

Nigeria Physiotherapy Network

[About Us](#) > [PhysioNews and Other News](#) > Nigerian Journal of Medical Rehabilitation Goes Online

Dear Colleagues at Home and Abroad,

It gives me the greatest pleasure to inform you all of a major landmark event in the history of Physiotherapy and medical rehabilitation in Nigeria. We are happy to inform you all that we have just launched the ONLINE VERSION of the Nigerian Journal of Medical Rehabilitation (NJMR), the Journal of the Medical Rehabilitation Therapists (Registration) Board of Nigeria. This epoch making event makes the NJMR the second Physiotherapy Journal to go online in the whole of Africa and the first in Nigeria. The Online version of the Journal can be viewed at: <http://www.mrtbjournal.org>.

What does this mean for us all? The NJMR now being online changes authors' manuscript submission methods and will also shorten the review process of submitted manuscripts by Editors and Editorial Consultants. Further:

1. Henceforth, all manuscripts intended for publication MUST be submitted online according to Instructions to Author found at the NJMR website: <http://www.mrtbjournal.org/index.php/njmr/about/submissions#authorGuidelines>.

Potential Authors should register as Authors on the NJMR's website and follow prompted Instructions to submit manuscripts.

2. All business of the Journal will now be conducted online. Reviewers will also be reviewing manuscripts online thereby eliminating time loss due to physical postage/movement of hard-copy manuscripts across geographic regions for editorial reviews.

3. The Journal will allow open access to all current and back issues available online for a few months. Thereafter, only Abstracts of published articles will be free for viewing, while the full text view will be available only to subscribers.

4. Subscribers are current licensed Practicing Medical Rehabilitation Professionals and others (individuals or Institutions) who may purchase annual subscription for online access.

5. We encourage all Physiotherapists at home and abroad to register as readers and or as Authors at the Journal's website. When you register online, you will receive an email notification whenever a new issue is released.

6. We encourage Nigerian Physiotherapists and medical rehabilitation professionals at home and abroad to submit their papers for publication in the NJMR. With the Online Version, the unusual restrictions of the number of papers that can be published per year and intervals of paper publication will be eliminated.

7. All Masters and PhD graduates who are physiotherapists or other medical rehabilitation professionals can now put the ABSTRACTS of their Thesis/Dissertation ONLINE at the Journals website. See: <http://www.mrtbjournal.org/index.php/njmr/thesis>

8. Please help us forward this communication to all Nigerian Physiotherapists and Medical Rehabilitation Professionals on your mailing list.

In ending this exciting announcement, I will like to put on record that this event was brought about SIMPLY because a handful of Nigerian trained Physiotherapists from different parts of the world who attended the 15th WCPT Conference in Vancouver, Canada held a meeting and deliberated on how to help move Physiotherapy in Nigeria forward. The NJMR going online today is a bye-product of that meeting. The meeting actually implored Dr. E.B. John to resurrect his efforts through the Nigeria Physiotherapy network (<http://www.nigeriaphysio.net>) in putting Nigeria Physiotherapy information on the internet. For record purposes I will like the names of these noble professionals written in GOLD. Their names are listed at the end of this communication.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the Nigerian Physiotherapy Network (<http://www.nigeriaphysio.net>) and especially Dr. Emmanuel B. John for responding to the Vancouver meeting and therefore spearheading this online venture for the NJMR. We also appreciate the support of the Registrar/CEO of the MRTB, Mr. Joshua D. Jogunola and the entire MRTB

Board for their continued support to keep the NJMR alive either in print or online!

Please feel free to contact us regarding any comments or suggestion you may have as we strive to improve the quality and standards of the NJMR content. Remember, this is our Journal and everyone's contribution will be appreciated. Over the next several months, our next steps are to now have the NJMR indexed in PUBMED, CINHALL and other major biomedical publications databases worldwide.

Although unrelated, but equally important. The Nigeria Society of Physiotherapy (NSP) will be hosting the next WCPT Africa Region Congress in August 2008 at Abuja. The Nigerian PTs Vancouver meeting also deliberated on how to assist and ensure that the NSP has a successful hosting of the WCPT Africa Conference. We are therefore using this opportunity to appeal to all Nigerian Physiotherapists at home and abroad to rise up and support the efforts of the NSP as they roll out plans, programs and details for the event shortly.

Sincerely Your,

Sunday R. Akinbo, PT, MSc, PhD, MNSP
Editor-In-Chief/Chairman NJMR Editorial Board &
Head of Department
Department of Physiotherapy,
College of Medicine, University of Lagos,
Idi-Araba, P.M.B. 12003 Surulere, Lagos, Nigeria.
Email: eic@mrtbjournal.org
Website: <http://www.mrtbjournal.org>

THEIR NAMES WRITTEN IN GOLD

Present at the WCPT Meeting in Vancouver:

Dr (Mrs) Gloria Umerah - Nigeria

Dr R A Akinbo - Nigeria

Mr Olajide Olawale - Ghana

Mr Nurudeen Amusat - Canada

Mrs Bukola Eigbogba - Ireland

Mrs Olutoyin Sonuyi - Nigeria

Dr Isaac Sorinola - UK

Dr Abiodun Akinwuntan - USA

Dr Emmanuel John - USA

Ms Ibukun Adeodu - Canada

Mrs Titi Akindipe - Ireland

Mr Oluseyi Aba - Ireland

Others present at the WCPT Conference, but not able to attend the Meeting. They were briefed on meeting deliberations and they gave their full support:

Dr. Oladele Amosun - South Africa

Dr. Paul Ogbonna - USA

Mr. Adebayo Adeyoriyu - Canada

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Published

20:22:03 02.08.2007

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