

# NIGERIAN HERBAL PREPARATION FOR HIV/AIDS DEBUTS AT GLOBAL MILITARY CONGRESS



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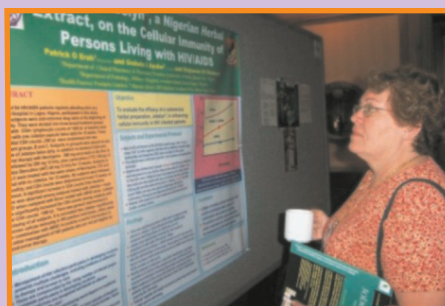
A herbal preparation, formulated and produced in Nigeria, Jobelyn, which increases cellular immunity in HIV positive individuals either alone or in combination with antiretroviral drugs, was on display at the XXXV International Congress on Military Medicine (ICMM) held in Washington, DC, United States of America recently. On hand to lend support were top military chiefs from Nigeria, delegates to the international congress. On the invitation of ICMM, Health Forever Limited, producers of Jobelyn held a poster presentation on the preparation at the Crystal Gateway Marriot, Washington DC, USA on Friday September 17, 2004.

Health Forever was represented by Brigadier General O. Ovadje who stood in for Col. Godwin Ayuba, the consultant /pathologist at the Military Hospital Ikoyi, Lagos . Ovadje is also of the Ikoyi Military, Lagos. People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in Nigeria are already using Jobelyn for the management of HIV/AIDS.

The ICMM is the oldest and largest international military medical organisation, with some 110-member states. Two military physicians, an American and a Belgian, who were disturbed by the medical conditions and treatment of the soldiers, founded it in 1921 at the conclusion of World War I. ICMM is an intergovernmental organization that has official relations with the World Health Organization and International Committee of the Red Cross.

In an abstract submitted to the Scientific Committee of the ICMM, Ayuba had stated that Jobelyn is “a good alternative and/or supplement to antiretroviral drugs in the management of HIV/AIDS patients.”

Ayuba had, together with Dr. Patrick Erah of the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacy Practice, University of Benin conducted clinical studies with 64 HIV/AIDS patients who were regularly attending clinic



at Military Hospital, Lagos. The overall objective of the study was to evaluate the efficacy of Jobelyn, in enhancing cellular immunity in HIV infected patients. Based on his studies and abstracts sent to the ICMM, Ayuba was invited to make a poster presentation of Jobelyn.

In one of the presentations which was an excerpt from the World Health Organisation: World Health Report, 2003 HIV/AIDS is ranked second in the table of leading infectious causes of Death Worldwide in 2002 with 2,821,000 annual deaths.

Addressing delegates at the five-day congress, Ovadje explained that Jobelyn is not only effective for HIV/AIDS but it is beneficial in very many other ways.

He said: “Free radicals have been implicated in the development of at least 60 diseases including heart diseases and cancer which are the leading causes of death in the world. A unique herbal extract from Sorghum bicolor, Jobelyn has been proven effective and safe in clinical studies conducted in the United States, Africa and Europe. An immune booster and powerful antioxidant, Jobelyn supports the management of diseases like hypertension, stroke, diabetes, anemia, sickle-cell anemia, arthritis, cancer, HIV/AIDS, and helps restore much needed energy to combat fatigue and stress. The immediate benefits of Jobelyn to the individual’s well-being are far reaching and it impressively strengthens and energises the body’s immune system, maintains the body’s natural defense system, facilitates the elimination of toxic wastes from the body, restores the balance of cell structure within the body, corrects metabolic disturbances, deters chronic diseases and disorders from developing in the body.”

Impressed that an herbal preparation had undergone such scientific research, a record 300 conference delegates visited Jobelyn’s stand and ▶

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asked wide-ranging questions and make observations on the presentation. Jobelyn's stand became the home stand for Nigerian delegates to the congress.

Visitors to Jobelyn's stand included Major General L. P. Lillywhite (MBE QHS L/RAMC), Director General, Army Medical Services of the British Army, who not only showed keen interest in the project but also offered useful suggestions for further work on it.

Another important guest was Wayne B. Jonas, M.D., Director of the Samueli Institute in Alexandria, Virginia, USA. He expressed the desire to collaborate on further research with Jobelyn producers, Health Forever Products Limited. Samueli Institute is a Non Governmental Organisation (NGO), which supports traditional and international medical research. Complementary and Alternative Medicine Practice [CAMP].

Other visitors to Jobelyn stand were: Lt. General Jansen van Rensburg – Surgeon General for the South African Military Health Services; Assoc. Prof. Kamen Petrov Kanev of the Internal Diseases, Toxicology, Military



Toxicology, Disaster medicine department of Military Academy, Sofia, Bulgaria.

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Nigerian delegation to the congress included: Captain F.I. Remi-John of the Naval Headquarters Annex, Marina, Lagos; Group Captain Alice Mshelia DMS NAF HQ Abuja; Commodore. A. B. Afolayan, Secretariat, Pan Africa Committee of Mil. Medicine Bonny Camp; Commodore. B. A. Sanni of the Nigerian Navy, Marina, Lagos; Brig. General C. A. Iyogun, 2 Div. Hospital, Ibadan; AVM (DR.) CIA Chiazor, Director of Medical Service, Nigeria Air Force; Col (Dr.) Iliyasu, Chief Consultant Histopathologist, Nigerian Army Reference Hospital, Kaduna and Navy Captain Adams of the Nigerian Navy. ■