



**NiCAFE**  
NIGERIA CONFERENCE OF APPLIED  
AND FIELD EPIDEMIOLOGY

Nigerian Conference of  
Applied and Field Epidemiology

# Call for abstracts

Deadline: **Midnight (WAT) Friday, 14th May 2021**

**#NiCAFE21**

## Call for abstracts

The scientific committee invites interested presenters to submit abstracts for the 1<sup>st</sup> Nigerian Conference of Applied and Field Epidemiology (Nicafe) themed: “Building back better – Covid-19 and other disease outbreaks”. Abstracts submitted for consideration must be the author's original work and not previously presented at another conference. Each person may submit more than one abstract.

## Objectives of the conference

Every year since 2016, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) and its Nigeria Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programme (NFELTP) have held an annual scientific conference. In 2020, the conference was cancelled due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic; a conference is now being planned in 2021 to build on lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic, but also address other public health emergencies in the last one year.

On February 27, 2020, the Federal Ministry of Health through the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) confirmed the first COVID-19 case in Ogun State, Nigeria, making the country the third country in Africa with an imported COVID-19 case after Egypt and Algeria. The epidemiology of COVID-19 in Nigeria has since evolved, with cases identified in all 36 states plus the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja.

In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, Nigeria continues to record cases of Lassa fever, measles, yellow fever, cholera and monkeypox. Nigeria also faces several public health challenges and a high burden of diseases like Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and malaria. The present COVID-19 pandemic and other disease outbreaks have serious health, security, and economic impact for the global community including countries like Nigeria.

The NiCAFE conference will provide an opportunity to discuss the epidemiology of infectious diseases in Nigeria and the impact of these on regional and global health security. The conference will allow speakers and attendees to share their experience and knowledge, demonstrate practical techniques and guidance in preventing, detecting and responding to infectious disease outbreaks. It will also provide an opportunity for capacity development through pre-conference workshops and networking.

This year's annual scientific conference will give all participants an opportunity to:

- Review the epidemiology and severity of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases in Nigeria
- Evaluate the direct and indirect impacts of infectious diseases on the Nigerian health system, including protecting the health workforce
- Review available public health, economic, and behavioural data to inform the implementation of robust public health and social measures at national and subnational levels
- Synthesise the lessons learnt from Africa and Nigeria's response to infectious disease outbreaks
- Discuss emerging research and evidence on COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, and how this can affect future response activities
- Improve core public health skills of conference attendees through workshops and lectures
- Discuss the direct and indirect impact of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases on socio-economic activities

Abstracts can be submitted under these sub-themes:

1. Governance and leadership
2. Epidemiology, surveillance and transmission dynamics
3. Case management

4. Laboratory and diagnostics
5. Social sciences and community engagement
6. Research and development
7. Lessons for future pandemic preparedness and strengthening IHR/Health security
8. The role of agriculture and environment in disease transmission
9. Health system strengthening for future pandemics

### Guideline for Writing Abstracts

The abstract should not exceed 300 words; see samples abstract [here](#). The word count excludes the subheadings of the structured abstract (Background, Methods, Results, Conclusions), the title, and author's names and affiliations. A word count is easily obtained by selecting the appropriate text of the abstract and then choosing the "Word Count" command in the "Tools" menu of MS Word. No graphics may be included. Avoid abbreviations; where used, mention them in full the first time they appear and use italics for scientific names.

### Structure of Abstracts

#### Authors

- First name and last name e.g. David Mbano.
- Organizational affiliations, email address and telephone details.
- Co-authors: List each co-author in order of contribution by typing their first and middle names as initials followed by their last name in full (e.g. O. Okon, M. S. Danladi).
- Indicate corresponding author: provide name, email address and telephone number.
- Indicate first author: Provide the email address and telephone number of the first author if the latter is not the corresponding author.

#### Abstract Title

- The title should be clear, descriptive and concise.
- Give geographic location (State, Country) and dates of study or investigation.
- Avoid subtitles if possible.
- Capitalize proper nouns, major word and scientific names where appropriate.
- Do NOT use abbreviations or acronyms in the abstract title.

#### Introduction/Background

It should address the scientific background and rationale for the study as well as the public health significance of the subject. Because of the anticipated diversity of the reviewers and those attending the conference, do not assume that everyone will be familiar with your research topic. Your background should include:

- A brief description of the topic and its public health significance.
- Objectives, research questions or study hypothesis.

#### Methods

Describe the methods selected for the study. Essential points may include:

- Study design
- Study setting
- Study population

- Eligibility criteria
- Sample size and sampling methods
- Methods of data analysis

### Results

Present the important findings (both positive and negative) of the study that are directly related to the study objectives. Provide both absolute numbers and their percentages/proportions. Since an abstract is a citable document, the results section must contain data. This section should not include discussion of the results or statements as "Data will be discussed". If considerable work is needed before the conference, please state that results are preliminary.

### Conclusion

This section should be as concise as possible. Please, do not restate data already included in the results. This section may include:

- An interpretation of the key findings and their implications for public health
- Public health actions that are recommended and/or have been implemented because of the study

### Key words

Please include 4 - 6 key words. Use terms listed in the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) from the Index Medicus.

### Evaluation Criteria and Acceptance

Each abstract will be evaluated by three independent reviewers according to the following criteria. Based on the evaluation, each abstract will be labelled as: "not accepted" (NA), "accepted for oral presentation" (AO) or "accepted for poster presentation" (AP).

- Background and rationale of the study
- Appropriateness of methods
- Presentation of results
- Conclusions and interpretations of results
- Public health significance
- Overall clarity of the abstract

All authors that submitted abstracts will be contacted. Kindly note that changes cannot be made to the final abstract after it is submitted. However, if your abstract is accepted and significant changes have been made after submission, please highlight the changes in your presentation.

### Abstract Submission Procedures and Deadline

Authors are to register on the abstract management system and submit abstracts on the conference website [here](#). E-mailed or hard copy submissions SHALL NOT be accepted. All abstracts should be submitted in English. KINDLY NOTE that final acceptance of an abstract for presentation will be dependent on conference registration.

Deadline for abstract submission is MIDNIGHT Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Questions concerning abstract submission should be sent to [nicafe@ncdc.gov.ng](mailto:nicafe@ncdc.gov.ng) or [ictservicedesk@ncdc.gov.ng](mailto:ictservicedesk@ncdc.gov.ng)