr Igoche was intimated to this regard and their initial reaction was not far expected. It came as a shocker to his wife and children and it seemed like “good bye” surprisingly his youngest daughter, gave him courage. She explained to her father, the gain of saving a whole nation as opposed to saving oneself.

Her words gave him the needed strength and in no time, the rest of the family, accepted and respected his decision and thus, the journey began.

The mission was set in motion as an isolation centre was set up at Emohua Rivers State. There was a reported case at the Rumuigbo axis of Port Harcourt, Rivers State Government and the swift response the team brought hope to the people of the state. Attending to the situation, though word made the round of religious leaders also going into fasting and prayers for God to show mercy.

As the normalcy returned to Nigeria, there were more stories of high resurgence of cases in Liberia and Sierra Leone and Nigeria was contacted for more volunteers as the World Health Organisation, United Nations and African Union, all came together for the survival of human race.

Doctor Peter Igoche received a mail calling on him for a foreign mission. The A & E doctor of the hospital did not hesitate as he once again, remembered his daughter's words. He immediately picked all necessary documentation and certification and within three days, all volunteers who accepted this call, were well equipped and fully trained for the task ahead.

This was how the journey once again continued into the world of the unknown. As volunteers boarded the aeroplane, they

said their prayers and comfortably fix themselves into their chairs as they gazing into the skies and hoping for the best of luck from heaven.

Upon arrival at Sierra Leone, Doctor Igoche was norminated Nigerian Team Leader and he was assigned to Port-Local Province on the Northern part of Sierra Leone. After a lucky deep, he was primarily sent to St John of God Hospital Mosa in Mabeseni. There he witnessed doctors and expatriates give their lives to save others.

It was indeed deadly but he kept faith alive. It got to a point that after every visit to a village or community, good byes will be said to doctors or other health workers stationed there as meeting them again in the near future always seemed unlikely.

Dr Igoche took it, one day at a time and whenever it was time for a night rest, he would smile and say to himself “it's over for today, tomorrow is another day.”

From Sierra Leone, a trip was made to Liberia and the Mission got even tougher as the days went by.

The mission that was termed impossible ended with Awards for Doctor Igoche. His bravery and dedication to saving lives cannot be over-emphasised as Doctor Igoche has proved himself, a worthy ambassador of medical practice.

UPTH CELEBRATES FIRST ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE DELIVERY

Barely two weeks into 2019, the University Of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital recorded yet another milestone in the area of Assisted Reproductive Conception. On Monday the 7th of January 2019, a lady who had been undergoing In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) was successfully delivered of a bouncing baby boy and this hearty news was received with great delight by the Chief Medical Director Professor Henry Ugboma and other members of management who were holding the year's first hospital management committee (HMC) meeting.

Professor Ugboma who led some officials to the Postnatal Ward on a felicitation visit to the baby, commended the mother for believing in the hospital's capacity to handle her case, noting that her act of faith challenged the hospital team to do its best in ensuring a successful outcome.

He also showered praises on Professor John Ikimalo and his team in the Assisted Reproductive Conception (ARC) Unit who by this feat had justified the huge investments made by the hospital in the area of training and equipment.

The Chief Medical Director called on members of the public to take advantage of the hospital's IVF services, noting that it was the most cost-friendly one available.

Head of Department Obstetrics And Gynaecology, Dr. Preye Fiebai while speaking earlier, expressed gratitude to God for the milestone, describing it as the outcome of a close collaboration between staff of various disciplines and subspecialties.

Dr. Fiebai also commended the hospital's management for creating the enabling environment to achieve such a notable feat, assuring that every support needed by the ARC unit will be made available in order to sustain the gains currently being celebrated.

On his part, the head of the Assisted Reproductive Conception (ARC) Unit Professor John Ikimalo, while thanking God for the feat, recalled the history behind the establishment of the ARC unit in 2007 and the joy of seeing a dream come true for the family.

Professor Ikimalo also applauded the roles of past Chief Medical Directors including Dr. Etawo, Professor Ojule and the current Chief Medical Director Professor Ugboma commending them for their support.

The mother of the miracle baby who chose to remain anonymous expressed joy and gratitude to God for ending years of pain and sorrow waiting for the fruit of the



womb.

She also commended the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital for delivering on its promise as a reliable centre for in vitro fertilization services, urging other intending mothers to take advantage of the ARC facility to experience the joy of motherhood.

Amongst management staff who witnessed the brief ceremony were the Director of Administration Mr Akie Hart, the Deputy Director of Nursing Services Mrs Patricia Gad-Harry and the then Public Relations Officer Mr Kem Daniel Elebiga who coordinated the media coverage of the milestone.



NEEDS ASSESSMENT: FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TEAM VISITS UPTH

The management of the University Of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital has expressed gratitude to the Federal Government for embarking on an assessment of the critical needs of the hospital. Chief Medical Director, Professor Henry Ugboma gave the

commendation when he received an eight person delegation, comprising representatives of the Federal Ministry Of Health, GE Corporation and CPL Medical Group.

Professor Ugboma who bemoaned the deplorable

state of facilities and equipment used for rendering medical services to members of the public, however expressed hope that the outcome of the needs assessment exercise will yield positive results in the area of health care service delivery.

Earlier, the team leader explained in detail the nature and components of their assignment including determining the status of equipment available, those not available, as well as interactive sessions with the various departments.

The team later took a guided tour of the various departments accompanied by the two deputy chairmen of the medical advisory committee, Dr Ocheli Emmanuel and Dr Richard Oko-Jaja.

FIRST ORTHOPTICSTRAINING: UPTH RECORDS MILESTONE

The management of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital has expressed delight following the historic commencement of an orthoptics training course in the institution, the first of its kind in Africa.

Chief Medical Director Professor Henry Ugboma expressed this while declaring open the orthoptics training

course organised by the Department of Ophthalmology.



Professor Ugboma promised management's full support

towards the attainment of a centre of excellence status in orthoptics subspecialty, charging the training teams to explore more frontiers in order to broaden their reach. "I charge the ophthalmology department to expand their scope," he said.

He described the feat as a significant milestone for him since the course is being undertaken during his tenure

as Chief Medical Director of the hospital.

The Head, Department Of Ophthalmology Dr. Mrs. Elizabeth Awoyesuku had earlier described the Orthoptics training course as a groundbreaking event for UPTH as a tertiary training institution, being the first of its kind in Africa.

Course coordinator Dr.(Mrs) Adedayo Adio, explained that the training has been

structured for a long term of 6 months, as well as short-term of 2 weeks respectively, with resource persons coming in from abroad to train the seven Orthoptics trainees already selected for the exercise.

Deputy Chairperson Medical Advisory Committee Dr. Emmanuel Ochel and Dr. (Mrs) Onya while applauding the Ophthalmology department for blazing the trail and showcasing their assets, urged

them to expand their reach.

The event featured goodwill messages from the International Orthoptic Association, the bodies National Chapter as well as a guided tour of facilities already procured to complement orthoptics work currently being undertaken by the hospital.



CMAC LAUDS SURGICAL EYE EXPEDITION

The management of the University Of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital has commended the collaborative efforts of the department of Ophthalmology and United States-based Surgical Eye Expedition (SEE), for their free cataract surgery for members of the public.

Chairman of the medical advisory committee, Professor Stanley Princewill gave the commendation when he stood in for the chief medical director to receive the three-person

Surgical Eye Expedition team from USA.

Professor Princewill who described the eye as “ the dignity of humanity,” expressed gratitude to the United States team, noting that such collaboration will boost the capacity of local staff involved in the exercise.

Earlier, the Head Department of Ophthalmology Dr. Mrs Elizabeth Awoyesuku applauded the SEE team for the support towards the free cataract surgery.

Dr Awoyesuku also commended the quality of consumables brought by the US team, assuring that the collaboration will bring about excellent service delivery by personnel of the department.

After the brief welcoming formalities, the acting Chairman MAC Professor Stanley Princewill accompanied by the expatriates as well as senior personnel, visited the theatre.

Amongst those who witnessed the brief reception were Deputy Chairman MAC Dr. Ocheli Emmanuel, Director of Administration Mr. Akie Hart, staff, as well as some members of the Lion's club collaborating in the humanitarian exercise



SOP FOR CENTRAL LABORATORY SAMPLE COLLECTION UNIT

Laboratory services are key in optimal service delivery and cut across all clinical departments. As a direct

consequence a large volume of clients throng to the labs on the daily basis. However, the extant system of clients having to pay for and access laboratory services separately at each of the pathology department is cumbersome, time consuming and frustrating for the clients whose ill health is already a source of concern to them.

In a bid to alleviate the suffering of our clients, reduce waiting time and increase client satisfaction, management has decided to establish a CENTRAL LABORATORY SAMPLE COLLECTION UNIT. This

will include a phlebotomy section and another section for collection of other laboratory specimen. Clients will be attended to by laboratory scientists from the four pathology departments. This will be in close proximity to the CENTRAL ACCOUNT SECTION which will house accounts clerks from all the pathology departments. In addition, a central waiting area for the clients has been earmarked.

Stated below is the process/procedure involved in payment for laboratory investigations, submitting samples and collecting investigation results.

STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The laboratory scientist from the four pathology departments will cross check request forms and evidence of payment; collect, label and arrange samples collection by N-Power staff every 30 minutes.
2. N-Power staff will collect the samples and submit to the various pathology departments.
3. Account clerk will check all the request forms and issue tellers or receipts to clients. POS machines will be made available.

PROCEDURE FOR AMBULANT CLIENTS

1. Clients will be directed to the CENTRAL WAITING AREA.
2. Clients will be ushered to the CENTRAL ACCOUNTS SECTION in groups of 3 and payments made.
3. Clients will then proceed to the CENTRAL SAMPLES COLLECTION UNIT.
4. A dedicated laboratory scientist will sort out the laboratory request forms and evidence of payment and sort out the sequence of sample collection by the appropriate laboratory scientists.
5. Samples will be collected labelled and arranged appropriately.
6. Clients will be informed about investigation results collection date. The entire process should not take more than 10-15 minutes.
7. A desk officer will be assigned to issue investigation results on being shown evidence of payment in due course.
8. Please note clients for HVS/Pap smear would be required to make payments at the CENTRAL ACCOUNTS SECTION but would be allowed to go to the medical microbiology department to have those investigations carried out.

FOR INPATIENT CLIENTS:

The clients' relatives will undergo a similar process.

Dr. Obianma N. Onya
DCMAC (NHIS/SERVICOM)

JOINT MATRICULATION CEREMONY OF SCHOOLS IN UPTH



their course of study. He assured students of the definite time span their programmes will run to earn them certification that guarantees necessary competences for a robust health services delivery.

A remarkable feat attained as the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital matriculated a total of Three Hundred and Twenty Seven students from five different schools running in the Teaching Hospital.

Presenting the student for their formal admittance into the different schools, the Chief Medical Director and Chancellor of the joint schools, Professor Henry A.A Ugboma ably represented by Professor Uzor Igwe, encouraged the students to acquire requisite competences for the benefit of humanity, stating that management's drive is to expand the scope of students' knowledge for higher applications for clinical benefit.

The Chairman Joint Schools Board and Chairman Medical Advisory Committee of the Teaching Hospital, Professor Stanley Princewill in his address, mentioned that this matriculation for schools in the Teaching Hospital, commended the CMD/Chancellor of the school for his support to human capital development which has greatly helped in the optimal functioning of the schools.

The Board Chairman of the Joint Schools, Professor P.C Stanley (CMAC) also used the occasion to call on the Vice Chancellor of the University of Port Harcourt Professor Lalae to open his door for academic consultations advise as the need may arise to ensure her students gets the best through

The matriculating students were drawn from School of Post Basic Accident and Emergency nursing, Post Basic Paediatrics Nursing, Community Health Officers Training Programme, School of Social Development and Occupational Therapy, and School of Health Information Management and their respective coordinators namely: Mrs Ibi-Iyalla Peters, Mrs G.L Dappa, Dr I.D Alabere, Mr C.S Opusunji and Mrs Patience N. Amadi.

Other dignitaries at the event was the Director of Administration of the Teaching Hospital, Mr Akie Hart, DCMAC SP & L, Dr Emmanuel Ocheli and other principal staff of the various schools.





UPTH LAUNCHES NUCLEAR MEDICINE TREATMENT CENTRE

It is a new dawn for the department of Nuclear Medicine in the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital as it opens its door for the Nigerian Nuclear Regulatory Authority for a pre-accreditation assessment to launch its clinical service in the comprehensive chain of medical service delivery. The management of the hospital having made possible preparations by sending staff of the department for training and the equipping of the department sent an invitation to the Nigerian Regulatory Authority to be assessed and fully licensed for operation.

The Nigerian Nuclear Regulatory Authority pleased to have received the invitation, sent a five (5) man delegation from its office in the south-south zonal office led by the zonal coordinator, Audu Mohammed. Mohammed commended management of UPTH for the invitation and said his team will do the needful to ensure the actualization of quality health service as desired by management for supporting the start-up of the department of the hospital.

The pioneer head of department Nuclear Medicine, Dr Aliko C.A, related to host the team sent for assessment was pleased to

introduce the delegate to the Chairman Medical Advisory Committee (CMAC) Professor Stanley Princewill who led the management team that hosted the visiting team. Dr Aliko did not miss the moment, to commend CMAC and the entire management for the passion and commitment shown towards the functioning of Nuclear Medicine, Radiotherapy and Radiology Service in the hospital. He also introduced one of the lead resource persons from the department of Nuclear Medicine, UCH Ibadan, in the person of Dr Orunmuji A.T, also involved in the training of some of the staff in the department sent for training at Ibadan to speak.

In his remark, Dr Orunmuji expressed his confidence in the fact that the decision by management to support the department of Nuclear Medicine to full function, through her sponsorship of personnel; the furnishing of the department is a step in the right direction and will be rewarding to the health institution and teaming populace in need of such medical service. He said the number of patients from this region who in time past has gone through the rigour of travelling far without necessary help to Ibadan for such medical attention will now have easy access to their medical need.

Speaking on behalf of

management, Professor Princewill who received the team, made the fact clear that history is been made as the pre-accreditation exercise will launch in a functional Nuclear Medicine for the hospital. He said he is pleased to identify with the Nuclear Medicine that is of human benefit especially used for medical intervention. He also commended the head of the department Dr Aliko for having the burden to work with his colleagues and engaging management. He further explained that the commencement of the department will bring about what he described as medical miracle for people to see in terms of medical intervention. Professor Princewill urged the team to be thorough in their assessment as management is ready to receive advises and recommendations that will help management better improve on what the hospital already has.

The team proceeded with the assessment, made a visit to the Nuclear Medicine Department and paid a visit to the Radiology where they met the Head of the Department, Dr E.W Ugboma; the team recessed to the management to brief management, bringing the pre-accreditation exercise to a logical conclusion.

AMERICAN DONOR AGENCY COMMENCES PAIN FREE TREATMENT TRAINING

The American Cancer Society (ACS) in partnership with the Federal Ministry Of Health commenced in January the training of health personnel at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital on effective pain free treatment for patients of life limiting illnesses.

The training is the first in a series that will run once in each month of the 12 calendar year.

Impressed with the fact that UPTH is to benefit from the program, DCMAC DR. Emmanuel Ocheli commended the donor agency and the organisers from the federal ministry of health on the initiative to train staff of the hospital.

He welcomed the development saying it will help health personnel in the effective management of patients who come in for medical services.

He encouraged staff members to make the most of the training, as he declared the workshop open on behalf of management.

Lead trainer, the Head Palliative Care Unit Doctor Ndukwu Geraldine at the start of the training session, said the pain free treatment initiative is aimed at ensuring patients living with life limiting illnesses or terminal diseases, still have a course to leave quality life and eventually die in dignity, with effective management of the

pains that comes with such diseases.

The training covered the assessment of pain and the administration of pain relieving drugs (opioid analgesics) according to the world health organization's (WHO) standard specification. It also dwelt on the avoidance of unnecessary treatment procedure that may inflict pain on already sick patients.

A consultant paediatric, Dr Gracia Eke, Pharmacist W.N Opoto, Assistant Director Nursing, Diepiri B. Boma, Chief Nursing Officer Mary Catherine and Dr Olumuyiwa Temitope were part of the training staff and in their capacities handled different subjects covering the management of pain in patients treatment.

The delegation from the Federal Ministry Of Health was led by the National Coordinator, Pain Free Hospital Initiative Mrs Elizabeth Abaje.

Doctors, nurses, laboratory scientists, pharmacists and other hospital staff participated in the workshop. A pre and post-test assessment was administered to participants with each of them expected to receive study material and certification for the training.





D.A. KEYS INTO CMD'S VISION

Staff of the Department of Administration have been called upon to cultivate good work ethics in the conduct of their official duties and related matters.

Director of Administration Mr Akie Hart made the appeal during a routine meeting with all personnel working in the department of administration from across the hospital.

Mr Hart urged Admin personnel to embrace the virtues of love, unity and dignity and make them their guiding principles, assuring that hard work and honesty will receive due reward.

He promised to ensure that every staff enjoys the freedom of expression and association, warning that divisive tendencies will not be tolerated; just as the present

administration's zero tolerance for corruption will be sustained.

The interactive session received applause from all present as the forum created an opportunity for them to express their feelings, make useful suggestions, as well as facilitate a stronger level of bonding that will bring about cohesion amongst admin staff.

A draft communiqué covering a range of issues agreed upon during the forum was subsequently submitted to all staff after being sent to the CMD.

This is the first time in recent times such action has been taken in the Department of Administration.

AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION, UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT TEACHING HOSPITAL

The crew from the media and publicity unit of the hospital, having heard the cheering news of the confirmation of Dr Akie Hart as the substantive Director of Administration (D.A) after scaling through the merit process of appointment sought to have a session with him. The amiable D.A did not hesitate to grant us audience within a very short notice.

A seasoned Administrator who had given over thirty years of his service years in the administrative cadre of the Teaching Hospital; We knew we had to draw from his experience and the prospect he

has, stirring the affairs of administration in his capacity as the Director of Administration.

We present our discussion with him

Media: Congratulations Sir, please sir, we will like to meet you, your names and possibly a little bit of your background.

DOA: My names are, Akie Opuene Hart, from Bonny local government area of Rivers state. I have a Bachelor of Science (B.sc) Degree in Public Administration, an M.Sc in Development Studies and



the Public Relations officer for nine years. I have headed establishment, I was the administrative officer in charge of the Primary Health Centre at Aluu and had also served as the administrative head CS&T (Clinical Services and Training). I have also headed general administration. So I have moved around the hospital.

I have been Acting D.A in two separate occasions before becoming the substantive D.A.

My hobby is book writing, I have written several books, but the spectacular thing about my books is, that I give them free after publication.

Media: What is the place of Administration in delivering on the vision of UPTH as a first rate, World Class Hospital?

DOA: Administration is the engine room of the hospital, it is the hub, the platform for policy formulation and implementation. The deliverables to achieve every policy, must have the bold input of administration. Given my vast experience, in terms of the areas I have served, when I came in we were able to put all the theories, the vision of the hospital into practice. For the first time we did promotional interview and had the result released that same year in 2018. We had directorate interview during the same time.

If you look at the vision of the hospital as a first rate world class hospital, that we use empathy and also the best sophisticated equipment, using best practices that are affordable. This administration under the

leadership of the present Chief Medical Director, Professor Henry A.A Ugboma had done so much. And the Chief Medical Director (CMD) is the head of Administration so when we are talking about Administration, my boss the CMD has keyed into the vision of the hospital and the platform of keying into it is Administration because whatever policy that needs to be implemented must fall on Administration to execute it. The vision of the hospital is been implemented because administration is giving maximum support to the laudable goals of the CMD.

For example, there is a face lift in Radiology Department, new equipment are being installed same for Dialysis, Burns and Plastics e.t.c. All this turning around for good is because there is unity this time around between clinicians and administrators. Where there is discord, things cannot be achieved but there is unity this time around and we are working together.

Without Administration all these laudable achievements could not have been achieved. The CMD is also encouraging us in terms of training and retraining, workshops that hither to we were not attending, now we are attending. Our Administrators are well trained, well-motivated in terms of promotion, support with invisible and visible benefit, like some of staff relatives have benefitted from the hospital.

Media: What is your office doing to ensure harmony in work relations between the varied professions, clinicians and non-clinicians in the

workforce of the hospital?

DOA: You know whatever thing that happens, starts from the top. I have a very cordial relationship with the Chairman Medical Advisory Committee (CMAC), Professor Stanley Princewill; and if staff can see such cordial relations, the staff working with us should not have such problems. The problems we usually have between one professional group and the other, is what is called professional rivalry which is normal. The duty of Administration is to mediate and we have been mediating successfully by calling the warring factions to the round table. We are always presenting ourselves as a platform to resolve professional problem that are bound to come.

Administration initiates peace move, we encourage them to work together by also showing corporation amongst us. Sometimes we are proactive, the things that will cause problem, we nip it on the board by giving every professional group a sense of belonging.

What leads to peace is when there is equity and justice. We don't do any favouritism; there is no bias whatever that is due any professional group, administration ensures they get their dues with the approval of the CMD.

Media: What is the reward system put in place to encourage staff for optimal service?

Regular Payment of salaries, promotions and trainings.

The reward system staff are looking forward to is that when they retire, we give them letter of

commendation. It is there in the public service rule. Then the group life that is mandatory, the management has initiated it and almost concluded on the policy. We have gotten the company that will do the underwriting which is Niger Insurance. Also, for the first time there is a comprehensive professional indemnity for all staff that is on duty. Formerly, it used to be for only medical doctors but for this time, it is for all staff working in the hospital. If a staff is carrying out his duty and in carrying out such duties, someone takes them to court; the staff will not have to go to prison. The Insurance Company will pay whatever the court will levy which is called Professional indemnity. Everyone working in the hospital now has an insurance cover. The CMD approved it and the Board of Management is ok with it. So it is on-going now, our doctors are now free to do their work; nobody can charge them to court unnecessarily for professional negligence. Also, our doctors are now going on update courses. For the first time they are paid as at and when due.

Administrators, Accounts etc. are also going for update courses. Recently the Media and Publicity Unit also went for one, the management approved update courses for them. Management is also ensuring by way of sponsorship, their membership requirement with their professional bodies.

During the Christmas period, Administrative staffs were rewarded. Staff that performed were given plaque and a golden hand shake. There is a reward system, those that are doing well, are commended, not only by words

of mouth, in terms of giving them letters of commendation and celebrating them. This December hopefully, we will give more awards.

Media: How do you ensure professional conduct, having provided a cover for staff? Don't you think it may be costly in a health institution, if staff knows that management will always stand-up for them?

DOA: Well we have Productivity measurement, (performance management). With the DA's office and SERVICOM Unit, they monitor service to ensure that people are on their duty post and they also address complain, so any person that is not living-up to expectation or that is performing below standard in terms of clinical responsibility, SERVICOM is always there to address it. And on our own part, even our administrators, we are also having a tool for productivity measurement, in the quantum of works they do, there is checks and balances and we have the carrot and stick approach. The carrot in terms of all these benefit we've said, and then we have the disciplinary aspect. It is determined on the type of offenses which could lead to dismissal, compulsory retirement, suspension etc. Anybody who errs is appropriately disciplined and anybody who does well is rewarded.

Media: Working in a hospital environment as an administrator, how has that been beneficial to you?

DOA: Well I always tell people that if you work in a hospital environment, you will have that consciousness and awareness. For

example, somebody came with one new company with health supplement product and I said if you work in the hospital, you will know that all these health supplement does not work because of the adverse side effects.

I work in the Teaching Hospital and I know the benefit of good health, prevention of sicknesses, not the one you start taking medicines not prescribed by a doctor. One thing is that the awareness is there. Preventive and social medicine is what we advise. The cost of treatment is so high, if you prevent, it is good. A person taking much of carbonated drinks is not good. There was a time I used to take so much wine that I paid dearly for it but now, I have not been taking drugs, why? Because I know the benefit of working in the hospital. I know what to eat and what not to eat; placing more emphasis on prevention is cheaper than treatment. That is what I have gained working in a hospital environment.

Media: As the Director of Administration, what are your expectations and what do you intend to achieve at the end of your period of service?

DOA: I have been in administration for a long period of time, now I have an opportunity to implement all the ideas I have now and I am working cooperatively with the CMD on that.

My first drive is to motivate workers; and a good way to motivate workers is by promotion. In my capacity as the Chairman of APC III, I have done that, which is why we recorded close to 100%

success rate in junior staff promotion. We look at productivity as opposed to certification that is why almost all passed.

The CMD is working to ensure that the Senior Staff promotion is done as at and when due. That area from my experience, is only where you can motivate staff, the area of fairness and accessibility. Nobody fills forms to see me, there is free access and I believe it has accorded everyone the opportunity to meet me. Problems have been solved. But there is a limit to what I can do because I will go back to the CMD for approval. Luckily for me, the CMD approves all good recommendations.

I must mention, all I have achieved is because I have an understanding CMD. For example when we shortlisted names for promotion, he was worried that the names were few and I replied back to him, saying because he had promoted everybody there is nobody to promote again. The kudos, recommendation in all that we have achieved in this short time goes to the CMD because he approves all that is due for the workers. He has made it possible for us to achieve what we have attained, so I thank him and I use every opportunity to commend him. All Unions are working with him; formerly, union do not work with management, they are always antagonistic to management as they take different positions.

Media: As the present Director of Administration, do you see any difference in the level of output as compared to when you were in the office in acting capacity?

DOA: Sincerely speaking, with the

kind of CMD I work with, there is nothing I wanted to do then that I was not able to do. It is just a matter of attitude, the powers I wielded as acting DA is the same as the one I am wielding now as substantive DA as it is the same person and the same environment. I believe that we do not show power. There is no difference; the only difference is somebody reaching the pinnacle of his career and using it as a platform to help.

Media: What do you think about the PR Unit, having served as the Head of the Unit?

I will encourage the media staff to work in unity so that they could be more productive. Because I could recall in my years there as PRO, that we were more daring, bringing news on the spot in addition to bringing out the regular publication then. So I will encourage the media team to work together, liaise with various media station outside the hospital community.

Media: Most of what the hospital has become is part of your input, so in a rate of 10 – 100, please rate

yourself.

DOA: I cannot be able to rate myself, it is for other people to rate me, but for me, I am keen on doing my best in every situation, in every circumstance to do the right thing. Whatever is your due as a staff you will get it. I do the best within my capacity so it is other people that will judge me.

Media: Finally sir, since your assumption in office, you have been greatly commended for your open-door policy and how you attend to every staff and their complaint. What is the secret?

The secret is simple; I believe that God Almighty places people in office for the purpose to serve people. Sometimes as a human being when I get tensed, I remember the mission and I try to keep calm, knowing that the purpose God placed me here against all odds, is for me to serve his children.

I believe occupying this position; it is a position of trust from God. I have a short time so the best I can do within this period is what I will do.



UPTH LIGHTS UP

To make good his promise, chief medical director, Professor Henry A.A. Ugboma and his management team is earnestly lighting up the entire hospital community.

It was when the team/delegation from the faculty of West African College of Surgeon visited the teaching hospital on an accreditation exercise, they reported complaints from doctors on residency and housemanship program about the non-lighting of the environment causing security fear, that the CMD promised to ensure that the place is well lit.

Barely a year ago to this promise, the entire hospital community is experiencing a remarkable face lift. With renovation, repainting work on going in earnest. The road to the hospital from the entrance at the east-west road is completely lit. The internal adjoining roads within the premises lit.

Given a beautiful and secured outwork to the hospital, improving security checks within the hospital community and reassuring personnel and clients/patients in the hospital of their safety.

This present management team has seen to it that, the serenity of the hospital is of utmost benefit to staff and clients of the hospital as maximum care had been given to environmental clean-up.

Indeed a number of visitors who had once visited the hospital in time past and now, has given it to the present hospital in time past and now, has given it to the present management that the environment is wearing a clean and admirable look. Of mention is the team leader of the delegation that visited from the Registration Board of Radiographers in Nigeria, Mr Ebere O, who commended management of the good works they have seen on their visit.

Patients and their care givers also attest to the fact that work done in the hospital is going a long way in helping them receive maximum health care. With the constant power supply of almost 24 hours experienced in the hospital, facilities are now put to good use. The elevators now work efficiently aiding patients, their care givers and help personnel to ease their movement around the building. These are commendable heights achieved by the management and a lot more yet to be mentioned.

All that needs to be said is that the team led by Professor Henry A.A Ugboma is doing well and a lot more achievement is unfolding, UPTH is getting better, holding its place as one of the foremost tertiary health care institution in the southern (south-south) region of the country. Indeed a first rate health care centre.

UPTH MARKS WORLD GLAUCOMA WEEK

Barely two weeks into 2019, the University Of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital recorded yet another milestone in the area of Assisted Reproductive Conception. On Monday the 7th of January 2019, a lady who had been undergoing In Vitro Fertilization was successfully delivered of a bouncing baby boy and this hearty news was received with great delight by the Chief Medical Director Professor Henry Ugboma and other members of management who were holding the year's first hospital management committee meeting.

Professor Ugboma who led some officials to the Postnatal Ward on a felicitation visit to the baby, commended the mother for believing in the hospital's capacity to handle her case, noting that her act of faith challenged the hospital team to do its best in ensuring a successful outcome. He also showered praises on Professor John Ikimalo and his team in the Assisted Reproductive Conception (ARC) Unit who by this feat had justified the huge investments made by the hospital in the area of training and equipment. The Chief Medical Director called on members of the public to take advantage of

the hospital's IVF services, noting that it was the most cost-effective one available.

Head of Department Obstetrics And Gynaecology, Dr. Preye Fiebai while speaking earlier, expressed gratitude to God for the milestone, describing it as the outcome of a close collaboration between staff of various disciplines and subspecialties. Dr. Fiebai also commended the hospital's management for creating the enabling environment to achieve such a notable feat, assuring that every support needed by the ARC unit will be made available in order to sustain the gains currently being celebrated.

On his part, the head of the Assisted Reproductive The University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital UPTH in collaboration with

the Ophthalmological Society of Nigeria, Rivers and Bayelsa state chapters organised a weeklong free glaucoma screening to mark this year's world glaucoma week.

The hospital's ophthalmology department championed the event which held from 11-15 March 2019 to campaign against the scourge of glaucoma. In celebrating the week-long event, the department organised a lecture to educate attendees on glaucoma, highlighting the theme for the year, 'Low Vision Glaucoma And Visual Rehabilitation'.

A consultant ophthalmologist Dr. G.I. Nathaniel delivered a lecture on the theme, explaining what glaucoma is and the facts about the disease. He described glaucoma as a disease that gradually damages the optic nerves in the eye and may



UPTH, NMA PLEDGES COOPERATION



The Rivers State chapter of the Nigeria Medical Association (NMA) has been assured of a greater level of cooperation from the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital. Chief Medical Director UPTH, Professor Henry Ugboma made the promise, when he played host to a seven person delegation of the newly elected state executive of the NMA who were on a courtesy visit to the hospital. Professor Ugboma while congratulating the new executive on their electoral victory, commended the composition and character of the new state executive.

The CMD went on to inform the visitors of some achievements of his management team which includes steady power supply,

greater investment in staff training, resuscitation of incinerators, a better functioning ICU, as well as the liquidation of debts owed by the pharmacy department.

Earlier the state NMA Chairman, Dr. Mrs. Adedeji Obelebra while thanking the UPTH management for the opportunity to meet and interact, listed some areas of possible cooperation.

Dr. Mrs. Obelebra who led the six-person state executive solicited the management's support and assistance towards the hosting of the forthcoming National Doctors Sports Festival built for 2020.

Members of management present during the visit include, Chairman Medical

Advisory Committee Professor Stanley Princewill, Director of Administration Mr. Akie Hart, Deputy Chairman Medical Advisory Committee Dr. Ocheli Emmanuel and Dr. Mrs. Onyia, Deputy Director of Accounts Mr Paul Okpalo, Assistant Director Nursing Services Mrs. Patricia Gad-Harry, Assistant Director of Pharmacy Mrs. Victoria Uku as well as members of the Hospital Management Committee (HMC).



NURSES SYMPOSIUM 2019

As part of its duties to ensure standard practice is maintained in the nursing profession, the executives of the National Association of Nigerian Nurses and Mid-wives (NANNM) UPTH chapter organised a two day symposium, to highlight the Indispensable Role of Nurses Impact on Patients and health care delivery.

The event which was well attended by members of NANNM within and outside the UPTH community featured a number of lecture series that covered topics such as Management of Diarrhea, Nursing Process; Essential Tool For Effective Nursing Care Of Client, Prevention And Management Of Micro-Nutrients Deficiency.

Senior Professionals like, the Director of Nursing Services, P.G. N. Harry, Dr Mrs Timighe Gift, Mrs Ibiye George, Mohammed K.I amongst other speakers made the list of resource persons who made presentation at the symposium. The host of the program, the chairperson NANNM UPTH

chapter, Mrs Madume, C. Wichendu, emphasised on the essence of the symposium, to remind nurses of their role in patient care, a position collaborated by a Chief Nursing Officer, Mrs Okorie D. Miriam, stating that the symposium served as a wake-up call to nurses and would appreciate more of such programs is organised often.

In facilitating with NANNM and acknowledging the importance of Nurses in the medical field, management team was ably represented with the Chairman Medical Advisory Committee, Professor Stanley Princewill representing the Chief Medical Director Professor H.A.A Ugboma as the chairman of the ceremony.

In his speech, Professor Princewill encouraged the nurses to be good professional. He canvassed for attitudinal change towards their fellows and to always ensure they maintain a cordial relationship with other medical professionals and their patient. He stressed the fact that the hospital is interested in quality

service delivery for all her client. He however, expressed management commitment towards the welfare of nurses and to give all the necessary support in the effective discharge of their duties.

To formally bring the two day program to a close, the secretary of NANNM UPTH chapter, Mrs A.B.C Toby who gave the vote of thanks, appreciated all the participants and specially appreciated CMAC, for all the promises made to nurses and assured management of the commitment to do everything possible to maintain good care for her patients and good working relationship with other health professional and management.

Other dignitaries in attendance at the symposium were: The Deputy Chairman Medical Advisory Committee Dr Emmanuel Ocheli, a representative of the Rivers State NANNM Chairman in the person of Bridget Nwosu and other State Representative of NANNM.

UPTH PARTNERS NIPR

The management of the University Of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital has expressed its readiness to engage the Nigeria Institute Of Public Relations (NIPR) as part of efforts to project a positive image and restore its lost glory.

Chief Medical Director Professor Henry A.A Ugboma made the submission when he hosted an eight person delegation of the rivers state chapter of the institute, led by its executive chairman Pastor Paulinus Nsirim.

Professor Ugboma who highlighted his management's achievement in the area of stable power supply, increase in internally generated revenue and a peaceful industrial atmosphere,

also used the occasion to unveil plans for a capacity building workshop for staff of the Public Relations/Media unit.

“We are pleased to inform you that arrangement has been concluded for a capacity building workshop on effective public relations functioning,” he told the visiting delegation.

He also expressed delight at the changing public perception of the hospital, from a negative to a more acceptable and receptive one, assuring that more will be done to improve its image and reputation by working in close collaboration with NIPR.

Earlier, chairman NIPR, Pastor Paulinus Nsirim assured the Chief Medical Director that UPTH would enjoy a special place in the hearts of the new executive, on account of the

goodwill message sent in after they came on board.

He also disclosed the institute's readiness to strike a partnership with the hospital through its stakeholder relations committee.

On his part the hospital's director of administration Mr. Akie Hart, described the new chief medical director as symbolic of the new face of UPTH on account of initiatives introduced to improve workers welfare as well as service delivery.

Amongst those who accompanied the NIPR executive members were two fellows of the institute, Barrister Karibi George and Chief Frank Tamuno-koko.

RADIO NIGERIA SEEKS PARTNERSHIP WITH UPTH

The management of the south-south operation of Radio Nigeria made a visit to the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital to seek Partnership for full health coverage.

The South-South coordinator of Radio Nigeria leading a delegation from the media house, were received by the Chairman Medical Advisory Committee, Professor Stanley Princewill on behalf of the management of the hospital.

Mrs Sola Ogunbade disclosing the aim of their visit said, Radio Nigeria as part of the effort to inform her

teeming audience is seeking then partnership of the hospital for full coverage of medical issues/programmes.

For factual and well informed medical advice, medical Doctors and specialist in the medical field will be sought for as key resource persons to better inform her audience.

In response to the proposal, Professor Stanley Princewill (CMAC) assured the team of the management's readiness to partner with the media organisation with a promise that the partnership should take effect from the 1st of April 2019. He said the partnership

is in consideration of the fact that the public will be better for it, for full health service delivery. And that the university of Port Harcourt teaching hospital is not just an hospital but a centre for training and research for medical personnel and has the capacity to deliver comprehensive health information.

The partnership is expected to see through the birth of a weekly programme tagged – Doctor's Diary.

NAVY MEDICAL TEAM SEEKS PARTNERSHIP WITH UPTH

The management of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital has commended the Nigeria Navy for its efforts and sacrifices towards ensuring the country's waterways and maritime boundaries are safe and secured from external aggression and all forms of criminal activities.

Deputy Chairman Medical Advisory Committee in-charge of Special Duties and Linkages Dr. Ocheli Emmanuel gave the commendation when he received a five person team from the Nigerian Navy Medical Corp.

Dr. Ocheli who stood in for the Chief Medical Director Professor Henry Ugboma, expressed delight at the visit, describing it as a move in the right direction, since it seeks to take advantage of the indigenous manpower and

facility in order to save the over Two Point Five Billion Dollars capital flight arising from medical tourism outflows.

He also expressed optimism



that the visit will mark the beginning of a long lasting relationship that will be mutually beneficial to both parties given that UPTH is the premier tertiary health institution in the south-south region of the country.

Earlier, the leader of the team Commodore Augustine A. Omaile disclosed that they were on a fact-finding mission from the Navy Headquarters to access facilities on ground. Determine areas of strength and thus discontinue referral of sick Naval Personnel overseas.

Among areas reviewed during the interactive session were Trauma, Orthopaedic, Oncology, Radiotherapy, Accident and Emergency, Intensive Care Unit, as well as Burns Unit. Management disclosed that efforts had reached advanced stage in the intervention Cardiology, CT-Scan, MRI and Minimal Access surgery.

Members of Management who were on hand to receive the Navy delegation include, the Head Clinical Services and

UPTH STRENGTHENS TIES WITH HOST COMMUNITIES

As part of efforts to forge closer ties with its host communities, the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital has assured its neighbours of special consideration when it comes to matters of interest with the hospital.

Chief Medical Director UPTH, Prof Henry Ugboma in separate visits to Alakahia and Aluu communities after assumption of office, informed that members of

both communities will enjoy some level of privilege during employment, promotion and other areas of interest.

Prof. Ugboma and his delegation were greeted with fanfare upon arrival in Alakahia for a thank you visit where they met with members of the Council of Chiefs, elders, youths and community development committee.

He promised to employ an accommodating and open door approach in addressing the needs of Alakahia and other host communities.

In Aluu, Prof. Ugboma in addition to the promise of special consideration for employment, said Paramount rulers of the communities making up Aluu clan will receive free medical care and efforts will be made to engage relevant authorities to look into ways of repairing internal roads that are in a very deplorable state.

He however frowned at illegal occupants of the hospital's properties within Aluu community, hoping that through ongoing collaborative efforts with members of the Aluu CDC, such matters will eventually be resolved.



TOTAL DONATE EQUIPMENT TO UPTH

Total upstream Nigeria Limited has donated medical equipment's worth Thousands of Naira to the Pediatrics department of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital on the 21st March, 2019. The equipments donated by Total are 2 neonatal cardiac / 2 monitors, 2 infusion pumps, 2 CPAP and the equipment are meant for the Pediatrics Department Intensive Care Unit (ICU). The Total Managing Director Mr. Nicolos Terraz represented by Dr. Charles Ngeribari who is the General Manager Corporate Social

Responsibility and sustainable development was there to present the items to UPTH. In company of Dr. Charles are Mrs. Bolanle Adesanya, and MR. Christian Isaac. The Head of Department Prof (Mrs.) B. E Otaigbe, Prof Nte, Prof Stanley Princewill, Dr. Ocheli and other senior consultant/principal officers of the hospital were there to welcome the Total team. The Chairman Medical Advisory Committee (CMAC) Prof. Princewill Stanley on behalf of the Chief Medical Director (CMD) Prof Henry Ugboma express gratitude to Total upstream for this act of benevolence demonstrated towards UPTH. He went

further to say that he considers it as an important corporate social responsibility done today to improve the quality of life of our babies and others who need the services of this equipment so as to improve the quality of care of our children.

The Head of Department Pediatrics Prof (Mrs.) B. E Otaigbe thanked Total upstream Nigeria Limited on behalf of the children for contributions made. She said the department will forever be grateful for this kind gesture made by Total.

By Ngozi Omojunikanbi



ROTARY CLUB DONATES SANITARY ITEMS TO UPTH

The Former Commissioner for Information in Rivers State and former Chairman, Niger Delta Commission Dr Mrs Ibim Seminitari led members of the Rotary Club of Port Harcourt metropolis to the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital as they made a donation of sanitary items to the ICU/SCBU department of the hospital.

Dr Mrs Ibim Seminitari who is the current President of Rotary Club,

Port Harcourt metropolis while presenting items to the management team, acknowledged the good work the hospital is doing adding that this institution carries the burden of health care in this city hence, the need of intervention and support towards improvement of sanitation. She stated that though this donation will appear like a drop in the ocean, but hopes it will go a long way in improving the health care delivery in these departments.

Rotary Club is an organisation of business and professional people united to offer service to the community and one of the areas in which the club concentrates is in the area of water and sanitation. Items donated include, 15 air hand driers and 15 soap dispensers. This she says will help improve cleanliness in this critical and sensitive department.

The chairman, medical advisory committee, Prof. Stanley Princewill in his response, thanked the Rotarians for their goodwill and warm thoughts towards the hospital. He said the club is essentially known for service to humanity, a fact given credence by this passionate action being witnessed.

Other management staffs present were the Deputy CMAC Linkages And Special Duties, Dr Emmanuel Ocheli, and the Chief Administration Officer, Clinical Services and Training Mrs Victoria Mube.

KALABARI GROUP MAKES DONATION

Non-Governmental Organisations, Faith-based Groups, Philanthropists and well meaning individuals have been called upon to extend hands of fellowship to the University Of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital to help address the hospital's areas of need.

Chief Medical Director Professor Henry Ugboma made the appeal, when he played host to a four-person delegation from the United States based Kalabari National Association who came to make donations to the hospital.

Professor Ugboma while receiving the donations on behalf

of management, expressed gratitude to the act of benevolence from the U.S based group.

He urged similar groups elsewhere to borrow a leaf and support government healthcare institutions by complementing their public service efforts.

The CMD assured the donors that the items will be judiciously used to serve members of the public especially the indigent ones.

Leader of the delegation, Dr Sobomabo Lawson explained that their donation was on

humanitarian grounds, as it is targeted at public health institutions and the less privileged members of society.

Dr. Lawson who commended the Professor Ugboma led management for their commitment to service delivery, disclosed that items donated included drugs, medical supplies as well as syringes.

The delegation which comprised of Dr.(Mrs.) Lawson, Mrs. Sukie Abiye-Suku and Mrs. Catherine Soberekon was accompanied on the tour by Prof. Princewill Stanley, Dr Ochelli Emmanuel and Dr.(Mrs.) Onyia.

PICFI ON HUMANITARIAN VISIT TO UPTH REPORT

It was a warm and emotional experience, as we watched tears flowed from patients' eyes in appreciation as they received cash donation and toiletries from the Petroleum Industries Christian Fellowship International **PICFI** (Agip Ng. Chapter), who came on a humanitarian visit.

The Organization, whose core mandate is to propagate the gospel of Christ, extended their kind

gesture towards some indigent patients receiving medical care at the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital.

The team made their first visit on the 6th of April and repeated on the 8th of April, to attend to more patients they could not reach with the initial gifts they came with.

A total of Six Hundred and Twenty Thousand Naira (N620,000.00) cash gift and

toiletries were given to patients and it was a huge relief for most of the patients who had found it difficult to pay their bills.

The visiting team did not stop at what they had already given but made commitment to ensure that Master Taiwo left in the care of the paediatrics department since he was abandoned eleven years ago is sponsored for his upkeep, education and medical need.



UPTH TARGETS EXCELLENCE

The management of the University Of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital has reaffirmed its commitment to supporting endeavors geared towards capacity building and the attainment of a centre of excellence status.

Chief Medical Director Professor Henry Ugboma gave the assurance while declaring open a one-day conference on

cryptococcal screening and treatment in the setting of HIV infection.

Professor Ugboma who described the training session as very enlightening on account of the knowledge gained, promised to ensure other departments take a cue from the conference.

Speaking earlier, the Head Infectious Committee, Professor Obunge explained

that the conference is a collaborative effort between the teaching hospital, the College Of Health Science, Nigeria Medical Association and the Medical And Dental Consultants Association of Nigeria.

Professor Obunge explained the rationale for hosting the conference is because of the high prevalence of HIV infection in Rivers State.

★ THE CMD SCORES ★ ANOTHER GOAL



The CMD scored another goal as The Chairman of Appointments and promotions Committee III and The Director of Administration Amasenibo (Deacon) Akie Opuene Hart presented the report of 2019 junior Staff promotions result to the Chief Medical Director Prof. Henry Ugboma in his office today. The CMD promised immediate implementation. The tradition in the hospital was for yearly promotions to be released the next year. The CMD on assumption of office released the previous years promotions

in full unlike the past. He went further to change the narrative by conducting junior, Senior and Management Staff interviews for 2018 in 2018, released it in 2018 and implemented them in 2018. That was unprecedented. As if that was not enough, Deputy Directors and Directors were promoted for the first time by Management and Board. This looked too good to be true and some Doubting Thomases thought it was a flash in the pan but 2019 proved them wrong as the New positive Deliverables is sustainable and have come to stay as can be

seen in the promotion of Deputy Directors in Nursing, Director in Clinical Services, also Administration and the ratification of the appointments of honorar Consultants and Hospital Consultants that have been on temporary appointments since 15 years ago. The schemes of services for professional groups have been implemented in full for Dietetics, Laboratories, Radiology, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy. Upgrading, appropriate placements have been implemented for the deserving. To show that the dynamic, vibrant, progressive, p

urposeful and result oriented reforms of the CMD is tap rooted, 2019 junior staff promotions have been conducted and delivered in the first quarter of 2019 which is today while preparations for senior and management levels are in Top Gear. To motivate the staff further, professional indemnity insurance cover for all staff has been approved and it is now operationalized and domiciled in the hospital. This is a requirement of the NHIS ACT. Plans have also reached advanced stage for the

commencement of the mandatory Group life insurance after 12 years limbo. There are continuous train the trainer local, National and International workshops attendance by staff. More working implements have been provided. There is perfect working relationship between the CMD and All members of management. The DA and CMD have brotherly blend of perfect working relationship. The results in the clinical areas are even more. We have documented

them under 1 year Board and management achievements. More shall be achieved and what is needed is mutual reciprocity. Staff should be more productive, obey the laws by being disciplined and to give support to management. There is room for more as the CMD is ready to carry the stakeholders along and do constructive engagement. The work of Administration is now easier as the CMD is listening, hearing and doing well.



UPTH MORTUARY REVAMPED

you play in this organisation?

I am chairman Mortuary Management Committee which was duly appointed by the management, through the office of the Chief Medical Director (CMD) my boss in the person of Professor Henry Ugboma.

As the chairman of the Mortuary Management Committee what does the organisation expect of you?

During the past administration this mortuary was neglected. There was a lot of irregularity; Staff moving bodies without due process, revenue dropped. The intention was to change all this. Since the inception of this present administration, I can tell you there has been tremendous improvement. The environment is neat and tidy, there is improvement in the working strength and welfare of the staff, also our materials to work is

commendable.

You talk about irregularities, movement of bodies without due process being one of them. I'm sure this must have been a big challenge, so how have you been able to handle the situation?

It was a very big challenge but it was handled in a way that today everybody is happy. Those staff who indulged in this act have been redeployed. Some of them were moving bodies, collecting money from relatives of the deceased without due process. There was a young man who was found guilty and today he has been sacked. Others were redeployed from this department to other departments. As I currently speak to you, we have new adhoc staff. They are paid and they are happy. We have tried as much as possible to block loopholes and leakages where most of the money that was supposed to be paid into the hospital's account were being diverted to private hands. I think this practice has been stopped.

The Chairman Mortuary Management Committee UPTH, Dr Gospell Ajunwo has commended the administration of Professor Henry Ugboma for the great effort towards the realisation of the vision and mission of the hospital to be a first-rate, world class health institution. His commendation was made in an interview with the UPTH press team led by Mrs Ngozi Omojunikanbi in his office on 18 March, 2019.

Can you tell us about yourself?
I am Doctor Gospel Ajunwo of the Department Of Chemical Pathology UPTH and Medical Laboratory Sciences, Chief Medical Lab Scientist of the department.

Can you tell us what further role

Sir can you throw more light on other changes that have been effected in the department?

Yes I think the most fundamental thing I want to talk about is the attitude of our staff to relatives of the dead. It is very cordial and people are commending this place. Look at the environment, if not for the signpost, you will not even know that it is a mortuary. Previously when you come here, you perceive different offensive smells, but today you can stay here comfortably with no odours because the mortuary is being well taken care of. The environmental aspect of it, is being taken care off by the management on a daily basis. We fumigate the place and the mortuary is cleaned 24 hours. In fact, the most interesting aspect is, some of the fridges that were not working before are now functional. Some are however undergoing maintenance. We are trying our best. Our embalming process is very effective. We have trained morticians who are doing their best and there's close monitoring. We are professionals. You can see at the reception we have televisions and air conditioners. Like I said earlier, you won't even know it's a mortuary. There's also frequent power. I think these are some achievements by management and you can see things for yourself.

Can anyone registered with the National Health Insurance Scheme NHIS, benefit from your services?

Of course to the best of my knowledge I know that there are certain percentages that are being enjoyed by staff of this hospital. For example, if a staff dies and is brought to this mortuary, he or she has a 100% waiver which means he has no

financial commitments. Management will take adequate care of footing the bills and I think that is enough. However if a staff relative dies, the staff has the right to apply for a waiver. The management can approve up to a 60% waiver. These are the benefits staff enjoy.

Dr Gospel are there other impacts of the present administration on your department that you have not mentioned?

There are more. The impact of the government of Professor Henry Ugboma, my sister is unmeasurable. I can say everybody is smiling. He's putting smiles on everybody's face today, including my staff. Last week or thereabouts my staff celebrated when they got alerts. For the first time an adhoc staff is paid. I have ten (10) adhoc staff here and their names are in the voucher, every month they receive alerts. It has never happened here and most of these adhoc staff have been here for 2 to 3 years. I stand to be corrected they have never been paid. You can go round and interview them on your own, they will tell you. However since the inception of this administration they have been paid regularly, they are very happy. As a result of this payment the people are not engaging themselves in criminal activity. You know when somebody is well paid and fed he won't have time to start looking at management's money. With due respect, compared to last administration, we know how our revenue has been growing daily and monthly. The management has commended us for that and and relatives of the dead are happy. They come here, they feel free, they also follow due process from the department, do their clearance,

pay their bills everything is documented. Look at the interior of the mortuary well painted and well ventilated. This has never happened before. The first thing Professor Ugboma did was to appoint me as the Chairman/Project Manager of this place.

Sir for how long have you been the head of department?

For the past five months. I was appointed March 2018, then made project manager August 2018. There has been wonderful cooperation between my staff and I. It has been a wonderful position to the glory of God.

Are there prospects in this department, also what do you need to achieve within the next few months/years or even before the expiration of your tenure as HOD or Chairman?

In every organisation we pray to God to move from one level to another. All we pray for are ways to make this place a world-class mortuary and we are working towards achieving that. You can see there are changes. Medical and resident doctors can now come here for training. Previously we were going to lagos for autopsy training, but now other medical institutions and universities come here for autopsy and other medical training for professional qualifications. That is our vision, to be a world-class mortuary.



UGBOMA LAUDS LIBYA RETURNEES CREW

Staff of the University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital who were part of the Federal Government team that received Libya returnees at the Port Harcourt International Airport Omagwa, Rivers State, have been commended for a job well done.

Chief Medical Director Professor Henry Ugboma made the commendation, when he held an interactive meeting with staff who were drafted by the hospital to offer medical service to the Nigerians deported from Libya.

Professor Ugboma however expressed sadness that since January 2018 when the first batch of returnees arrived, the hospital personnel deployed for the national assignment were yet to be paid any allowance as was the case with their counterparts from other agencies who were also on ground.

He appealed to the staff to exercise patience as management explores every

avenue to make sure that they are paid what is due them.

Deputy Chairman Medical Advisory Committee Dr Ocheli Emmanuel who led the delegation, recalled the show of commitment, zeal and patriotism displayed by staff of the hospital over the period of three months while attending to over 3500 Libya returnees without any form of incentive.

“The UPTH team made the hospital proud as their arrival at the camp set up for the Libya returnees gave direction and purpose to the Federal Government's intervention efforts,” said Dr Ocheli.

Dr Ocheli thanked the CMD for meeting with staff who represented the hospital and also lent his voice to the appeal for the quick release of allowances earmarked for personnel who participated in the national assignment.

It was disclosed that 40 persons from across various

departments of the hospital volunteered to render service for the over 3500 returnees from the war torn north african country.

Two persons who were part of the exercise spoke, expressing gratitude for the CMD's decision to meet and appreciate the Libya returnees crew and urged him to be unrelenting in his efforts to get the relevant authorities to release their allowances.

The interactive session with the CMD had in attendance 36 persons who took part in the assignment.



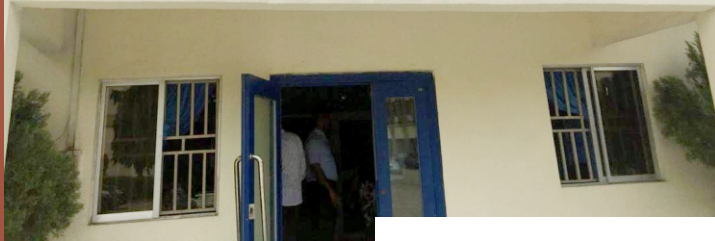
Unveiling of The South South Regional Burns and Plastics Centre



**UPTH Physiotherapy:
Womens Health Centre**



**WOMEN'S HEALTH PHYSIOTHERAPY
AND PHYSICAL FITNESS CENTRE**





NIPOST: UPTH POSTAL CENTRE

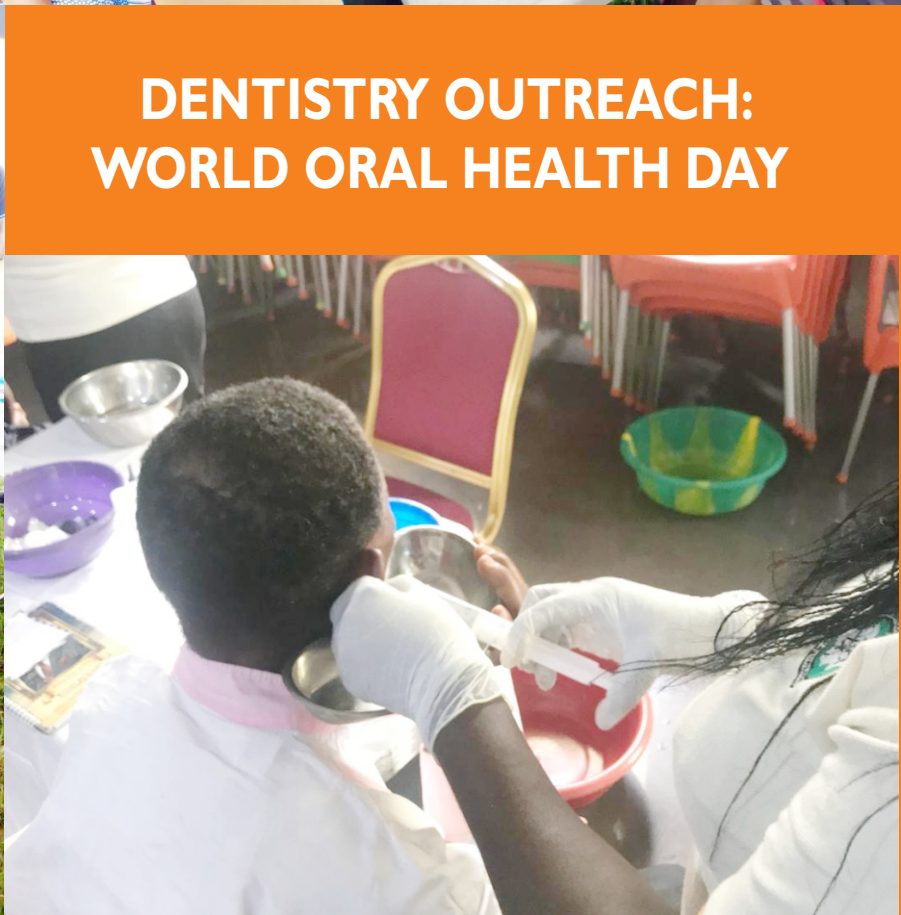




PREMIUM MEDICAID DONATION TO NHIS



UPTH MANAGEMENT DELIVERS MOBILE X-RAY MACHINES



DENTISTRY OUTREACH: WORLD ORAL HEALTH DAY





WORLD KIDNEY DAY: A SENSITIZATION VISIT TO ORPHANAGE

RENOVATION, UPGRADE OF FACILITIES AND EQUIPPING OF UPTH

Burns and Plastic Centre



Before



After



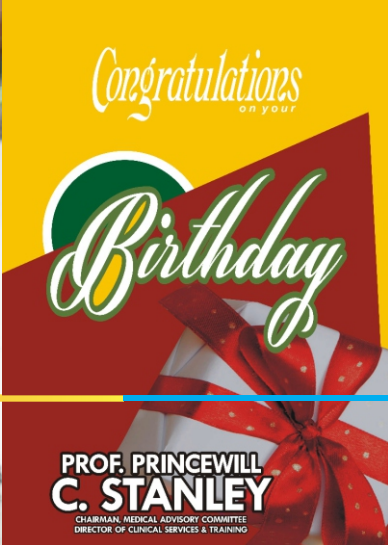
House Officers Quarters

RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENT: ON GOING INSTALLATION OF MACHINES



RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENT: ON GOING INSTALLATION OF MACHINES







The University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital Congratulates the Director of Administration Deacon Opuene Akie Hart and his beautiful wife, Mrs. Lasiki Akie Hart on the event of your Iria/Egarebite/Bibite Ceremony. Congratulations!!!



Media crew during CMACS end of year celebration.

FEDERAL SECRETARIAT: UPTH ANNEX DENTAL CENTRE



UPTH ROAD MAP

