

# The Diaspora as Nigeria's Brain Gain



## SPEAKERS

**Umaru Tanko Al-Makura**, Executive Governor of Nassarawa State,  
**Prof. Oyewale Tomori** Chief Medical Director, Lagoon Hospitals | **Dr. Ukwuori-Gisela Kalu**, Consultant Clinical Psychologist |  
**Dr. Chummy Nwogu**, CEO, Lakeshore Cancer Centre | **Dr. Fatima Kyari**, Consultant Ophthalmologist and Founder Centre for Community  
and Rural Eye Care | **Dr. Atinuke Uwajeh**, Consultant Paediatrician, Pediatric Partners | **Mr. Olumide Okunola**, Healthcare Program  
Manager, International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group | **Dr. Zainab Bagudu**, CEO, MedicAid Foundation and First Lady, Kebbi  
State | **Mr. Temitayo Erogbogbo** Director of Advocacy, MSD for Mothers | **Dr. Douglas Okor** Consultant Neurosurgeon, Zitadel Medicals  
and Diagnostics | **Dr. Olufemi Sunmonu**, Co-Founder & Director, PurpleSource HealthCare | **Professor Rotimi Jaiyesimi** Secretary,  
Medical Association of Nigerians Across Great Britain (MANSAG)



18th October 2018 | Sheraton Hotel, Abuja | [www.futureofhealthconference.com](http://www.futureofhealthconference.com) | #BrainGain4Naija



Founded in 2004, Facebook's mission is to give people the power to build community and bring the world closer together. People use Facebook to stay connected with friends and family, to discover what's going on in the world, and to share and express what matters to them. Facebook helps you connect and share with the people in your life.



## Investment works

CDC Investment Works supports the building of businesses throughout Africa and South Asia, to create jobs, and to make a lasting difference to people's lives in some of the world's poorest places.

The focus is on investing in countries where the private sector is weak, jobs are scarce, and the investment climate is difficult, but particularly in sectors where growth leads to jobs.



Zenith Bank Plc was established in May 1990, and commenced operations in July of the same year as a commercial bank. The Bank became a public limited company on June 17, 2004 and was listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) on October 21, 2004 following a highly successful Initial Public Offering (IPO). Zenith Bank Plc currently has a shareholder base of about one million and is Nigeria's biggest bank by tier-1 capital.



Philips is committed to delivering meaningful innovations that help to enhance the lives of Africans across this great continent. Whether it is bringing more energy efficient lighting to urban and rural communities, or supporting hospital systems to improve healthcare infrastructure and access to rural healthcare, or helping families, our portfolio is designed to make a difference. Improving people's lives through our innovations is core to the mission of our company.



The PharmAccess Group is dedicated to improving affordable access to quality health care in Africa by stimulating investments through partnerships with the private sector and government institutions. All the companies in the group have a shared goal; working towards achieving inclusive health care for Africa.



The TY Danjuma Foundation is an independent private philanthropic organisation committed to improving the quality of life for disadvantaged Nigerians.

The Foundation's work in Nigeria identifies and supports initiatives that enhance access to affordable quality health care, education and skills training.



EpiAFRIC is a global competitive African health consultancy group. We provide a service of uncompromising competence, tenacious integrity, and an in-depth local understanding of the Nigerian context, enriched by a culture of delivery from our international experience and underpinned by a socially aware ethos. We offer advisory, research and capacity development for the health sector.



Pro-Health International is a faith-based, NGO committed to providing essentially quality and quantitative healthcare and hope to the poor and less privileged in the rural areas of Africa at little or no cost to the recipient with the love of Christ. For 26 years, PHI has conducted short-term medical projects and attended to over 2.5 million recipients.



Nigeria Health Watch is a not-for-profit organisation offering communication and advocacy expertise in the health sector. Our dual strengths in health and communication enable us to provide perfect solutions for communications and advocacy in the health sector. Competence, integrity, social consciousness, passion for health, are some of our values.



**Dr. Olujimi Coker**

is the chief medical director, Lagoon Hospitals Lagos, and chairman, Laparoscopic Association of Nigeria. An avid advocate for seeking locally available treatment before venturing overseas, Dr. Coker is highly skilled in diagnostic and therapeutic colonoscopy. His interests include advanced laparoscopic surgery for gallstones, hernias, appendicitis and colorectal cancer.

**Dr. Ukwuor i-Gisela Kalu**

is a clinical psychologist who is passionate about Global Mental Health promotion and intervention. She is exceptional at using her expertise to treat patients with grief, anxiety, bipolar disorders, addictions and several other psychological conditions. Dr. Kalu has a strong interest in clinical work and research.

**Dr. Chumy Nwogu**

is a thoracic surgical oncologist and cancer epidemiologist. He pioneered Nigeria's first cancer centre, the Lakeshore Cancer Centre in Lagos and has worked in cancer care over a decade. The professor of Surgery and Oncology at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute and at SUNY, Buffalo, has passion for providing cancer care solutions in resource limited settings.

**Dr. Fatima Kyari**

is a consultant ophthalmologist. Her passion for health care delivery at the grassroots led to the establishment of the Centre for Community and Rural Eye Care (ICARE). Her interests include health systems strengthening, healthcare financing and human capital development with a focus on health solutions and translation of research into practice and policy agendas.

**Dr. Atinuke Uwajeh**

is a consultant paediatrician and co-founder of the Pediatric Partners Hospital in Nigeria. She is a strong advocate for preventive health care. Her last position prior to returning to Nigeria was as an attending physician with Advocate Medical Group, one of the largest physician groups in the Illinois/Indiana area. Dr. Uwajeh is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

**Dr. Olumide Okunola**

is a consultant with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a private sector arm of the World Bank Group. He is excellent at putting his multidisciplinary training in public health, health economics and financing, programme management and business administration into generating relevant solutions, decisions and policies for governments and agencies.

**Dr. Zainab Shinkafi-Bagudu**

is a paediatric consultant and the First Lady of Kebbi State. Her interests cut across health, education and skills acquisition for women, children and the youth. Her heart for children led her to set up the Paediatric Unit of the Garki Hospital in 2002, and six years later she established the Medicaid Radio-Diagnostics Centre. She is also the founder of the Medicaid Cancer Foundation (MCF).

**Mr. Temitayo Erogbogbo**

is the global director of advocacy at MSD for Mothers. He has strategically delivered on organisational goals in Africa and Europe on issues that include health and its social determinants, gender equality, governance, accountability and socio-economic empowerment. He led the establishment of an Adolescents and Youth constituency at Partnership of Maternal, Newborn and Child Health PMNCH).

**Dr. Douglas Emeka Okor**

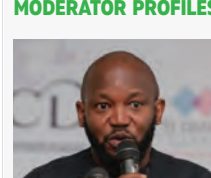
is a consultant neurosurgeon at Zitadel Medicals and Diagnostics in Nigeria. His subspecialist competences are skull base/ endoscopic pituitary, neurovascular and complex spinal surgeries. He is a foremost Nigerian health sector advocate, entrepreneur, motivational speaker and youth empowerment mentor.

**Dr. Sunmonu Olufemi**

is the co-founder of PurpleSource HealthCare. He has been involved in the design and implementation of sustainable community-based health insurance schemes in southern Nigeria with inputs spanning healthcare financing to health-systems strengthening. He brings with him a strong network of international collaborative partnerships from his over a decade clinical and commercial experience.

**Professor Rotimi Jaiyesimi**

is the associate medical director for patient safety and consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist at the Basildon University Hospital, Basildon, UK. He has been at the forefront of the 'brain gain' philosophy, undertaking medical missions to Ibadan, Sagamu, Abuja, and Abeokuta to share knowledge and transfer skills. He was also Chairman of the Planning committee of the Presidential Initiative on Diasporan Engagement (PRIDE).



**Dr. Ike Anya** is co-founder of EpiAfric and Nigeria Health Watch. The experienced public health physician, teaches at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



**Dr. Inya Ode** is a trained veterinary surgeon from the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria who currently co-hosts the popular radio show *The Midday Dialogue* on 95.1 *Nigeria Info*, Abuja. She is married with three kids

## MODERATOR PROFILES

# The Nigerian patient is worth it

The Future of Health Conference has continued to be the leading platform that sets actionable roadmaps to move the Nigeria Health sector forward.

The welfare of the Nigerian patient was the highlight of the 2018 Future of Health Conference which had the theme **'The Diaspora as Nigeria's Brain Gain'**.

The objective of the Conference was to showcase the opportunities in Nigeria's health ecosystem to health professionals in Nigeria and the Diaspora and seek ways to leverage their specialist training to build networks that will strengthen the Nigerian health sector.

Speakers, Nigerian Diaspora healthcare professionals – some of whom had returned fully – shared insights and knowledge garnered from the experience of moving back home. They were emphatic that the move back home for Nigerian healthcare professionals in the Diaspora, was not for the fainthearted. Notwithstanding this, it was evident from speaker after speaker that the Nigerian patient was worth it.

Public-private partnerships, collaborations with government, and other healthcare professionals or organisations were to be embraced for success stories. The importance of knowing when, how and who to collaborate with was key. Individuals, private

organisations and the Federal and State governments working together as a team will achieve greater results. The opportunity to develop standards in Nigeria that are acceptable outside Nigeria, was highlighted as

one of the advantages available to Nigerian healthcare professionals in the Diaspora. The opportunity to transfer skill and knowledge to health professionals resident in Nigeria, improve access to and quality of health care, to introduce innovations in the health sector and offer services that are not readily available in Nigeria were also brought to the fore.

A hostile business environment and the absence of a favourable ecosystem to support a start-up healthcare practice was identified as some of the challenges experienced by returnee healthcare professionals. Other challenges were, government inaction, access to quality health care, the high cost of healthcare, poor quality of the PHC system, huge gap in elderly care, corruption, high interest rates, bureaucratic bottlenecks, lack of collaboration, poor power supply, scarcity of medication and the menace of fake or adulterated medications, poorly trained support staff etc.

There is an abundance of Nigerian specialists in the Diaspora and for any intending returnee, it is important to have a support system, particularly family support. In addition, head, heart and pocket alignment, passion, integrity and information, patriotism, passion and patience are the three most important group of qualities any intending returnee should have.

The need to develop the Nigerian health system is great and it is the responsibility of the

government to create an enabling environment to encourage Nigerian Health Specialists in the Diaspora who are willing to come back. Nigeria has what it takes to achieve what India has achieved in their health sector.

**"WE OUGHT TO  
BEGIN TO DEVELOP  
STANDARDS  
BY NIGERIANS  
FOR NIGERIANS  
THAT ARE ALSO  
ACCEPTABLE  
OUTSIDE THE  
COUNTRY"**

DR. OLUJIMI COKER,  
CMD, Lagoon Hospitals and  
Chairman, Laparoscopic  
Association of Nigeria



## RESONATING



While the gaps abound, the lack of favorable policies, information and data makes it difficult to build models which determine scalability and sustainability of ventures in the Nigerian market. @Fmohnigeria and @nassnigeria should work to fill this gap. #BrainGain4Naija

– @Docnalo Oct 19 1:20

That emotional intelligence is a key skillset for the Diaspora doctor returning. #BrainGain4Naija

– @DrNgoziOnuoha Oct 19 10:27

With about 12 doctors fleeing Nigeria on a weekly basis and In spite of the overwhelming challenges in our health care system; the fact remains that #NigerianPatientsAreWorthIt

– @Gesamthealth Oct 18 4:15

Nigerian Surgeons/Doctors are among the best in the world. Majority of them are even abroad, and the few here want to leave. The Govt needs to invest more in the healthcare system & create a sustainable environment for all

– @IncisioNigeria Oct 21 3:02

We rounded up on the positive note that with collective efforts from healthcare personnel(home & abroad), +ve change will be recorded

– @EdithUba Oct 18

A common theme i've noticed from the 4 speakers thus far is the importance of a strong support system. For anyone looking to return back, you'll need this more. #braingain4naija

– @iheoma2 Oct 19 2:47



345

Number of views  
- as at October 25, 2018 -  
for the **3hrs 32mins 56secs**  
Facebook video



390

Number of views  
- as at October 25, 2018 -  
for the **1 hour 39mins 40mins**  
Youtube video

**'The FMOH has  
developed a guideline  
on how to coordinate  
the activities of  
Diasporans and also  
NGOs who carry out  
medical missions.'**

**DR. BOLANLE**  
Federal Ministry of Health

**#BrainGain4Naija  
HASHTRACKING**

OCT. 1 – 25, 2018

4,385  
POSTS

Number of tweets with  
the #BrainGain4Naija hashtag

26,896,733  
TIMELINE DELIVERIES

Total number of times that  
people saw posts containing  
the  
#BrainGain4Naija hashtag

836

CONTRIBUTORS

Number of users who posted  
with the  
#BizOfHealthNG hashtag

2,680,660  
REACHED

Number of unique users  
who saw posts containing the  
#BizOfHealthNG hashtag

THE EXPERTISE OF NIGERIANS IN  
THE DIASPORA IS VERY IMPORTANT.

**DR. BADEWA WILLIAMS**

Representative of the Senior Special Assistant to the  
President on Diaspora Affairs, Hon. Abike Dabiri-Barewa



**'I was asked if I come  
back to Nigeria, where  
would I practice? I told  
them 'where there is a  
will, there is a way.'**

**DR. DOUGLAS EMEKA OKOR**

Consultant Neurosurgeon

**"In the US there are hundreds or thousands  
of people that can do that surgery that I do  
here. But because it is not readily available  
here, I know that I make a huge difference  
with the experience I can add here."**

**DR. CHUMY NWOGU**

Thoracic Surgical Oncologist, CEO of Nigeria's first  
cancer centre – Lakeshore Cancer Centre Lagos



**"Coming back to Nigeria is not for the faint hearted  
because there are a lot of hurdles to cross.  
It takes a lot of planning, a lot of determination  
but the Nigerian patient is worth it."**

**DR. ATINUKE UWAJEH**

Consultant Paediatrician and Co-founder of the Pediatric Partners Hospital

**"With the technology we have available  
now and the need to develop our  
nation, it is imperative to build and  
strengthen the bond with our health  
care professionals in the Diaspora."**

**DR. ZAINAB BAGUDU**

CEO, Medicaid Foundation and First Lady, Kebbi State



## CHALLENGES

Lack of access to  
quality health care.

The poor capacity  
of the teaching  
hospitals in Nigeria.

Working in a mental  
healthcare system  
that doesn't exist  
and confronting the  
stigma surrounding  
mental health in  
Nigeria.

Increase access to  
quality care

The need to come  
up with creative  
innovative ways  
to access money  
allocated to the  
health system.

Build a network,  
leverage on the  
knowledge and  
ability of health  
professionals in the  
diaspora

Build relationships  
with your patients

Lack of a national  
screening program.

Government inaction  
even when a free  
service is being  
offered free.

High interest rates of  
commercial bank.

Poor power supply

Scarcity of  
medication

Poorly trained staff

The menace of  
fake or adulterated  
medications

The need to review  
the Nigerian Medical  
Association fee  
payment policy.



## The Diaspora: Disrupting the Norm in Nigeria's Health sector

### Dr. Olujimi Coker

CMD, Lagoon Hospitals

#### DEVELOP GLOBAL STANDARDS

Nigerians can solve their health care problems. Standards in the health sector should be developed by Nigerians for Nigeria that would be accepted internationally.

#### FOCUS ON ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

The importance of 'quality' in Universal health care should be emphasised. Health insurance is one way for people to be able to access quality healthcare.

#### COMMEND HARDWORK

There are some excellent hardworking doctors in Nigeria who are really trying their best under very bad conditions and it is important to recognise and commend them.

#### EMPHASISE QUALITY CARE

There is no point in health care being accessible if it is not of high quality. Universal quality care is key.

#### HAVE SUPPORT

Family support is essential for any returnee as transition back to Nigeria is never easy.

*"There is virtually no support for our elderly and that is a huge gap. Good reliable hospice care that we can take our aged parents to, is just not available."*

- Dr. Olujimi Coker

### Dr. Ukwuori-Gisela Kalu

Consultant Clinical Psychologist

#### EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES

There are great opportunities in the mental health care system in the Diaspora – conferences, radio shows – that are not available in Nigeria.

#### ELIMINATE STIGMAS

The stigma attached to mental health is one of the challenges affecting the mental health care system in Nigeria.

#### ENGAGE THE YOUNG

Technical solutions engage young people. Listening to them and including them in the health care solutions in Nigeria will be beneficial.

#### TAP INTO AVAILABLE POTENTIAL

A lot of potential is here with the challenges and with problems are also large opportunities.

#### USE TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA

Utilise opportunities to use technology to provide therapy online, and use mass media to raise awareness about key interventions.

*"For me, coming back to Nigeria is about listening to our young people, motivating them and engaging with them on the innovations in the health sector."*

- Dr. Ukwuori-Gisela Kalu

### Dr. Chummy Nwogu

Thoracic Surgical Oncologist, CEO, Lakeshore Cancer Centre

#### FILL THE GAPS

There is a need for specific cancer centres. Work with the Federal and State Governments to fill the gaps. A team approach, multiple people working together is vital.

#### CREATE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

Corruption, government inaction and high interest rates of commercial bank should be addressed.

#### STOP DIASPORA NMA FINES

Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) fees and other payments should be investigated. Doctors being 'fined' for been away or out of the country should stop.

#### KEEP THE RIGHT ATTITUDE

Align 'head, heart and pocket' when planning to return. Coming back is the opportunity to inspire the next generation.

*"It is impossible to explain the feeling that comes from sitting in front a patient and their family, caring deeply for them and providing a solution for them that they thought was impossible."*

- Dr. Chummy Nwogu

### Dr. Fatima Kyari

Consultant Ophthalmologist

#### PROVIDE ACCESS

ICARE – an eyecare organization – was formed because there was need to take eyecare to places where patients could not get to the service provider. Access was given to the people who couldn't afford eye care.

#### PLAY YOUR PART

In the first National Strategic Health Development plan, there was no provision for eye care. In the 2018, National Strategic Health Development plan eye care was included – through personal efforts.

#### INFORMATION IS KEY

For every 4 out of the 5 of the 2 million people who are blind in Nigeria, their condition is treatable and preventable. By WHO statistics, Nigeria is deficient of about 400% of medical doctors. If things continue like this, it will take Nigeria 100 years to reach the recommended number of doctors

*"If we don't develop our own health system who will? The way we can do that is through passion, integrity and information. For me, that is my gain from the Diaspora."*

- Dr. Fatima Kyari

### Dr. Atinuke Uwajeh

Consultant Pediatrician and Co-founder, Pediatric Partners Hospital

#### REPLICATE SUCCESS

Yearnings to contribute more to the health sector should fuel the replication of successful practices in Nigeria.

#### PLAN

Coming back to Nigeria is not for the faint hearted. There is a lot of planning to do. This should be backed by determination. The Nigerian patient is worth it.

#### PREPARE FOR THE CHALLENGES

A hostile business environment, the absence of a favourable ecosystem to support a start-up healthcare practice, high cost of power and the prevalence of substandard medications are some of the challenges to overcome.

#### BE INNOVATIVE

Attracting patients can be difficult due to caps on medical advertisements. Creatively use social media tools like WhatsApp to network and create a market for your practice.

*"There are many challenges that make it difficult, but the Nigerian patient is worth it."*

- Dr. Atinuke Uwajeh

### Dr. Tonnie Okoye

Strategic Prog. Mgr, Nigerian Medical Association (NMA)

#### LEVERAGE ON NMA OFFERINGS

An in-country directory of specialists – for possible Diaspora returnees to work or partner with – is being developed.

The business development unit of NMA exists to create the needed market for returnee Diaspora practitioners to penetrate the over 200 million people Nigeria healthcare sector.

Contact NMA offices to reduce 50% of the challenges that occur in terms of hospital registrations, licensing and practice.

#### ADVERTISE SERVICES

Aptly advertise services offered – and put it out there. Advertising yourself as a physician is unethical.

#### LIQUIDATE FEES

Renew licences annually after acquiring necessary CPD points. Use NMDCN online platforms to create your profiles and update licences as required.



## Leveraging the Gain: Sustaining the Diasporan Health Sector Ecosystem

### Dr. Olumide Okunola

Healthcare Program Manager, IFC, World Bank.

#### LOW COST OF CAPITAL NEEDED

Businesses need capital – the business of healthcare is no different. The cost of capital for healthcare investments should not be unnecessarily high.

#### EMULATE THE INDIAN MODEL

India has been able to provide a concession model for healthcare, providing access to poor and vulnerable people, Nigeria can emulate that model.

#### TAP INTO INSURANCE SCHEMES AND LOANS

Returnees should take advantage of the state health insurance schemes (SHIS) operating in 16 states across the country and tap into various loan schemes of the Federal Government.

*“We need to figure out innovative ways to access funds just lying down for health care.”*

- Dr. Olumide Okunola

### Dr. Zainab Bagudu

CEO, Medicaid Foundation and First Lady of Kebbi State

#### APPLY LESSONS LEARNT

Put the lessons learnt abroad to excel and stand out from the crowd. Push more and strive. Put in that extra effort to make life more comfortable for you and those around you.

#### STRENGTHEN BONDS

With present day advantages of technology and the need to achieve national goals for development, it is important and necessary to strengthen bonds between Diasporan populations and those resident in Nigeria. Respond to the needs of people - build bonds.

#### BUILD NETWORKS

One of the many advantages of practicing in the Diaspora is the opportunity to build networks. These networks continue to support professional practice upon return. Globalization is a reality that can be used positively for personal and national development

*“Everybody is a nation builder...we all as human beings have an inherent need and desire to protect our own.”*

- Dr. Zainab Bagudu

### Mr. Temitayo Erogbogbo

Director of Advocacy, MSD for Mothers

#### PRIORITISE MATERNAL HEALTH

Maternal health should be made a priority in Nigeria as women contribute significantly to the GDP of the country. Maternal mortality is an emergency that must be engaged and everyone, including the private sector, has a part to play.

#### INVEST IN MATERNAL CARE

There is a need to improve access to quality care, increase access to modern contraceptives and strengthen research capacities within the country to provide key intervention data. Modern contraceptives have to get to the last man - the critical end-user.

#### RAISE STANDARDS IN PRIVATE SECTOR FACILITIES

Up to 70 per cent of women deliver in private facilities in Lagos, Nigeria. There is a need to improve the experiences of these mothers who use these facilities. It is imperative to raise standards in those private facilities.

*“We must take that step in actually investing in the health system”*

- Mr. Temitayo Erogbogbo

### Dr. Douglas E. Okor

Consultant Neurosurgeon

#### ENGAGE

This is a journey that needs stamina, grit and passion. Make things happen. Push the boundaries to deliver healthcare in real time.

#### ADD CULTURE

Cultural integration is key. Don't strive to be seen just doing something. There must be dignity and there must be a reason a patient needs to be operated upon. Be genuine. Maintain integrity.

#### PROVIDE INFORMATION

There is a need to provide information about healthcare competencies in Nigeria. With some innovation, core and vital information can be put out there in order to save lives and avoid unnecessary costs.

#### SEEK PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborations and partnerships are important. Rise above obvious bottlenecks. Learn some things. Sometimes provide availability in the midst of affordability challenges.

*“Let's keep pushing for one reason only, that the Nigeria patient is worth it.”*

- Dr. Douglas Okor

### Dr. Olufemi Sunmonu

Co-founder/director, PurpleSource HealthCare

#### BE OPEN MINDED

Everything is harder here. Safety and security are highly prioritised here. Find out what's on ground. Explore the unknowns as if you were a child. Don't make assumptions about the state of affairs. Humble yourself, ask questions.

#### LEARN, START SMALL

Try something small first and make it manageable. Scale up as a means of leveraging on the linkages created in starting small or starting off alone. Test assumptions. Change your mindset and approach in this environment. Take the role to train and impart skills if you are going to help.

#### PUT PEOPLE FIRST

Ask patients what they want. Do a needs assessment and evolve service offerings that bear on the real needs of people. Be in tune with patient preferences as outlined by them.

#### COLLABORATE

Partnerships are important. Learn the 'how' and 'when' to actually collaborate. It does not need to happen at the outset but will be needed in the long run.

*“It is important to remember who you're doing it for.”*

- Dr. Olufemi Sunmonu

### Prof. Rotimi Jaibesimi

Secretary, Medical Association of Nigerians Across Great Britain (MANSAG)

#### FOCUS ON PHC SYSTEM

Not every body can afford the services of the private sector. Seventy per cent of the diseases in Nigeria can be treated at the PHC level. Human resources are needed at PHCs – train the family physician.

#### BE PASSIONATE

Passion and patience are needed. Partnerships with people are key. Progress should be seen. Resilience – which is not easy – is needed to weather the storms of 'push and pull.' Avoid being pompous and paternalistic. Arrogance begets resistance.

#### CHANGE THE LANDSCAPE

Be part of the health transformation drive of the government. Change the landscape in conjunction with homebased health professionals. Highlight the passion and professionalism to drive the brain gain movement.

*“Every Nigerian life is priceless. Nigerian patients deserve quality.”*

- Prof. Rotimi Jaibesimi





## CALL-TO-ACTION

Bridge the huge gap in the care of the elderly.

Standards in the health sector should be developed by Nigerians for Nigeria that would be accepted internationally.

Listen to young people. Engage them, include them in the health care solutions

There should be more involvement in the mental healthcare system in Nigeria.

There is a need for cancer centers to treat specific cancers.

Public-Private Partnerships will improve the quality of healthcare.

The government should create an enabling environment for health professionals in the Diaspora who want to come back.

The model used to re-build the healthcare system in India should be replicated in Nigeria.

It is important for the poor and vulnerable to have access to quality health care.

Nigerian health professionals in Diaspora should be prepared to share knowledge and skill.

Collaboration is important. Knowing when and how to collaborate is key.

Understand the people's needs and see if what you are providing is what they really want.

Passion, patience and patriotism is needed to make the difference.

The menace of fake or adulterated medications should be checked.

There is a need to review the Nigerian Medical Association fee payment policy.



*FHC 2018 was an avenue for many to...*



*...make enquiries*



*...explore opportunities*



*...listen to current topical trends*



*...network with fellow professionals*



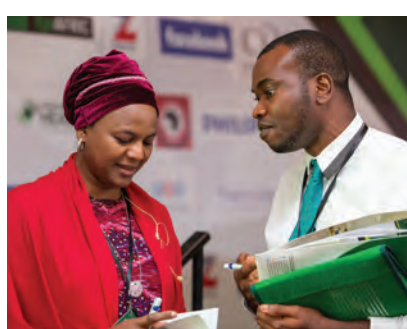
*...take snapshots*



*...share group photographs*



*... meet friends*



*...seek or obtain feedbacks*



*...and engage on many levels...*

