



# COCHRANE NIGERIA INFO SHEET

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



January 2010

## It's a New Decade

Happy New Year! We have turned the corner into a new decade. This year in the Cochrane Collaboration as a whole, a number of workshops have been planned in various parts of the world (<http://www.cochrane.org/new/workshops.htm>). The highlight of it all, of course, will be the annual Cochrane Colloquium which will hold in Keystone Colorado, USA from 18-22 October. Locally, as a branch we will continue to provide support to reviewers through workshops and other mediums. The Reviews for Africa Programme which began during the last quarter of 2009, will be concluded. We will keep you updated as each event unfolds.

Wishing you a great year ahead!



## Collaboration News

- **Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews – Now to be published monthly**  
Beginning from January 2010, the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews and the 'About the Cochrane Collaboration' Database will be published monthly instead of quarterly. This is to enable more rapid publication of new evidence among other things. For full details on this change see *Information about 2010 Publication Frequency* at: [www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/mrwhome/106568753/HELP\\_Cochrane.html](http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/mrwhome/106568753/HELP_Cochrane.html)
- **Cochrane Food Security and Nutrition Field Proposed**  
In view of a lack of reviews evaluating the effects of policies and interventions for promoting food security highlighted at the last Cochrane Colloquium in Singapore, the establishment of a Cochrane Food and Nutrition field (or working group) is being explored. A task team has been constituted to draft a proposal for discussion and consultation.
- **Cochrane News – Issue 47 now Online**  
Issue 47 of Cochrane News, the official newsletter of the Cochrane Collaboration, is now online. To read visit: <http://www.cochrane.org/newslett/CochraneNewsIssue4710-Dec-2009.pdf>

# RAP NIGERIA

From the 19<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> of October 2009, five Nigerian Review Authors gathered daily at the National Hospital Abuja. The reason? The first edition of the Reviews for Africa Programme (RAP) Nigeria.

The Reviews for Africa Programme was developed by the South African Cochrane Centre to train African Scientists in research synthesis and assist them initiate and prepare Cochrane Reviews.

The five rappers (as RAP interns are fondly called) were chosen after a rigorous selection process. Six rappers were actually chosen, but one could not attend because of a conflicting programmes.

The programme was a very intensive one, and consisted of didactic and practical sessions. Sessions lasted from 8.30 in the morning to 5pm (with lunch and tea breaks in between) after which participants retired to their hotel rooms for some rest and personal work on their protocols. Rappers were introduced to the Cochrane Collaboration and the Cochrane Library, basis research methodology, Components of a Cochrane Systematic Review, how to use the RevMan 5 Software, Statistics, Critical Appraisal of Research Papers among other things.

Even though it was a busy time for the rappers, and the two weeks involved a lot of hard work, the students appreciated the course and were able to make good progress on their protocols. It is expected that each protocol should be ready for publication in issue 2:2010 of the Cochrane Library.

## MEET our RAPPERS!!



Name: Adamu Bappa  
Designation: Lecturer/Consultant Physician, Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital, Kano  
Qualifications: MBBCH, Fellow West African College of Physicians  
Review Topic: Antibiotic Prophylaxis for Preventing Post-solid Organ Transplant Tuberculosis  
Review Group: Cochrane Renal Group  
Hobbies: Swimming, Jogging and Travelling

Name: Ani Etokidem  
Designation: Lecturer/Consultant Community Medicine, University of Calabar Teaching Hospital  
Qualifications: MBBCH, Fellow National Postgraduate Medical College (Public Health), Masters in Public Health, Postgraduate Diploma in Management  
Review Topic: Vaccines for Prevention of HIV  
Review Group: HIV/AIDS Group  
Hobbies: Creative Writing, Photography, Music, Nature





Name: Ifeanyi Ezedunukwe  
 Designation: Resident Doctor  
 Qualifications: MB BCH  
 Review Topic: Economic Interventions for Prevention of HIV Risk and HIV Infection  
 Review Group: HIV/AIDS Group  
 Hobbies: Music, Sports and Walking



Name: Yusuf Misau  
 Designation: Registrar, Department of Internal Medicine, Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital, Zaria  
 Qualifications: MBBS, MPH (University of Malaya, Malaysia)  
 Review Topic: Ciprofloxacin versus Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole for AIDS-related Diarrhoea  
 Review Group: HIV/AIDS Group  
 Hobbies: Travelling and Exploring different Cultures and Norms



Name: Chizoma Ndikom  
 Designation: Lecturer, Department of Nursing, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Oyo State  
 Qualifications: BSc Nursing, MSc Sociology (Medical), Currently studying for a Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing  
 Review Topic: Extra Fluids for Breastfeeding Mothers  
 Review Group: Pregnancy and Childbirth Group  
 Hobbies: Reading, Handball, Travelling, Caring for the needy



## Upcoming Courses, Fellowships and Workshops



### ❖ **LMU PhD Programme in International Health**

The Center for International Health (CIH<sup>LMU</sup>) at Ludwig-Maximilians-University (LMU) in Munich will open applications for the PhD-Programme in International Health starting in autumn 2010. The three-year programme will be specific for health professionals who will be able to choose from a wide range of disciplines and supervisors available in the fields of basic sciences, clinical research, epidemiology and public health, health economics, health system research, and health governance.

For selected candidates from Low-Income-Countries they will be able to offer 10 [CIH<sup>LMU</sup>-PhD-Scholarships](#) each year. For more information about the programme and scholarship, please refer to the CIH<sup>LMU</sup> website at [www.cih.lmu.de](http://www.cih.lmu.de)

**Application Period:** 3 February - 9 May 2010

### ❖ **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>

**Deadline for applications:** 9 March 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>

### ❖ **EPPI-Centre London: Online Courses**

The EPPI-Centre London has launched two fully online courses titled ‘Evidence for Policy, Practice and Personal decisions’ and ‘Methods for Research Synthesis.

**Dates:** 8 February 2010 and 17 May 2010

Visit: <http://eppi.ioe.ac.uk/cms/Default.aspx?tabid=704&language=en-US> for more details.

Contact: Kim Reynold [k.reynolds@ioe.ac.uk](mailto:k.reynolds@ioe.ac.uk)

### ❖ **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

The following review in Issue 1, 2010 of the Cochrane Library was published by a Nigerian Author.

- Honey for Acute Cough in Children **by** *Olabisi Oduwole, Martin Meremikwu, Angela Oyo-Ita, Ekong E Udoh*

### Other Reviews (Issue 4, 2009)

- Interventions for HIV Associated Nephropathy **by** *Ismail Yahaya, Abdulrahman Olalekan Uthman, Muhammed Mubashir B Uthman*
- Interventions for Preventing Unintended Pregnancies among Adolescents **by** *Chioma Oringanje, , Martin M Meremikwu, Hokehe Eko, Ekpereonne Esu, Anne Meremikwu, John Ehiri*
- Vaccines for Preventing Invasive Salmonella Infection in People with Sickle Cell Disease **by** *Friday Odey, Uduak Okomo, Angela Oyo-Ita*

## 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>

#### ▪ **Issue 1, 2010 of the Cochrane Library is out**

#### ▪ **Cochrane Opportunities Fund – Request for Proposals**

The Steering Group of the Cochrane Collaboration is currently requesting for proposals for the Cochrane Opportunities Fund. The opportunities fund provides entities with an opportunity to obtain Collaboration funds to undertake project work of their own initiative. Projects relevant to the Cochrane Collaborations Strategic plan or priority areas identified in the recent strategic review of the Collaboration are welcome.

**Deadline for Submissions:** 5 pm GMT, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010. For full details see: [http://www.cochrane.org/admin/cc\\_funding\\_initiatives.htm#oppfund](http://www.cochrane.org/admin/cc_funding_initiatives.htm#oppfund)

#### ▪ **Godwin Aja appointed Professor**

Godwin Aja, formerly an associate Professor of Health Promotion and Education at the Babcock University, Nigeria, has been made a full time Professor. Professor Aja has been involved extensively in Cochrane Collaboration consumer activities in Nigeria and was formerly the Cochrane Consumer Network Representative in the Cochrane Steering Group. He is also a Cochrane review author. We congratulate him on this landmark achievement.



- **Emmanuel Effa ties the Knot!**  
Emmanuel Effa, Nephrologist University of Calabar Teaching Hospital and Research Associate at the Nigeria Branch of the South African Cochrane Centre, married his heartthrob, Norah, on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010 in a colourful wedding ceremony. We wish them a happy married life!
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Emmanuel and his lovely bride, Norah

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### Branch Staff

Professor Martin Meremikwu – Director  
 Dr Angela Oyo-Ita – Deputy Director  
 Mr Felix Awara Eke – Administrative Officer  
 Ms Chioma Oringanje – Research Assistant  
 Dr Emmanuel Effa – Research Associate  
 Dr Ekong Udoh – Research Associate

Mrs Moriam Chibuzor – Editor *Cochrane Nigeria Infosheet*

Email: [cochranenigeria@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cochranenigeria@yahoo.co.uk)

Phone Nos: +234(0)8036742377; +234(0)8036572179; +234(0)8037239898  
 +234(0)8055452670