



# COCHRANE NIGERIA INFO SHEET

*News Sheet of the Nigeria Branch of the South African Cochrane Centre*



July 2010

## Countdown

Welcome to the third Quarter Issue of the Cochrane Nigeria Info Sheet. This issue features an article on a media workshop which was held at the Branch, a piece on a Nigerian Cochrane Author who came for mentoring at the Branch as well as all the other regular features.

There is also excitement (and lots of work) at the branch as we countdown to the third and final phase of the Reviews for Africa Programme (RAP) Nigeria which will run from 26<sup>th</sup> July to 6<sup>th</sup> August 2010. Reviews for Africa Programme Nigeria began on 19<sup>th</sup> October last year when the first phase took place). A lot of the RAP interns have made good progress on their reviews and we expect that the programme will turn out to be a success. We expect to feature a full piece on the RAP Nigeria, Phase 3 in the next Cochrane Nigeria Info Sheet so, do look out for it.

All over the world, members of the Cochrane Collaboration are gradually counting down to the Joint Colloquium of the Cochrane and Campbell Collaborations. This also promises to be tremendous. Details on the Colloquium may be found at the end of the Info Sheet.

We wish you happy reading and welcome comments and feedback!

Moriam Chibuzor  
*Editor*

## Collaboration News



### □ New Cochrane Centre

A new Cochrane Centre has been established in Paris, France. The Centre will be directed by Professor Philippe Ravaud and Dr Pierre Durieux, from University Paris Descartes and will be jointly funded by L'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Santé Publique, La Haute Autorité de Santé, L'Assistance Publique- Hôpitaux de Paris, and L'Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale.

- **Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group – WHO Collaborating Centre:** The Liverpool school of Tropical Medicine which hosts the Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group, has been designated a WHO Collaborating Centre for Evidence Synthesis for Infectious and Tropical Diseases. As a collaborating centre, they will support WHO in developing recommendations for health care policy, developing guidelines for the management of infectious diseases, organizing training in research methods and the communication of results to policy makers, clinicians, teachers and the public in developing countries.

## **Media Workshop at Nigeria Branch**



The Nigeria Branch of the South African Cochrane Centre recently held a workshop with media practitioners in Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria. The workshop tagged ‘Evidence-Based Health Reporting Workshop for Media Practitioners’ was organized in collaboration with the Institute of Tropical Diseases Research and Prevention, Calabar and Roll Back Malaria, Calabar and took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2010 at the Institute of Tropical Diseases Research and Prevention, Calabar. The workshop was funded with a grant from the Cochrane Opportunities Fund.

The main objectives of the workshop were to introduce media personnel to evidence-based health Care; expose participants to web-based resources for evidence-based health care information; introduce participants to finding, appraising and using reliable health research evidence; and use malaria as case study in sharing health research evidence.

Eighteen participants from various media organizations attended the workshop. These included representatives from the Cross River State Broadcasting Corporation (CRBC), National Television Authority (NTA) Calabar, Voice of Nigeria, Federal Information Centre, News Agency of Nigeria among others. Key among the participants was the Chairman of the Calabar Chapter of the Nigerian Union of Journalists, Mr. Omini Oden.

Participants were introduced to the Cochrane Collaboration and the Cochrane Library and were taught how to search for evidence based health care information from the Cochrane Library and other web resources such as Hinari and Pubmed. They were also shown how to access and use the Cochrane Collaboration Press kit and press releases. Resource persons included: Professor Martin Meremikwu (Branch Director, NBofSACC), Dr Emmanuel Effa (Consultant Nephrologist, University of Calabar Teaching Hospital), Dr. Friday Odey (Consultant Paediatrician, University of Calabar Teaching Hospital), Dr.

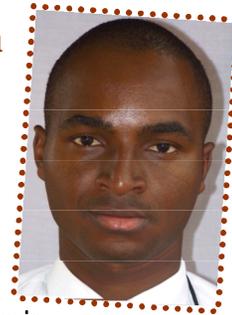


Udoh (Consultant Paediatrician, University of Calabar Teaching Hospital), Mr. Ekpereonne Esu (Lecturer, Department of Public Health, University of Calabar) and Ms Chioma Oringanje (Research Assistant, Effective Health Care Research Programme Nigeria).

**Group Photo of Participants and Resource Persons**

## **Mentoring Programme - Cochrane from Anambra State**

One of the programmes we run here at the Nigeria Branch of the South African Cochrane Centre is a Mentorship Programme. Under this programme, review authors receive mentoring on writing Cochrane Reviews. Mentoring may take any of two forms: a reviewer may be paired with a mentor who is in the same region/institution as he is; or he may undergo an internship programme here at the branch during which he will be taught by a number of more experienced review authors in their areas of expertise. Although the first method is more common, from time to time we do have authors undergoing internship programmes for varying durations. A lot of mentorship also goes on by telephone and email!



Dr. Ahizechukwu Eke, a Senior Registrar in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Nnamdi Azikiwe University Teaching Hospital, Nnewi in Anambra State came to the NBofSACC in Calabar to undergo one-week of mentoring from the 14<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> of June, 2010. He had two protocols, (*Sperm washing to prevent HIV transmission from HIV-infected men but allowing conception in serodiscordant couples* **And** *Hepatitis B immunoglobulin during pregnancy for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of hepatitis B virus*) published in April and June 2010 respectively, and needed assistance with data collection, data extraction and the use of Revman 5 software for statistical analysis. Professor Martin Meremikwu (Branch Director, NBofSACC), Dr. Emmanuel Effa (Physician Nephrologist/Training Coordinator NBofSACC), Ms Chioma Oringanje (Research Assistant, NBofSACC ) and Mr. Ekpereonne Esu (Lecturer, Department of

Public Health, University of Calabar), all experienced reviewers, practically worked with him through stages of the review process. Dr Eke looked happy at the end of the short fellowship and acknowledged that the exercise was very helpful. We believe that the support he received will go a long way to helping him complete his reviews on schedule.

## Upcoming Courses, Fellowships and Workshops



### ❖ **WAHO Young Professionals Internship Programme 2011**

The West African Health organisation (WAHO), the Health Agency of ECOWAS, and its partners are calling for applications for the young professionals Internship Programme (YPIP) for 2011. The goal of the programme, which will commence in January 2011, is to equip young professionals with knowledge, skills and experience for effective management of health problems in West Africa. The programme will last for 12 months and will consist of six stages.

For eligibility criteria, mode of application and other details, click on the jobs and internship tab on the page below:

<http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=fr&tl=en&u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.wahooas.org%2F>

**Deadline for Applications:** August 27, 2010

### ❖ **Online Course in Meta Analysis:** An online course in meta analysis, titled Introduction to Meta Analysis, will run from Dec. 3, 2010 - Jan. 7, 2011. For more information about the course, fees, and registration go to:

<http://click.icptrack.com/icp/relay.php?r=1014073032&msgid=4349115&act=BM3H&c=28095&destination=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.statistics.com%2Fourcourses%2Fmeta%2F>

### ❖ **Wellcome Trust –Masters Fellowship in Public Health and Tropical Medicine**

Fellowships are available for residents of developing countries carrying out research projects at masters degree level in the areas of public health and tropical Medicine. For full details and eligibility criteria visit:

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/Funding/Biomedical-science/Grants/Fellowships-and-personal-awards/Public-health-and-tropical-medicine/WTD025881.htm>

**Next Deadline for Applications:** 6 August 2010

### ❖ **Wellcome Trust - Other Biomedical Grants/Fellowships**

For other biomedical grants/fellowships from the Wellcome trust visit:

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/Funding/Biomedical-science/index.htm>

❖ **Free online courses in Research Ethics and Good Clinical Practice**

The African Malaria Network Trust (AMANET) is an organization located in Tanzania which promotes capacity strengthening and networking of malaria Research and Development in Africa. AMANET provides free online courses in the following areas: Basic Health Research Ethics (available in English and French); Advanced Health Research Ethics; and Good Clinical Practice. Certificates can be printed online once the courses are completed.

To register and take the courses see: <http://webcourses.amanet-trust.org/>



## **New Reviews from the Cochrane Library**

The following reviews published in the Cochrane Library between May and July 2010 were authored or coauthored by Nigerians.

- Vaccines for preventing rotavirus diarrhoea: Vaccines in use **by Soares-Weiser K, MacLehose H, Ben-Aharon I, Goldberg E, Pitan F, Cunliffe N. Issue 5, 2010.**

### **Other Recent Reviews**

- Supplementary Vitamin E, Selenium, Cysteine and Riboflavin for preventing Kwashiorkor in Preschool Children in Developing Countries **by Chibuzo C Odigwe, Geir Smedslund, Regina I Ejemot-Nwadiaro, Chiedozie C Anyanechi, Michael B Krawinkel. Issue 4, 2010.**
- Honey for Acute Cough in Children **by Olabisi Oduwole, Martin Meremikwu, Angela Oyo-Ita, Ekong E Udoh. Issue 1, 2010.**
- Treatment of latent tuberculosis infection in HIV infected persons **by Akolo Christopher, Adetifa Ifedayo, Shepperd S, Volmink J. Issue 1, 2010.**
- Interventions for HIV Associated Nephropathy **by Ismail Yahaya, Abdulrahman Olalekan Uthman, Muhammed Mubashir B Uthman. Issue 4, 2009.**
- Interventions for Preventing Unintended Pregnancies among Adolescents **by Chioma Oringanje, , Martin M Meremikwu, Hokehe Eko, Ekpereonne Esu, Anne Meremikwu, John Ehiri. Issue 4, 2009.**
- Vaccines for Preventing Invasive Salmonella Infection in People with Sickle Cell Disease **by Friday Odey, Uduak Okomo, Angela Oyo-Ita. Issue 4, 2009.**

# Announcements

## 18<sup>th</sup> Cochrane Colloquium



The 18<sup>th</sup> International Cochrane Colloquium will take place in Keystone, Colorado from 18-22 October 2010 and will be held jointly with the Campbell Collaboration. For more details visit:

<http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=766689>

### Colloquium: Important Dates to Note

**9 August 2010**

Meeting Room Requests Due

**7 September 2010**

Hotel Registration Deadline

**13 September 2010**

Cancelation Deadline

- **Issue 7, 2010 of the Cochrane Library is now online:** To access full text reviews, visit: [www.thecochranelibrary.com](http://www.thecochranelibrary.com)
- **How can we serve you better?**  
Please feel free to contact us and let us know how we can tailor the *Info Sheet* to better meet your needs. Send your emails to [cochranenigeria@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cochranenigeria@yahoo.co.uk)

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