



**HCOWAA**  
MEDICAL & ACADEMIC  
EXCHANGE COMMITTEE



**HCOWA**  
ASSOCIATION



**HCOWA**  
GHANA LIMITED  
COMPANY



# **HCOWAA MEDICAL AND ACADEMIC EXCHANGE COMMITTEE LAUNCH REPORT**

Driving excellence in healthcare delivery, education, research,  
and innovation through sustained academic partnerships.

**OUR PARTNERS FOR H-MAEC**







**GUEST SPEAKER**

## **DR. YANG YONGGUANG**

EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, HCOWAA MEDICAL AND  
ACADEMIC EXCHANGE COMMITTEE

CAPTAIN OF THE 14TH CHINESE MEDICAL TEAM TO GHANA



# DR. LAWRENCE OFORI BOADU

DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL SERVICE, GHANA HEALTH SERVICE

REPRESENTATIVE OF PROFESSOR SAMUEL KABA AKORIYEA,  
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE GHANA HEALTH SERVICE



# Event Introduction

In a defining moment for healthcare advancement in the sub-region, the Health Community of West Africa Association (HCOWAA) proudly unveiled the **HCOWAA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee (HMAEC)** on **May 12th, 2025**, at the prestigious Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra, Ghana. This historic occasion brought together an exceptional assembly of medical experts, academic scholars, policymakers, and development partners, united by a shared vision — to catalyze sustainable, cross-border healthcare transformation through knowledge exchange, innovation, and strategic collaboration.

The launch of **HMAEC** signals a bold and forward-looking chapter in West Africa's healthcare evolution. Designed as a platform for academic excellence and clinical innovation, the committee will serve as a cornerstone for advancing research, fostering faculty and student exchanges, building capacity, and nurturing partnerships that transcend borders and disciplines.

In a compelling welcome address delivered on behalf of **Professor Samuel Kaba Akoriyea**, Director General of the Ghana Health Service, **Dr. Lawrence Ofori Boadu**, Director of Clinical Services, reaffirmed Ghana's commitment to regional cooperation and knowledge-driven healthcare reform. He applauded HCOWAA's foresight in institutionalizing academic engagement as a tool for regional resilience.

A keynote message from Dr. Yang Yongguang, Chief Physician and head of the 14th Chinese Medical Team to Ghana, highlighted China's progress in medical technology and called for deeper bilateral collaboration. His remarks emphasized the importance of establishing long-term academic exchange frameworks that connect institutions, empower practitioners, and improve public health outcomes through shared learning and innovation.

Also addressing the gathering was Mr. Yusuf Yakubu Tubor, Registrar of the Traditional Medicine Practice Council, who eloquently underscored the value of integrating traditional and scientific knowledge systems. He championed the idea that a harmonized healthcare landscape — grounded in respect for cultural heritage and scientific rigor — is essential for inclusive and accessible medical care in West Africa.

**Mr. Prince Opoku Dogbey**, Vice President of HCOWAA, formally outlined the committee's mission to create pathways for professional development, international research collaboration, and the co-creation of practical health solutions. "This is not just a committee — it is a commitment to excellence, equity, and empowerment across West African healthcare," he stated, urging institutions and professionals to engage with HCOWAA as active partners in this regional renaissance.

The committee was formally inaugurated under the leadership of Dr. Lawrence Ofori Boadu, representing Prof. Akoriyea. Its distinguished leadership structure includes:

- Executive Chairman – Dr. Yang Yongguang
- Chairperson – Prof. Samuel Kaba Akoriyea
- General Secretary – Believe Domor
- Director for Education and Training – Dr. Mensah Kwei Benjamin
- Academic Exchange Advisor – Prof. Samuel Debrah
- Director for Traditional and Complementary Medicine – Dr. Yusuf Yakubu Tubor

Comprising 40 renowned members from China and Ghana, the committee reflects a rich tapestry of expertise, commitment, and vision. The event culminated in the recital of a solemn pledge by all members, affirming their dedication to advancing the region's healthcare agenda through collaborative leadership and shared responsibility.

The ceremony concluded with a high-level panel discussion on the committee's strategic priorities and future direction, followed by a dynamic networking session that encouraged meaningful dialogue and partnerships.

As HCOWAA charts the course toward a healthier West Africa, this special edition captures not only the essence of the launch event but also the broader promise of what lies ahead — a future shaped by cooperation, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to the well-being of the West African people.







# SECTION



(SPEECHES)





**PROFESSOR SAMUEL KABA AKORIYEA**



**DR. LAWRENCE OFORI BOADU**

## *Welcome Address*

**DELIVERED BY DR. LAWRENCE OFORI BOADU ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, GHANA HEALTH SERVICE PROFESSOR SAMUEL KABA AKORIYEA AT THE LAUNCH OF THE HCOWAA MEDICAL AND ACADEMIC EXCHANGE COMMITTEE.**

**D**r. Lawrence Ofori Boadu, Director of Clinical Service, Ghana Health Service, representing Dr. Samuel Kaba Akoriyea, Director General for Ghana Health Service, reaffirmed the Ghana Health Service's commitment to supporting innovations, technology, and medical advancements. Recognizing the importance of technology in achieving Universal Health Coverage by 2030, he emphasized

the need to accelerate progress, particularly in areas like teleconsultations, digital health, and artificial intelligence.

With only five years to achieve the mandate, Dr. Samuel has accepted the role of chairing the committee, ensuring that all members fulfill their responsibilities to drive progress in healthcare technology.



# EXCHANGE COMMITTEE CEREMONY

Theme: Bridging Borders: A  
through Academic Collabor

CHINA-GHANA COLLA  
UNDER THE AUSPICES  
HEALTH COMMUNITY  
AFRICA ASSOCIATION

DR. YANG YONGGUANG

**SPEECH DELIVERED BY DR. YANG YONGGUANG, CHIEF PHYSICIAN AND CAPTAIN OF THE 14TH BATCH OF THE CHINESE MEDICAL TEAM AT THE LAUNCH OF THE HCOWAA MEDICAL AND ACADEMIC EXCHANGE COMMITTEE.**

**Dear ladies and gentlemen,**

Hello everyone, good afternoon.

Today, we gather here to discuss the future and development of academic exchanges between China and Ghana. Here, on behalf of the Chinese medical team, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and high respect to all the leaders, experts and friends who have been concerned about and supported the medical cooperation between China and Ghana for a long time! In recent years, China's medical and health care industry has achieved leapfrog development, and has made breakthrough progress in the improvement of clinical diagnosis and treatment level and the research and development of high-end medical devices.

It is particularly noteworthy that the frontier fields represented by minimally invasive surgical technology innovation and deep application of artificial intelligence have formed an internationally competitive technology system-high-precision surgical robots, intelligent auxiliary diagnosis systems and other innovative achievements have not only achieved domestic

substitution, but also reached the world's leading level in core indicators such as surgical accuracy and diagnosis and treatment efficiency.

In the field of minimally invasive surgery and artificial intelligence, we have reached the international advanced level. Minimally invasive technology has brought good news to patients with its advantages of small trauma, fast recovery and few complications. With the joint efforts of the Chinese and Ghanaian governments, the Chinese medical team launched the "Minimally Invasive in Ghana, Bright Vision for the World" charity project at Lekma Hospital.

The minimally invasive surgery and cataract surgery carried out by the Chinese medical team not only cured the diseases of the Ghanaian people, but also spread advanced medical concepts and technologies, which were widely praised by the Ghanaian people. However, we are well aware that these efforts are far from enough.

The development of medicine is an endless exploration process, and there is still broad room for cooperation between China and Ghana in the medical field.

In order to further enhance the level of communication between Chinese and Canadian medical personnel and promote the common progress of medical technology on both sides, I hereby propose:

1. Strengthen academic exchange activities We should regularly hold Chinese Canadian medical academic seminars and invite medical experts from both countries to conduct in-depth exchanges and discussions on cutting-edge technologies, difficult cases, etc. Through academic lectures, case sharing, surgical demonstrations and short-term personnel training, we can promote mutual learning and reference in medical knowledge and technology.

2. Establish a long-term cooperation mechanism It is recommended that both sides establish a Chinese-Canadian medical cooperation coordination group, hold regular meetings, jointly formulate cooperation plans, coordinate cooperation projects, and ensure the continuity and stability of Chinese-Canadian medical cooperation. By establishing a long-term cooperation mechanism, we can better integrate resources, improve cooperation efficiency, and achieve mutual benefit and win-win results.

3. Collaborate through the HCOWA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee. The newly launched HCOWA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee offers a



structured, forward-looking platform for deepening academic cooperation between our nations. Through this committee, we can jointly organize monthly flagship events—covering surgical technology, public health, medical ethics, and more—and drive impactful, long-term change in the healthcare systems of both countries.

4. Expand research and innovation under HCOWAA. Together, we can initiate cross-border research in minimally invasive surgery, ophthalmology, AI in healthcare, and traditional medicine. This will not only enhance clinical capacity in West Africa but also generate globally relevant innovations rooted in our partnership. China and Canada have broad prospects for cooperation in the medical field.

Let us work together to strengthen China-African academic exchanges with a more open mind and more pragmatic actions, enhance the communication and level of Chinese -Canadian medical personnel, and make greater contributions to the health and well-being of the people of the two countries!

**Thank you all! Today is a special Day.  
Happy International Nurses' Day.**



## SPEECH DELIVERED BY **MR. YUSUF YAKUBU TUBOR**, REGISTRAR OF THE TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PRACTICE COUNCIL AT THE LAUNCH OF THE HCOWAA MEDICAL AND ACADEMIC EXCHANGE COMMITTEE

### **Bridging Borders: Advancing Medical Excellence Through Academic Collaboration.**

Distinguished Delegates, Esteemed Colleagues, Members of the Health Community of West Africa, today, we stand at a transformative moment in our region's healthcare journey—a moment where the wisdom of tradition meets the precision of modern science, where borders dissolve in the face of shared human purpose.

Our theme, “Bridging Borders: Advancing Medical Excellence Through Academic Collaboration,” is more than a mere slogan. It is a powerful declaration of our collective vision: to heal, to innovate, and to honor the rich medical heritage that flows through the veins of West Africa. Imagine a healthcare ecosystem where traditional knowledge and biomedical science dance in perfect harmony. Where a practitioner trained in Ghana can seamlessly work in Senegal, where research from Sierra Leone illuminates’ disease up to 20%. This is not a distant dream. This is the future we are crafting today. Our Collaborative Blueprint.

Together with HCOWAA, we look to a collaborative future working on six strategic pillars that will revolutionize our approach to healthcare:

- Capacity-building for traditional medicine practitioners
- Joint cross-border research initiatives
- Academic and knowledge exchange programs - Infrastructure and diagnostic support Harmonized policy and regulatory frameworks AI, and drugs
- Collaborative data-sharing for evidence-based practices

Ghana's journey offers a compelling testament to what's possible. About two decades ago, Ghana deliberately integrated traditional medicine into our national health system. We established the Traditional Medicine Practice Council, ACT 575, launched the first Bachelor's degree in Herbal Medicine, and created Herbal Medicine Units in over 50 district hospitals across the country in collaboration with the Ghana health Service.

But our vision extends far beyond national boundaries. A Legacy of International Collaboration. Our partnership with China has been instrumental in this transformation. Through scholarships, research collaborations, and academic exchanges, we've not just learned—we've reimaged what's possible in medical education and



**MR. YUSUF YAKUBU TUBOR**

practice. Now, we invite our West African colleagues to join this transformative journey.

### **The Path Forward**

We must be unafraid to confront our challenges: standardization, quality control, research funding. But we will face these not as isolated nations, but as a united medical community. Our strength lies not in uniformity, but in our diverse traditions, our collective expertise, and our shared commitment to healing. To our young researchers, practitioners, and students: You are not just the future of medicine—you are its present. Your curiosity, your innovation, your respect for both traditional wisdom and scientific rigor will define healthcare in West Africa.

### **A Call To Action**

Let us commit to:

- Protecting and elevating our traditional knowledge systems
- Investing in rigorous clinical research
- Digitizing our medical archives
- Safeguarding our intellectual heritage
- Creating a seamless, interconnected medical landscape

Bridging borders is not about erasing differences—it's about celebrating them. It's about creating a healthcare ecosystem that is accessible, affordable, culturally resonant, and scientifically robust. Today, we are not just signing an agreement. We are writing a new chapter in the story of African medicine—a story of hope, innovation, and collective healing. Together, we will not just connect borders. We will transform them.



**PRINCE OPOKU DOGBEY**

## **SPEECH DELIVERED BY THE VICE PRESIDENT OF HCOWA ASSOCIATION AT THE LAUNCH OF THE HCOWAA MEDICAL AND ACADEMIC EXCHANGE COMMITTEE.**

### **Theme: “Bridging Borders: Advancing Medical Excellence through Academic Collaboration”**

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

Let me begin by saying: isn't it amazing what happens when people from different cultures, backgrounds, and countries decide to build something together? Not with bricks and cement — but with ideas, partnerships, and a shared vision for the future. Today is one of those moments. And I am deeply honored to stand before you as Vice President of the Health Community of West Africa (HCOWA) Association - at such a defining moment in our journey.

Distinguished Guests, Esteemed Speakers, Friends and Partners in the health sector, permit me to respectfully

acknowledge our special guests: beginning of a strategic movement — one rooted in collaboration, driven by knowledge, and focused on creating sustainable healthcare solutions that reflect the realities of our region.

- The Representative of the Director General of the Ghana Health Service
- Dr. Yang Yongguang - Captain of the 14th Batch of the Chinese Medical Team to Ghana,
- Dr. Yakubu Tubor Yusuf - Registrar of the Traditional Medicine Practice Council
- Professor Samuel Kaba Akoriyea - President of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons
- Dr. Sandra Ashong - President of the Ghana Association of Medical Herbalists
- Dr. Harry Akoto - Director of Medical Affairs at the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital



- Professor Samuel Antwi - University of Ghana Business Medical School
- Representatives from our academic institutions, medical facilities, and partner organizations both local and international.

Ladies and gentlemen, I salute you all. Today's official launch of the HCOWA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee is not just a symbolic activity. It is the beginning of a strategic movement — one rooted in collaboration, driven by knowledge, and focused on creating sustainable healthcare solutions that reflect the realities of our region.

This Committee is a bold expression of our theme: "Bridging Borders: Advancing Medical Excellence through Academic Collaboration."

### What does this theme really mean?

It means that we are no longer waiting for knowledge to come to us — we are reaching out. It means that healthcare improvement cannot happen in isolation — it must be driven by shared experiences, academic exchange, and deep institutional cooperation.

Ladies and gentlemen, over the years, HCOWAA has worked tirelessly to connect stakeholders across the healthcare landscape — from manufacturers to hospitals, from clinicians to policymakers. We have promoted innovation, encouraged investment, and supported dialogue.

But today, we move into a new frontier — one focused on academic strength, medical education, research partnerships, and the development of human capacity. This launch builds on the energy of the recent AI Supply Seminar, where we discussed the importance of technology in intelligent medical supply systems. But we also recognise that no matter how advanced our systems become, people remain at the heart of healthcare. And so, today, we turn our attention to people — to the minds and hearts that will shape the healthcare future of West Africa.

The HCOWA Academic Exchange Committee will serve as a vehicle for:

- Facilitating faculty and student exchanges between Chinese and West African institutions;
- Developing joint curricula, training programs, and clinical rotations;
- Supporting cross-border research collaborations in AI, public health, biotechnology, and telemedicine;
- Creating academic platforms where scholars and practitioners can interact, publish, and build together;
- Contributing academically-informed ideas to national and regional health policy
- Promoting cultural cooperation, because we know that mutual respect is key to long-term partnerships.

We envision monthly flagship events, rotating between countries, where new research is shared, ideas are debated, and capacity is built.

We will develop white papers that can influence public policy and train healthcare professionals in global best practices, ethics, and leadership.

We believe that the future of West Africa's healthcare lies not only in equipment and infrastructure, but in education, research, and strategic cooperation.

This is why we are launching this Committee - to make knowledge a two-way street between West Africa and China, and eventually, with other parts of the world. We are here to ensure that our health professionals are not only consumers of knowledge - but creators of it.

We do not see this event as an end. No — we see it as a beginning. A beginning of bold academic relationships. A beginning of co-created solutions. A beginning of a network that will transform hospitals, universities, communities, and countries. And we will not walk this journey alone.

We are joined today by a strong delegation of Chinese partners — institutions that believe in Africa, and who have consistently supported us in times of need. To our Chinese friends: thank another as equals and partners. To our Ghanaian and West African partners - from universities, health facilities, professional bodies, and government institutions — thank you for the work you are already doing. This Committee is for you. This platform is yours. Let us own it together.

As I conclude, I want to issue a call — not just for participation, but for leadership. Let us lead the way in showing how international collaboration can be genuine, balanced, and impactful. Let us be the generation that built not just bridges, but highways of knowledge across the African continent and beyond.

Together, let us spark a revolution of ideas. Let us build a future where our doctors, researchers, and medical students can stand tall on any global stage.

I thank you all sincerely for being here to witness and participate in this launch. May today be the foundation of something greater - something that outlives all of us and serves generations to come

May the discussions ahead be rich, impactful, and full of promise. And may this initiative succeed beyond our greatest expectations.

*Thank you.*

# SECTION



## LAUNCH OF H-MAEC COMMITTEE



# H-MAEC; HCOWA MEDICAL & ACADEMIC EXCHANGE COMMITTEE

**H**COWA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee (H-MAEC) has officially been launched as part of the Health Community of West Africa (HCOWA) Association overriding goal in stepping up efforts to improve healthcare systems across the continent.

Formally introduced under the theme “Bridging Borders: Advancing Medical Excellence through Academic Collaboration,” the purpose of the committee is clear: to transform healthcare in Africa by building a strong foundation of education, research, and international cooperation. This is a bold initiative of HCOWAA designed to bridge academic gaps, foster medical innovation, and drive collaborative healthcare solutions across borders.”

In his address, the Vice President of HCOWA, Mr. Prince Opoku Dogbey, who did the official launch and introduction of committee heads and members, described the committee not just as a project, but as a mission-critical platform designed to tackle some of the region’s most persistent healthcare challenges through education, research, and international collaboration.

“The committee will serve as a structured vehicle for academic cooperation between West African institutions and global partners, beginning with China,” he stated.

Its scope includes:

- Facilitating faculty and student exchanges to broaden medical training and exposure.
- Developing joint curricula, clinical rotations, and training programs tailored to local realities.
- Driving collaborative research in AI, public health, biotechnology, and telemedicine.
- Providing an academic platform for publishing, policy dialogue, and idea-sharing.
- Contributing to the formulation of evidence-based health policies at national and regional levels.
- Promoting mutual cultural understanding, essential

for long-term partnerships.

The initiative addresses a critical gap: while infrastructure and equipment have improved across parts of West Africa, the development of human capital and research ecosystems has lagged behind.

This committee seeks to bridge that gap by investing in the intellectual and professional growth of healthcare providers, researchers, and students.

“Healthcare cannot improve in isolation,” the Vice President said.

“It must be driven by shared experiences, academic exchange, and deep institutional cooperation.”

With plans for rotating flagship events, white paper development, and leadership training, the committee is designed to embed sustainability and innovation into West Africa’s healthcare systems. Importantly, it positions West African professionals not just as recipients of external knowledge, but as contributors to global medical discourse.

In closing, the Vice President called on stakeholders across academia, government, and healthcare to not only support but lead the initiative, to make H-MAE Committee a beacon of collaborative medical advancement.

With strong backing from partner associations such as the Ghana Health Service, Ministry of Health, Traditional Medicine Practice Council, Ghana College Physicians and Surgeons, Pharmacy Council, Allied Health Professionals, Ghana Association of Medical Herbalists, Ghana Association of Medical Lab Scientists and etc. and international partners, especially the 14th Batch of Chinese Medical Team to Ghana the launch of HMAEC signals a new era of collaboration, leadership, and academic excellence in African healthcare.

HCOWA’s message is clear: the future of healthcare in Africa must be built through shared knowledge, mutual respect, and purposeful partnerships and HMAEC is the structure to make that future real.

# LEADERSHIP OF HCOWAA MEDICAL & ACADEMIC EXCHANGE COMMITTEE

The 6-member leadership board of the committee, officially inaugurated, will work under the direct supervision of the Chairperson, Prof. Samuel Kaba Akoriyea, Director-General of the Ghana Health Service.

These leaders will drive innovation and academic excellence in the fields of medicine, research, academic training, and more with collective efforts will focus on advancing healthcare through collaboration, research, and professional development.

Below is a full list;

**Prof. Samuel Kaba Akoriyea** - Director-General, Ghana Health Service - Chairperson

**Dr. Yang Yongguang** - Captain, 14th Batch of Chinese Medical Team to Ghana- Executive Chairman

**Believe Domor** - Secretary, HCOWA Association Secretary-General

**Prof. Samuel Debrah** -President, Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons

**Dr. Yakubu Tubor Yusuf** - Registrar, Traditional Medicine Practice Council - Director, Traditional and Complementary Medicine

**Mr. Benjamin Kwei**- Clinic Manager, Essence Clinic and Medical Laboratory- Educational & Training Coordinator

## PROFILES



### PROFILE OF PROFESSOR SAMUEL AKORIYEA KABA

Chairperson, HCOWAA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee (H-MAEC)

Professor Samuel Akoriyea Kaba is the Acting Director-General of the Ghana Health Service, bringing with him over 26 years of dedicated service to the health sector. He is a Consultant Neurosurgeon with 22 years of experience, a Public Health Physician, and an Associate Professor of Neurosurgery.

His leadership journey has seen him serve as Director of the Institutional Care Division for more than 12 years and as Deputy Director of the National Ambulance Service for over 7 years, where he played a key role in establishing and strengthening the service nationwide. He currently serves as Director of Special Duties and leads Neurosurgery Training across the country.

Professor Kaba is widely respected for his contribution to medical innovation and clinical excellence. He led the team of medical experts that successfully separated twins conjoined at the head—a complex and historic procedure that drew international attention. He has also pioneered the use of virtual reality and telemedicine in neurosurgery, bringing modern technology into Ghana's health system.

His expertise spans strategic planning, health governance and leadership, health diplomacy, health systems innovation, resilience, emergency response, and crisis management. He is known for his commitment to delivering results and improving healthcare access and outcomes for all Ghanaians. At his swearing-in ceremony, Professor Kaba pledged to support the implementation of the health policies outlined in the NDC manifesto and to act swiftly to address current public health issues such as the ongoing cholera and meningitis outbreaks. Professor Kaba is a transformational leader, a pioneer in Ghana's medical field, and a symbol of excellence in healthcare delivery.





### **PROFILE OF BELIEVE DOMOR**

Secretary General, HCOWAA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee (H-MAEC)

Believe Domor is a seasoned communications expert with a strong background in strategic storytelling across digital, print, television, and radio platforms. A graduate of the University of Media Arts and Communication – Institute of Journalism, she is known for crafting impactful narratives that connect policy, public health, and community engagement. As a health enthusiast, her passion lies in using communication as a tool to bridge gaps between medical innovation and public understanding.

In her role as Secretary General of the HCOWA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee (H-MAEC), Domor brings a wealth of experience in media strategy, stakeholder engagement, and cross-cultural dialogue, helping to advance meaningful collaboration between West Africa and China in the fields of health, education, and research.

She also holds the position of Secretary of the HCOWA Association in charge of Government Relations, where she leads advocacy and partnership efforts to support health policy priorities across the region.



### **PROFILE OF DR. YANG YONGGUANG**

Executive Chairman, HCOWAA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee (H-MAEC)

Dr. Yang Yongguang is a distinguished medical professional specializing in hepatobiliary, pancreatic, and abdominal wall diseases. He serves as Chief Physician and Director of the General Surgery Teaching and Research Section, as well as Medical Team Leader and Temporary Party Branch Secretary. A Master's Supervisor and Doctoral Co-supervisor, Dr. Yang is actively involved in medical education and research.

He holds numerous leadership roles in professional associations, including Vice Chairman of several hepatobiliary committees and a standing committee member of multiple provincial medical societies. As a recognized academic, Dr. Yang contributes to editorial boards of top medical journals and serves as a reviewer for several international publications.

Dr. Yang has led 13 research projects, including five current ones funded by the Guangdong Natural Science Foundation, and has published 21 academic papers, five of which are indexed in SCI. He also holds two patents and has received top honors such as the Zhanjiang Science and Technology Progress Award (First and Second Prizes), as well as titles including Excellent Master's Supervisor and Top Ten Youth of Guangdong Medical University.



### **PROFILE OF DR. YAKUBU YUSUF TUBOR**

Director for Traditional and Complimentary Medicine, HCOWAA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee.

Currently serving as the Registrar of the Traditional Medicine Practice Council (TMPC) at the Ministry of Health, Ghana, Dr. Yusuf has brought exceptional vision, regulatory strength, and innovative thinking to the forefront of traditional medicine governance. His stewardship reflects a rare blend of scientific rigor and cultural sensitivity, ensuring that traditional medicine is not only preserved but also advanced with professionalism and credibility. As Medical Director at Palza Medical Center, a member of the Ghana Association of Medical Herbalists and Editor-in-Chief of the Newsletter for the Association of Medical Physiotherapists Dr. Yusuf has led with distinction, overseeing a multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals while implementing strategies that have significantly enhanced patient care, operational efficiency, and clinical outcomes. His leadership is marked by a focus on collaboration, continuous improvement, and holistic well-being.

Dr. (MH) Yakubu Tobor Yusuf is honored for his exceptional service, his tireless advocacy for traditional medicine, and his inspiring contributions to the integration and evolution of healthcare in West Africa.



### **PROFILE OF PROFESSOR SAMUEL DEBRAH**

Academic Exchange Advisor, HCOWAA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee (H-MAEC)

Professor Samuel Debrah is a renowned Professor of Surgery at the University of Cape Coast and Vice-President of Surgery at the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons.

He also serves as Chair of the Board of the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation (GBC), showcasing his exceptional leadership and expertise. With a distinguished career marked by numerous accomplishments, Professor Debrah's contributions to medical education, research, and management have earned him great respect. His dedication to advancing healthcare

in Ghana and beyond has made a lasting impact. Additionally, his role as Academic Exchange Advisor for the HCOWAA Medical and Exchange Committee will likely inspire medical professionals and further solidify his legacy as a leader in the healthcare sector.



### **PROFILE OF MENSAH KWEI BENJAMIN**

Director for Education and Training- HCOWAA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee

Mensah Kwei Benjamin is a seasoned clinician and public health professional with extensive experience in healthcare delivery, medical education, and health promotion. He currently serves as the Clinic Manager at Essence Clinic and Medical Laboratory, where he led the successful establishment of the clinical wing.

With a specialization in Health Education and Promotion and a strong background in Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety, Mr. Benjamin brings a multidisciplinary perspective to health systems strengthening and capacity building. He has played key roles in both public and private healthcare settings, with a focus on health education, clinical leadership, and community-based interventions.

As Director for Education and Training of the HCOWAA Medical and Academic Exchange Committee, he is committed to enhancing academic exchange, fostering professional development, and promoting excellence in healthcare education across West Africa.



# COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following individuals are members of the Academic Exchange Committee and will work under the direction of the leadership and board, chaired by the Chairman.

Name	Designation	Position on Committee
Liao Huihua	Lead, Anaesthesia Medical Team	Member
Zhu Yafei	Deputy Chief Physician, Associate Professor, Obstetrics and Gynaecology Centre, Affiliated Hospital Guangdong Medical University	Member
Hao Linduan	Deputy Chief Physician, Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Affiliated Hospital of Guangdong Medical University	Member
Dawn	Structural Heart Disease Specialist, Affiliated Hospital of Guangdong Medical University, Cardiovascular Centre	Member
Huang Huajun	Department of Joint Surgery and Sports Medicine, Affiliated Hospital of Guangdong Medical University	Member
Jiang Huatang	Chief Physician, Radiation Imaging Centre, Affiliated Hospital of Guangdong Medical University	Member

Name	Designation	Position on Committee
Liang Demao	Chief Physician of Ophthalmology, Affiliated Hospital of Guangdong Medical University	Member
Liu Yu	Department of Neurology, Affiliated Hospital of Guangdong Medical University	Member
Deng Xiancheng	Senior Chef, Department of Nutrition, Affiliated Hospital of Guangdong Medical University	Member
Professor Samuel Oppong Antwi	Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of Ghana Medical School	Member
Dr. George Henry	Public Health Physician, Korle Bu Teaching Hospital	Member
Representative	37 Military	Member
Rev. Prof. Kwabena Agyapong-Kodua	Pentecost University	Member
Administrator	Pentecost Hospital	Member
Dr. MH Sandra Ashong	President, Ghana Association of Medical Herbalists	Member
Dr. Daniel Atta-Nyarko	Registrar, Allied Health Professional Council	Member



Name	Designation	Position on Committee
Representative	Pharmacy Council, Ghana	Member
Representative	Private Health Facilities	Member
Dr. Emmanuel K. Ireland	National Chairman, Community Practice Pharmacists Association	Member
Prof. Cathy Segbefia	Head, Department of Child Health, Korle Bu	Member
Dr. Kyeremateng Michael	President, Natural Health Professionals Federation of Ghana	Member
Prof. Mrs. Akpalu	Head, Department of Internal Medicine, Korle Bu Teaching Hospital	Member
Mr Anthony Ameka	CEO, Federation of Africa Medical Equipment	Member
Dr. Ignatius Awinibuno	Director, Allied Health Professional Council	Member
Pharm. Nathan Coompson	Chief Pharmacist	Member
Dr. Charles Ofei-Palm	Director of Pharmacy, Korle Bu	Member
Dr. Paulina Denteh	Director, Women's Health and Wellness, HCOWA	Member
Dr. Selina Leeward	Director, Palliative Medicine / HPV Director, HCOWA	Member

Name	Designation	Position on Committee
Mr. Emanuel Kosi Apetsi	Founder, SISU AI	Member
Mr. Edward Nkansah	Representative, GAMLS	Member
Madam Hephzibah Efua Otchere-Baffour	Representative, GAMLS	Member
Dr. Jennifer Adoley Annan	Ghana Association of Medical Lab Scientists	Member
Provost	University of Ghana College of Health Sciences	Member
Joseph Opoku Mensah	Adjunct Lecturer, UNIMAC-IJ	Member



# SECTION



## PANEL DISCUSSIONS

PANELISTS



DR. YANG YONGGUANG

PROFESSOR  
SAMUEL DEBRAH

DR. (MH)  
SANDRA ASHONG

DR. (MH) YAKUBU  
TOBOR YUSUF

PRINCE  
OPOKU DOGBEY

DR.  
HARRY AKOTO



President, Ghana  
College of Physicians  
and Surgeons

President of Ghana  
Association of  
Medical Herbalists

Registrar of the  
Traditional Medicine  
Practice Council

Vice President,  
HCOWA  
Association

Director, Medical  
Affairs, Korle Bu  
Teaching Hospital



**MODERATOR**

**DR. BENJAMIN KWEI MENSAH**  
Manager, Essence Clinic and  
Medical Laboratory

*Meet the*  
**PANEL**



**DR. YANG YONGGUANG**  
Captain of the 14th Batch of  
Chinese Medical Team



**PRINCE OPOKU DOGBEY**  
Vice President, HCOWA  
ASSOCIATION



**PROF. SAMUEL DEBRAH**  
President of the Ghana College of  
Physicians and Surgeons



**DR. SANDRA ASHONG**  
President of the Ghana  
Association of Medical Herbalists



**DR. YAKUBU YUSUF TUBOR**  
Registrar of the Traditional  
Medicine Practice Council



**DR. HARRY AKOTO**  
Director of Medical Affairs at the  
Korle Bu Teaching Hospital



# EXCERPTS FROM PANEL DISCUSSION

## **1. Why is it important for Ghana to work closely with other West African countries and China in health care? What can we gain from it?**

**Dr. Selina Leeward, Director, Palliative Medicine/HPV Director, HCOWAA**

Dr. Selina Leeward emphasized the significance of partnering with China, a global leader in medical equipment, to advance healthcare in Ghana and beyond. Such collaborations can facilitate the exchange of cutting-edge medical technologies and expertise, ultimately benefiting countries worldwide. By working together, nations can improve their medical infrastructure, enhance patient care, and address pressing healthcare challenges more effectively.

## **2. How can a collaboration between West African countries, especially China, help Ghana in terms of research, training, exchange of knowledge, and specialist training?**

**Prof. Samuel Debrah - President of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons**

Professor Samuel Debrah emphasizes the significance of research in driving medical development, particularly in equipment and technology. To excel in healthcare, he advocates for strategic collaborations that can enhance Ghana's medical capabilities. By working together with leading institutions or countries, Ghana can leverage cutting-edge technologies and expertise, ultimately improving its healthcare system and patient outcomes.

## **3. Why is it important to have a common role and standards for herbal medicine across the region, and how can this kind of collaboration help us?**

**Dr. Yakubu Yusuf Tubor - Registrar of the Traditional Medicine Practice Council**

Dr. Yusuf Yakubu Tubor highlighted the benefits of collaborations in both orthodox and traditional medicine. By integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) with traditional knowledge, such as the properties of 2,000 plants, AI can theoretically formulate effective combinations for healthcare. This synergy can lead to standardized, globally integrated solutions, reducing challenges associated with cross-border medicine sourcing and promoting innovative healthcare outcomes. Chinese medicine is far advanced.

## **4. Between Ghana and China, when it comes to specialist treatment and herbal medicine formulation, are there any existing Collaborations, and how best can we strengthen such collaborations?**

**Dr. Yang Yongguang - Captain of the 14th Batch of Chinese Medical Team**

Dr. Yang proposed a collaborative approach between Ghanaian and Chinese medical professionals to harness the power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in diagnosis and treatment. This partnership would facilitate knowledge exchange, allowing young doctors from Ghana to visit China to enhance their skills and vice versa, ultimately improving healthcare outcomes in both countries.

## **5. Among all the other areas where HCOWAA could have ventured, what inspired HCOWAA to take the lead in collaboration when it comes to healthcare and academic exchange, and research in West Africa?**

**Prince Opoku Dogbey- Vice President, HCOWAA**

Prince Opoku highlighted the mission of the Healthcare Collaboration Organization for West Africa (HCOWAA) to advance healthcare in the region. Given Ghana's low doctor-to-patient ratio compared to countries like China, the organization aims to build local medical capacity through knowledge transfer and training. By deploying Chinese medical professionals to train Ghanaian doctors and integrating AI and research, HCOWAA seeks to improve healthcare efficiency and productivity, ultimately reducing the need for young doctors to seek opportunities abroad due to limited resources.

## **5. How can Universities and Herbal medicine practitioners work together to research and promote traditional medicine?**

**Dr. Sandra Ashong - President of the Ghana Association of Medical Herbalists**

Dr. Sandra pointed out a significant gap in traditional medicine in Ghana: limited access to traditional knowledge. To address this, she suggests research collaborations between universities and indigenous practitioners to share knowledge and promote standardization. Workshops, training, and policy formulation can also facilitate this process, ultimately building trust and advancing traditional medicine in the country.

# SECTION



## GALLERY HCOWAA MEDICAL AND ACADEMIC EXCHANGE COMMITTEE EVENT







































## 2025 ANNUAL WEST AFRICAN HEALTHCARE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION EVENT SCHEDULE

No.	Event Date	Event Theme
1.	January	Promoting Regional Integration Of AI In Healthcare To Enhance Service Delivery
2.	February	Seminar on AI Diagnosis and Treatment Deployment Framework and Application Standards
3.	March	AI Diagnosis and Treatment: A Multilateral Symposium on IVD and Smart Diagnostics
4.	March	AI Diagnosis and Treatment: A Multilateral Symposium on Medical Imaging and Smart Diagnosis
5.	April	AI Diagnosis and Treatment: Seminar on the Development and Applied Medicine of Smart Chinese Medicine
6.	April	AI CDC - Seminar on National Intelligent CDC Deployment Framework and Application Standards
7.	May	AI Supply - Seminar on the Deployment Framework and Application Standards of Medical Supply Systems for Medicines, Consumables, Reagents, etc
8.	May	AI Applications — West African Hospital Needs Exchange Meeting
9.	June	West Africa Medical Mission First Study and Exchange Activities-Cheng-du Station (Tentative)



No.	Event Date	Event Theme
10.	June	West Africa Medical Delegation Preliminary Investigation and Exchange Activities-Changsha Station (Tentative) China-Africa Economic and Trade Forum - Medical Cooperation Forum
11.	July	West Africa Medical Mission Preliminary Investigation and Exchange Activities-Jilin Station (Tentative)
12.	July	The 2025 China-West Africa Medical Expo will be an online warm-up exchange meeting for enterprises and hospitals
13.	August	China-West Africa Medical Expo & AI Health In-depth Application Summit
14.	August	2025 West African Government Summit on Centralized Procurement and Project Cooperation
15.	August	The first batch of AI diagnosis and treatment pilot hospital experience exchange meeting and smart medical cooperation summit
16.	September	West African FDA Joint Access Symposium
17	October	Open Seminar on HeFRAAI Standards of Care for West African Countries
18	November	The annual summit of the Ministry of Health of West African countries on the development of artificial intelligence and health





**EXHIBIT AT WEST AFRICA'S BIGGEST MEDICAL EXPO!**

## 2025 CHINA-WEST AFRICA MEDICAL & HEALTH INDUSTRY EXPO + AI DIAGNOSIS & PROJECT COOPERATION **SUMMIT**

2025中国—西非 医疗与健康产业博览会  
暨人工智能诊断与项目合作峰会



Accra International  
Conference Centre (AICC)



20TH - 22ND AUG

**2025**

- ✓ Meet investors.
- ✓ Connect with buyers.
- ✓ Partner with hospitals, distributors & decision-makers.
- ✓ Showcase your products to the entire region – and beyond!

A gathering of Manufacturers, Traders & Innovators from  
China, West Africa, and across the globe.

*Booths are going fast! Reserve yours today.*

+233 53 103 7131  
+233 53 103 5868



summit@hcowa.com  
prince@hcowa.com



**500+**  
Hospitals/Clinic



**1000+**  
Merchants



**5000+**  
Manufacturers



**5000+**  
Doctors



**20,000+**  
Medical Practitioners

# BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR ASSOCIATION **TODAY!**

## KEY BENEFITS

- Study Visits and Exchange Opportunities
- Academic Exchanges and Training
- Event Participation
- Facility Support
- Policy Advocacy
- Magazine Partnership
- AI Treatment Department and National Disease Control System

**TOGETHER, WE CAN**  
**ADVANCE HEALTHCARE**



(+233) 53 103 7131



[association@hcowa.com](mailto:association@hcowa.com)



[www.hcowaa.com](http://www.hcowaa.com)

## OUR PARTNERS



GHANA NATIONAL  
CHAMBER OF  
PHARMACY



PHARMACY  
COUNCIL OF  
GHANA



L'ASSOCIATION  
NATIONALE DES  
INFIRMIERS  
ET INFIRMIÈRES DE  
LA CÔTE D'IVOIRE



PRIVATEHEALTH  
FACILITIES  
ASSOCIATION  
OF GHANA



FEDERATION OF  
AFRICA MEDICAL  
EQUIPMENT,  
DISPOSABLE AND  
DEVICES  
MANUFACTURERS  
AND SUPPLIERS



L'ASSOCIATION  
NATIONALE DES  
INFIRMIERS  
ET INFIRMIÈRES DU  
TOGO



GHANA  
DIABETES  
ASSOCIATION



GHANA  
PUBLIC  
HEALTH  
ASSOCIATION



NIGERIA  
SOCIETY OF  
PHYSIOTHERAPY



ALLIED HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS  
COUNCIL



GHANA  
ASSOCIATION OF  
MEDICAL HERBALISTS



KANTANKA HERBA  
PHARMAC  
AND RESEARCH  
CENTRE



NATURAL HEALTH  
PROFESSIONALS-  
FEDERATION OF  
GHANA (NAHPFEG)



TRADITIONAL  
MEDICINE  
PRACTICE  
COUNCIL  
(TMPC)



**GAMLS**  
Ghana Association Of  
Medical Laboratory Scientists




COMMUNITY  
PRACTICE  
PHARMACISTS  
ASSOCIATION






**HCOWA**  
ASSOCIATION



 (+233) 53 103 7131

 [association@hcowa.com](mailto:association@hcowa.com)

 [www.hcowa.com](http://www.hcowa.com)

    [hcowaassociation](https://www.facebook.com/hcowaassociation)