

## Eulogy to The Late Prof Nigel Standfield whose demise was announced in London in mid March 2021



He was the first Head of School for the London Postgraduate School of Surgery, commencing in 2007 till 2017. Alongside this heavy responsibility, he was Professor of Vascular Surgery and head of Surgical Education at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust London (Academic Health Sciences Centre).

To recount the huge legacy of Prof Standfield, he headed the largest single training organisation for surgery in the world - The London School of Surgery. Responsible for managing more than 1000 trainees an equally large number of consultant training supervisors through the London Deanery, he offered surgical training programmes covering about nine specialties at prestigious teaching centres across the capital. These include:

- Royal Brompton Hospital
- University College London Hospital
- Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
- Barts & London NHS Trust
- St George's Hospital

Nigel was based at Hammersmith and Charing Cross Hospitals. He had a busy clinical vascular practice covering all aspects of vascular disease. He had a major clinical and research interest in congenital vascular malformations.

Nigel was committed to medical education and training, particularly postgraduate, as well as translational research, and has published extensively and presented at national and international meetings. He was the MSc surgical science director at Imperial College, an intercollegiate examiner for the FRCS in general surgery, and has been in the past medical advisor to the British Council and the National Advisory centre for postgraduate medical education. He has also been an Associate Dean from 2005 to 2007 (London Deanery).

On the international scene, he helped develop training programmes in West Africa and also served as an external examiner for the West African College of Surgeons from 2013. He made several visits to Ghana supporting the collaboration between Motec (**patron since 2017**) and West African College of Surgeons / Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons. He organised programmes for foreign doctors for training posts in London from which Egypt benefited for most part of 20years culminating in the establishment of the organ transplant centre in Cairo. For Ghana, many young surgeons enjoyed 1 to 4 year training programmes in London –(St Mary's and May Day University Hospitals) coming

from Korle Bu, Kumasi Komfo Anokye, Tamale and the Accra Military Teaching hospitals. He also delivered symposia to West African surgeons as well as philanthropic surgical services to children with complex vascular anomalies in West Africa.

He was a Council member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England since 2018.

Prof Standfield demise was announced in London in March 2021. May the light perpetual shine upon him. Among tributes to a remarkable man who achieved huge strides in academia and charitable deeds are the following-



**'I have lost a very good friend and mentor. A huge loss of a family man and an irreplaceable dynamic force in medical education to MOTEC Life UK, Great Britain and the world at large. Family and friends! - Take heart. May his soul rest in perpetual peace!'**

*Paul Ofori-Atta FRCS, Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgeon UK(rtd), Founding President Motec Life UK & WOC-UK linkman for West Africa*

**'This is indeed a heavy loss. Our short but very fruitful interaction with Nigel in the West African College of Surgeons will always be cherished. Our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends especially among the MOTEC group.'**

*Prof Ezeome E.R., MA, MBBS, FWACS, FACS. Professor of Surgery, College of Medicine, University of Nigeria Nsukka, Director, Oncology Center  
University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital Enugu, Nigeria.*

**'This is indeed a very sad news. The Faculty of Surgery WACS and most especially myself will miss Prof Nigel Stanfield. What a great man and a great loss. May we all be comforted most especially his family. I will escalate this sad news to the Faculty leadership.'**

*Prof King-David, President West African College of Surgeons*

**Sad to hear about this sad news. His family, Motec and UK have lost a great philanthropist and his absence would be difficult to fill. May his soul rest in peace.**

*Dr Raymond Ofori (Dr) DSci, CSci, FIBMS, Microbiologist, Imperial Health Care NHS, Trust, London Treasurer  
MOTEC LIFE -UK*

**This is indeed a big loss to the family but also to MOTEC.  
May he rest in peace.**

*Mr Caesar Mensah, Public Health England.*

**This is a big loss for training in Ghana. I remember the earlier meeting we had with him in Ghana. He has been very influential and helpful in our capacity building. Our condolences to colleagues and family. May he rest in peace.**

*Dr Rebecca Acquaaah-Arhin , Medical Director VRA Health SERVICES,  
Former Vice President of SOGOG Vice President of GAQHI  
Consultant OBGYN*

**Thank you for letting me know Paul.  
May he rest in peace.**

*David Alton, Professor, the Lord Alton of Liverpool,  
Independent Crossbench Member of the House of Lords.*

**You and everyone must be so upset. He worked hard for doctors in UK and Ghana. It is a real loss**

*Dr Louisa, former Vice President of Motec Life - UK*

**We at the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons received the news of the passing of Prof Nigel Standfield, a good friend of the College, with shock and great sadness because together with him, we were planning his visit this year with MOTEC LIFE UK. His organizing surgical training for our Residents in the London Deanery of the Royal College of Surgeons has already impacted on vascular surgery patient care in Ghana. His passing is a great loss to us and we extend our condolences to his family and friends and pray he rests in peace.**

*Dr John Nkrumah Mills FRCS Ed FWACS FGCPs, President Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons*

*P. Ofori-Atta [www.moteclife.co.uk](http://www.moteclife.co.uk) / [poahgate@aol.com](mailto:poahgate@aol.com) 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021*