23rd October 2024

WHO WE ARE

The African Perinatal Research Network (APRN) is a collaborative digital platform connecting researchers, clinicians, and healthcare workers across 48 countries, dedicated to advancing maternal and perinatal health.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our Fourth Issue

In 2024, the African Perinatal Research Network continued its mission to bridge the critical gap in maternal health and perinatal research across the African continent. Through our dynamic digital platform, we've fostered connections among researchers and clinicians to bring together researchers, clinicians, healthcare professionals, and policymakers dedicated to improving maternal and perinatal health outcomes across Africa.

Significant progress and growth has been the expansion of the APRN Collaborative Network, with 576 members across 48 African countries. Through our ambassadors, we are building connections across borders and creating opportunities for knowledge exchange and collaboration. Despite the ongoing challenges and often varying contexts, these networks are fostering meaningful relationships that are crucial for addressing maternal health disparities within healthcare systems and complex cultural barriers.

Our recent publication in the Journal of Maternal-Fetal and Neonatal Medicine, titled "Maternal and perinatal outcomes in women with placenta accreta spectrum disorders: a cohort study from Nigeria," highlights the alarming rise in severe maternal complications and underscores the urgent need for improved healthcare strategies in resource-limited settings. This research is a testament to the dedication and expertise within our network, and we believe that meaningful and lasting progress is possible — together.

As we look ahead, we are excited to announce the launch of our Mentorship Program, in which we will partner experts in data and research with early career researchers. This program will provide invaluable opportunities for skill development and knowledge sharing, ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future for our network. We also look forward to the APRN Webinar Series now launched in 2025. Through this quarterly series, we have already hosted insightful discussions on topics ranging from Artificial Intelligence in Maternal Health to Medical Ethics in LMICs, and Precision Medicine in Africa. APRN Ambassadors Dr. Ayodeji Adeyemi, Dr. Ayodeji Rotimi-Adefemi, Dr. Ayodeji Rotimi-Adefemi, and Dr. Ayodeji Rotimi-Adefemi, and Dr. Ayodeji Rotimi-Adefemi, and