

THE EAST, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA
COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS



ANNUAL
REPORT

20
23



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23

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FOREWORD FROM THE PRESIDENT



Professor James O. Jowi
FRCP, FRCPE, FCP (ECSA),

President ECSACOP

East Central Southern Africa College of Physicians (ECSACOP) is a regional college comprising Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The main purpose of the College is to address the shortage of physicians in the region. ECSACOP is among nine ECSA College of Health Sciences (ECSA-CHS) constituent colleges. The ECSACOP region has a total population of about 210 million people, about 20% of the population of Africa, with about 1,000 Internal Medicine specialists. This gives a combined ratio of 1:210,000 inhabitants, against the WHO projected recommendation of 4:1000.

The mission and vision of ECSACOP enable it to bridge the physician gap by training physicians through a four-year fellowship-training program in Internal Medicine. The physicians are well grounded in ethics and have a strong base in clinical reasoning, as stipulated in the four-year, competency-based ECSACOP Curriculum.

Since commencing training six years ago, ECSACOP has enrolled 147 trainees, staggered in the training countries, through Years 1 to Year 4 of the program. So far, 15 physicians have graduated after completing the training program.

Accredited clinical supervisors who supervise trainees across the region provide ECSACOP training. The teaching is done on-site at accredited teaching hospitals and online through a virtual learning platform.

Over 100 teaching faculty from the ECSACOP region and abroad (United Kingdom, Denmark, and New Zealand) have delivered online teaching modules in cardiology, neurology, rheumatology, pulmonology, gastroenterology, Haematology/oncology, renal medicine, and research methodology. The British Infection Association also taught during the Infectious Disease module. These specialists have also facilitated case-based discussions through the virtual learning environment. This involvement of specialists from diverse backgrounds promotes collegiality and exposes our trainees to global medicine.

In the long term, ECSACOP aims to become the go-to

college providing internal medicine training and formative and summative assessments of the training process in the region.

Regional collaboration and collaboration with institutions beyond the ECSACOP region provide fertile ground for research, which we intend to explore fully.

Beyond the ECSACOP region, the college collaborates with the West African College of Physicians, The Royal College of Physicians of London, the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, The British Infection Association, WHO-AFRO, and Pfizer Pharmaceuticals.

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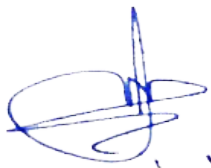
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The college has yet to achieve financial sustainability. It is actively working to generate income and identify multiple funding sources. The Royal College of Physicians (London), which played a pivotal role in setting up the College, has been its main funder thus far. The college continues to identify additional funding sources to ensure financial sustainability and the smooth running of its operations.

This annual report highlights the key milestones the college has achieved in the 2023/2024 academic year.

ECSACOP will be a game changer in the region's Internal Medicine training.



Professor James O. Jowi FRCP, FRCPE, FCP (ECSA)

President ECSACOP

WORD FROM THE COLLEGE REGISTRAR



Dr Tamara Phiri MBBS,

FCP (SA), MMED, FCP
(ECSA), FRCP (London)

In 2023, ECSACOP continued to show remarkable growth and gain milestones, as it clocked six years since it began offering its training program.

Both trainee enrolment and recruitment of new training sites kept an upward trajectory, with the largest enrolment of trainees occurring in 2023. There is growing interest and requests for more training sites to be accredited. Five other African countries have also expressed interest in joining ECSACOP. This encourages the college and re-affirms its training program and activities are becoming increasingly visible on the continent.

In 2023, the college introduced a clinical exam for the Year 2 (FCP Part 1) trainees in addition to pre-existing formative assessments and exit exams. This was successfully done within the training countries, and the college is pleased with the support provided by national training boards and physician associations in successfully delivering this. Ten candidates sat the FCP Part 2 exams, which had a 100% pass rate. This increases the number of physicians trained by ECSACOP to 15.

The college continues to build on its rich network with ongoing fruitful collaborations with the Royal College of Physicians of London, the West Africa College of Physicians, and the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. In 2023, ECSACOP participated for the first time in the International Medical Education Leaders Forum in Pretoria, South Africa, where it forged further networks with specialist training colleges across Africa. DeckerMed continues to provide ECSACOP trainees with access to its learning resources.

ECSACOP fellows and national physician associations in Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, Malawi, and Tanzania continue to be the college's arms on the ground where training and ECSACOP operations take place with support from the ECSACOP secretariat. ECSACOP remains indebted to the many physicians across the

region who champions its cause and dedicates themselves selflessly to its work and success.

In 2023, the ECSACOP secretariat added a new staff member: Ms Rachel Kibone Bigala, who joined the college as its Program Manager. She joined Ms Faith Amulen, who had joined the secretariat as an administrative officer in 2022. The college greatly appreciates their hard work and contributions to its growth.

The same year, the college bid farewell to two of its longest-serving secretariat staff: Dr Stella Oloo and Ms Juliana Bitarabeho. Their commitment and innumerable contributions to the college in its early years will continue to be treasured.

The year was challenging as the college faced challenging problems as it took shape and expanded. Key among these was limited funds. The college has taken multiple steps to increase its revenue and funding streams to become sustainable.

Lastly, the college extends its immense gratitude to all individuals and institutions that have supported it through its inception and continue to support it as it grows. This support is bearing fruit.

The college looks forward to another successful year in 2024.



Dr Tamara Phiri MBBS, FCP (SA), MMED, FCP (ECSA), FRCP (London)

Registrar ECSACOP

1. INTRODUCTION

The East, Central, and Southern Africa College of Physicians (ECSACOP) is a non-profit professional body that provides post-graduate training in Internal Medicine at accredited training centres in the ECSA region. ECSACOP has six member countries: Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, and Malawi. Currently, ECSACOP is running in five of these six countries, as Tanzania has yet to commence training. Plans to begin training in Tanzania are underway, and the college continues to support efforts to have ECSACOP training approved in the country.

ECSACOP is among the nine constituent colleges of the wider East Central and Southern Africa College of Health Sciences (ECSA-HC), which was established following a resolution passed at the 52nd Health Ministers Conference held in Harare, Zimbabwe, in 2010 (ECSA/HMC52/R9: Strengthening Partnerships for Health).

The Vision: Healthy communities through access to well-trained physicians and the

ECSACOP was officially inaugurated in 2015 and it started running its training program in 2018. The ECSACOP secretariat is housed within the Infectious Diseases Institute in Kampala, Uganda. The secretariat is the college's hub and works hand in hand with physicians in the six ECSACOP member countries to deliver training and run operations.

Its Vision and Mission drive the activities of ECSACOP:

Vision: Healthy communities through access to well-trained physicians.

Mission: To improve healthcare standards throughout the region by providing specialist training for physicians committed to lifelong learning.

Within the first five years of commencing ECSACOP training, the college has achieved the following key milestones:

- accredited 19 training sites across the five countries offering ECSACOP training
- recruited 147 trainees into the training program
- graduated 15 ECSACOP-trained physicians after successful completion of the program
- trained and certified 243 physicians as ECSACOP clinical supervisors, providing training in five countries
- registered 489 physicians across six member countries as ECSACOP Founding Fellows
- hosted eight annual scientific conferences with an average attendance of 200

physicians from the ECSACOP region and abroad

- formed key collaborations with the Royal College of Physicians (London), Royal College of Physicians (Edinburgh), West Africa College of Physicians and WHO

2. RECRUITMENT OF TRAINEES

The college's annual enrolment has steadily increased from 16 trainees in the first cohort in 2018 to 42 enrolled in the sixth cohort in 2023. The call for applications for the 2023 cohort attracted 58 applications, of which 42 were successful. This response is the largest the college has received. Judging by the trend observed in the past six years, the college anticipates that the number of enrolled trainees will continue to grow.



Five trainees from the first cohort recruited in 2018 graduated in September 2022 at a ceremony held in Malawi. Ten graduates from the third cohort recruited in 2019 graduated in August 2023 at a ceremony held in Zimbabwe. A picture of the recent graduating group is shown below.



Graduands from the 2019 Cohort pose for a photo after the graduation ceremony held on 31 August 2023 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe.

CURRENT NUMBERS OF ACTIVE TRAINEES BY ACADEMIC YEAR

Year 1 Trainees (Cohort 6/enrolled in 2023)		41
Year 2 Trainees (Cohort 5/enrolled in 2022)		26
Year 3 Trainees (Cohort 4/enrolled in 2021)		17
Year 4 Trainees (Cohort 3/enrolled in 2020)		10
TOTAL		94



3. ECSACOP TRAINING SITES

The college currently has 19 accredited training sites, 17 of the sites are active. Two additional sites in Kenya, Jaramogi Odinga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital (JOOTR) and the Karen Hospital, were certified in 2023. Five of the original 2018 training sites are due for reaccreditation.

LIST OF ACCREDITED SITES 2023

COUNTRY	TRAINING SITES
Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coast General Teaching Referral Hospital (CGTRH)-Mombasa. Jaramogi Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital (JOOTR)-Kisumu. Kenyatta University Teaching Research & Referral Hospital (KUTRRH)-Nairobi Mater Misericordia Hospital-Nairobi Moi Teaching & Referral Hospital (MTRH)-Eldoret The Karen Hospital-Nairobi
Zimbabwe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harare Central Hospital-Harare Mpilo Central Hospital-Bulawayo Parirenyatwa Hospital-Harare Sally Mugabe Central Hospital-Harare United Bulawayo Hospital-Bulawayo
Zambia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Levy Mwanawasa Teaching Hospital-Lusaka Livingstone General Hospital-Livingstone Ndola Central Teaching Hospital-Lusaka UTH (University Teaching Hospital)-Lusaka
Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lira Regional Referral Hospital-Lira Mengo Hospital-Kampala St. Francis Hospital-Nsambya-Kampala
Malawi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kamuzu Central Hospital (KCH)-Lilongwe Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital (QECH)-Blantyre

ECSACOP TRAINEES BY TRAINING SITE 2023

Training site	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Totals
1. Harare Central Hospital	7	3	2	2	14
2. QECH	5	3	0	0	8
3. Kamuzu Central Hospital	1	1	4	2	8
4. Nsambya Hospital	1	2	0	1	4
5. Lira RR Hospital	0	0	0	0	0
6. Mpilo Central Hospital	4	3	0	2	9
7. Moi TR Hospital	1	3	3	0	7
8. Coast GTR Hospital	4	4	3	0	11
9. Mater Hospital	2	2	4	0	8
10. Mengo Hospital	0	1	0	0	1
11. Levy Mwanawasa Teaching Hospital	2	0	0	0	2
12. Ndola Central Hospital	3	0	1	1	5
13. University Teaching Hospital	1	2	0	2	5
14. Livingstone Central Hospital	0	0	0	0	0
15. Parirenyatwa Hospital	-	-	-	-	-
16. United Bulawayo Hospitals	-	-	-	-	-
17. Kenyatta University TRR Hospital	4	2	0	0	6
18. The Karen Hospital	2	0	0	0	2
19. JOOTRH	4	0	0	0	4
	41	26	17	10	94

DEFERMENT AND ATTRITION FROM TRAINING

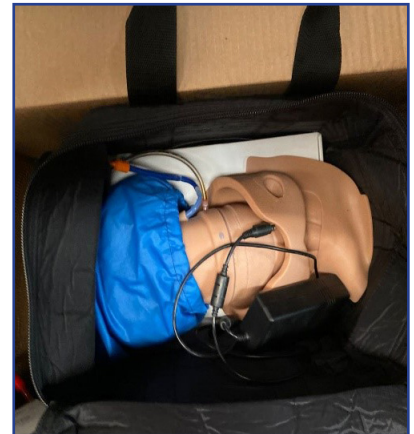
Six trainees left the training program in 2023. This included trainees who requested to defer their training due to financial challenges and those who were unsuccessful in their formative assessment (annual review of competence progression) or unsuccessful in the barrier examinations.

ATTRITION FROM TRAINING-BY-TRAINING SITE

Training site	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Totals
Harare Central Hospital	1	0	0	0	01
Kamuzu Central Hospital	1	1	0	0	
Ndola Hospital	1	0	0	0	
MTRH	1	0	0	0	01
Lira Hospital	0	1	0	0	01
TOTALS					06

ADVANCED CARDIAC AND LIFE SUPPORT (ACLS) TRAINING EQUIPMENT

In 2023, ECSACOP received a grant in kind from the Royal College of Physicians with support from CAE Healthcare Inc., United States of America, for five human patient simulators with a total retail value of **\$234,000**. The simulators will be used to deliver ACLS training for ECSACOP trainees. ECSACOP council members Dr. James Kayima and Dr. Joseph Ogavu received and validated the simulators at Saint Francis Nsambya Hospital in Kampala, Uganda.



Dr. James Kayima, an ECSACOP Council Member, verified the ACLS equipment at the IDI warehouse in 2023



Dr. Joseph Ogavu, an ECSACOP Council Member, hands over the ACLS equipment to Dr. Andrew Ssekitooleko, the CEO- of St. Francis Hospital Nsambya, on 22 December 2023



Dr. Andrew Ssekitooleko, the CEO of St. Francis Hospital Nsambya, signs following the handover of patient simulators on 22 December 2023

DELIVERY OF TRAINING

The FCP (ECSA) qualification is awarded through instruction and examinations. Most of the training is work-based, under the supervision of clinical supervisors.

Workplace-based assessments (WBAs) occur throughout the training program to allow trainees to continually gather evidence of learning and provide formative feedback. These WBAs are used to assess knowledge, skills, and attitudes, monitor progress, and provide guidance on areas for improvement. Despite the challenges of the pandemic and disruptions in healthcare across the globe, ECSACOP trainees were able to continue their training and adapt to virtual learning.

E LEARNING

The College offers a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) platform, which is an important tool in facilitating training in various ways, including:

- Formative assessment tools and other key training documents.
- An e-portfolio (e-log book) training record allows trainees to present organized evidence, enabling the training director and the relevant college committees to determine whether satisfactory progress is achieved.
- Access to an online library, including e-textbooks, journals, and other Clinical reference resources.

ECSACOP trainees interact across the five countries through weekly Case Based Discussions hosted by local experts from the ECSACOP region. These virtual sessions provide a platform for trainees to connect, present clinical cases, and share practices at their various hospitals under the guidance of an expert. The college is indebted and grateful to all local experts who have continued facilitating the weekly case-based discussions.

Through its partnership with Decker Med, the College has also continued to provide trainees with high-quality Internal Medicine content through the Weekly Curriculum Resource to supplement clinical, virtual, and peer learning.

LEARNING SCHEDULE

ECSACOP CASE-BASED DISCUSSION SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 2023 TO

FEBRUARY 2024

Date	Topic	Training Site	Case presenter	Content Expert/ Moderator
4 th December	Geriatric Medicine –Acute Confusional	Kamuzu Central Hospital	Dr. Andrew Malanga	Prof. Johnstone Kumwenda
11 th December	Infectious Diseases – Complications of Sepsis	Mengo Hospital	Dr. Brian Mutebi	Prof. Johnstone Kumwenda
18 th December	Infectious Diseases - CNS Infections	KUTRRH	Dr. Odyambo Teddy	Prof. Johnstone Kumwenda
8 th January	Oncology - Haematological	Kamuzu Central Hospital	Dr. Wezzie.Y. Kamanga	Dr. Henry Ddungu
15 th January	Rheumatology - Musculoskeletal	MTRH	Dr. Marvin Omingo	Dr. Namakando Liusha
22 nd January	Infectious Diseases - Hepatitis	CGTRH	Dr. Nasra Yassin	Dr. Kenneth Opio
29 th January	Rheumatology - Connective Tissue Disease	Mpilo Central Hospital	Dr. Fremason Zulu	Dr. Panganani Njobvu
5 th February	Neurology - Motor Neuron Disease	Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre	Dr. Miriam Munthali	Dr. Gift Ngwende
12 th February	Neurology - Movement Disorders	CGTRH	Dr. Samuel Mwangi Kamami	Prof. James Jowi
19 th February	Tuberculosis	Mpilo Central Hospital	Dr. Millicent Makovere	Dr. John Mateyo
26 th February	Haematology- Sickle Cell Disease	Mengo Hospital	Dr. Nabongo Betty	Dr. Christine Sekaggya

ECSACOP MODULE SCHEDULES

CYCLE 1 MODULE SCHEDULE

TRACK	YR.	Q1(OCT - DEC)		Q2(JAN-MARCH)		Q3(APRIL-JUNE)		Q4(JULY-SEPTEMBER)
Junior Track	1	Induction	Critical Care & Palliative care medicine-TBD	ACLS Cardiology Dr. Kayima	Neurology	Endocrinology TBD	Gastroenterology	Personal Revision ARCP
	2	Revision	Critical Care & Palliative care medicine-TBD	Cardiology	Neurology	Endocrinology TBD	Gastroenterology	Personal Revision ARCP
Senior Track	3		Critical Care & Palliative care medicine-TBD	Cardiology	Neurology	Endocrinology TBD	Gastroenterology	Personal Revision ARCP
	4		Critical Care & Palliative care medicine-TBD	Cardiology	Neurology	Endocrinology TBD	Gastroenterology	Personal Revision ARCP

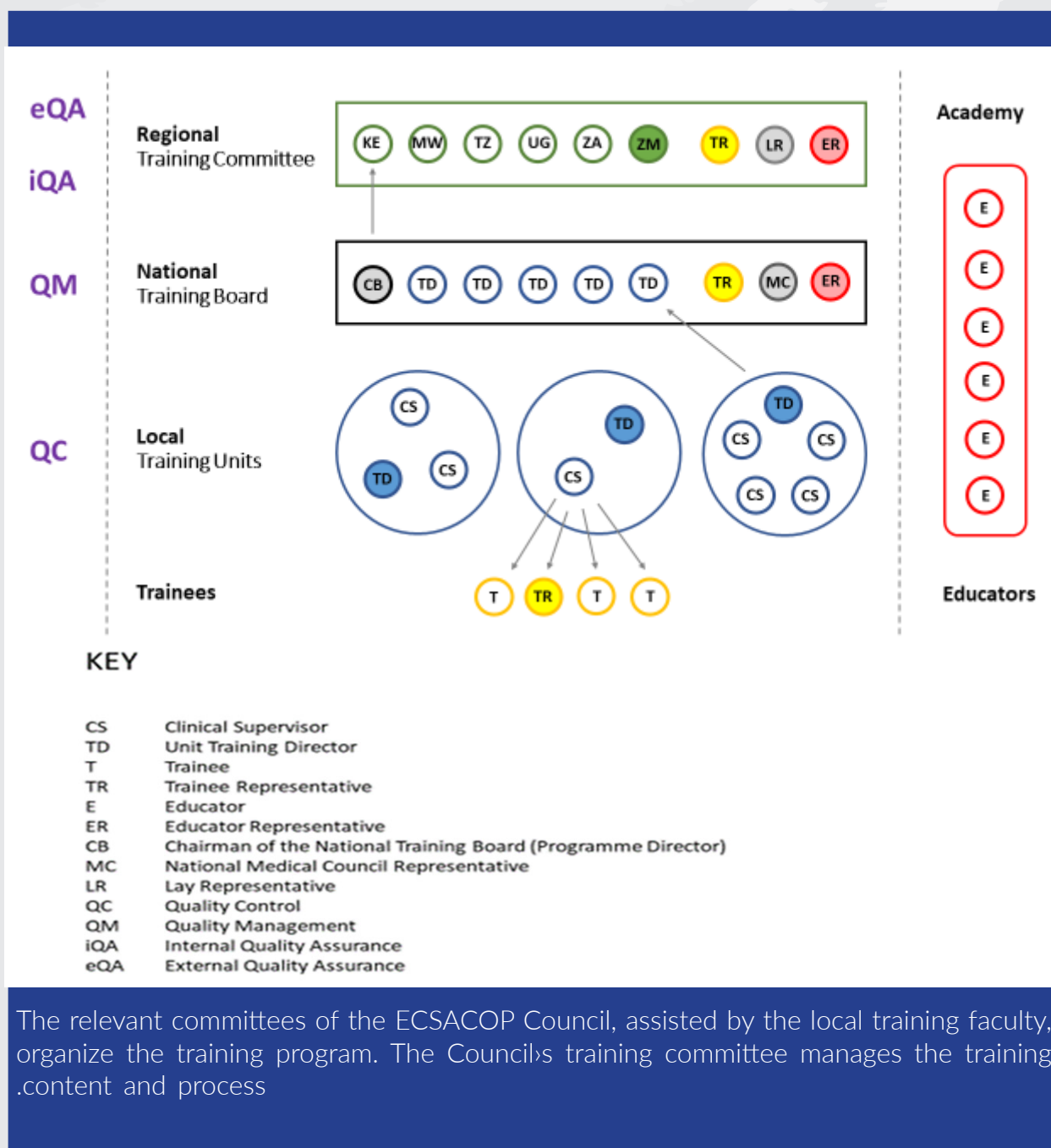
CYCLE 2 MODULE SCHEDULE

TRACK	YR.	Q1(OCT - DEC)		Q2(JAN-MARCH)		Q3(APRIL-JUNE)		Q4(JULY-SEPTEMBER)
Junior Track	1	Induction	Critical Care & Palliative care medicine-TBD	ACLS Cardiology Dr. Kayima	Neurology	Endocrinology TBD	Gastroenterology	Personal Revision ARCP
	2	Diabetes	Critical Care & Palliative care medicine-TBD	Cardiology	Neurology	Endocrinology TBD	Gastroenterology	Personal Revision ARCP
4	Evidence Based Medicine Dr. Pedro Pallangyo Lectures)	Diabetes (Novo Nordisk VLE)	Quality Improvement (VLE) Pulmonology	Rheumatology (Webinars)	Rheumatology (Webinars)	Nephrology	Infectious Diseases	Personal Revision FCP2 Exams

THE ECSACOP TRAINING MODEL

Each ECSACOP member country is represented on the regional training committee. A national training director who sits on the regional training committee oversees the training sites in each country. A local training director who reports to the national training board leads clinical supervisors at each local training unit. A training representative who liaises with the local training director represents trainees at each local training unit. In addition, there is a training representative at the national and regional levels.

A separate faculty, the Academy of Educators, provides internal quality control for the entire ECSACOP region. The Academy of Educators comprises twelve physician representatives – two drawn from each ECSACOP member country.



MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION OF TRAINING

Training Site Faculty

The local faculty comprises clinical supervisors and ECSACOP fellows. Clinical Supervisors provide regular day-to-day teaching, mentoring, and supervision of trainees attached to their training units (or firms). One clinical supervisor in each training unit also acts as a training director and is a member of the National Training Board.

The National Training Board:

The administration and coordination of training at the country level is the responsibility of the National Training Board. The composition of the Board is as follows:

- a member of the Council (Chairman of the Board)
- one training director from each training unit within the country
- a representative of the national physicians' association
- a member of the Academy of Educators

The duties of the National Training Board are to:

- oversee the induction of trainees
- allocate trainees according to their training needs
- supervise the training and adherence to training guidelines
- ensure adequate provision of learning resources
- ensure curriculum implementation
- oversee workplace-based assessment
- participate in the Annual Review of the Competence Progression
- provide appropriate assessment and feedback
- identify and assist doctors with training difficulties

The Academy of Educators

The Academy of Educators is responsible for maintaining professional standards across the region.

The academy advises on the syllabus (scope, depth, reference materials, learning schedule, learning methods, and evaluation) and ensures uniform standards throughout the region. Members are chosen based on a proven record of accomplishment in teaching and commitment to the program.

4. TRAINING OF CLINICAL SUPERVISORS

ECSACOP Clinical Supervisors play a central role in supervising and delivering the ECSACOP training program. Clinical Supervisors provide regular daily teaching and mentoring of trainees attached to their training units. To prepare them for this vital role, the College runs a 2-3-day workshop where physicians are taught the basics of clinical supervision. The themes covered during these workshops include:

- the mission and vision of the college
- the ECSACOP curriculum, time-based and competency-based curriculum
- the ECSACOP Assessment Framework
- principles of feedback
- principles of mentorship

Two hundred forty-three clinical supervisors have been trained from the six ECSACOP countries since 2017.

ECSACOP Train-the-Trainer Statistics from 2017 to 2023

TRAINING LOCATION	YEAR	NUMBER OF CLINICAL SUPERVISORS TRAINED
Uganda - Entebbe	2017	26
Zambia - Lusaka	2017	29
Zimbabwe - Harare	2018	41
Zambia - Lusaka	2019	32
Malawi - Lilongwe	2019	13
Malawi - Salima	2022	30
Kenya - Nairobi	2022	32
Kenya - Kisumu	2023	40
TOTAL		243

In 2024, the college has planned to run training for new clinical supervisors and additional training for master trainers who will continue to run these train-the-trainer courses locally within the ECSACOP member countries. These will take place on the sidelines of the annual ECSACOP scientific conference, which will take place in August 2024 in Kampala, Uganda. These two courses are being planned with support from the Royal College of Physicians.

In addition, the college is planning online refresher courses to support clinical supervisors who have been trained previously.



East Central and Southern Africa College of Physicians (ECSACOP) Training of Trainers Workshop in .March2023 15-14 ,Kisumu, Kenya

5. ECSACOP ASSESSMENTS THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF COMPETENCY PROGRESSION (ARCP)

ARCP reviews a trainee's progress in the past year of training. It allows supervisors to provide feedback on the performance of the trainees they supervise directly. A panel of clinical supervisors at each training site does the ARCP. The outcome of the ARCP determines whether a trainee will proceed into the following year of training. Year 2 and Year 4 trainees are required to pass their ARCP before they can sit their exams at the end of year 2 (FCP Part 1) and year 4 (FCP Part 2), respectively.

The national training boards in the countries organize and conduct ARCPs and forward the results to the Training Committee at stipulated intervals. The college is indebted to these committees for their dedication and time spent completing ARCPs.

In 2023, all trainees had a satisfactory ARCP. The key areas noted by clinical supervisors for improvement are:

- clinical reasoning and problem-solving
- use of electronic reference materials
- the ability to evaluate published research

6. 2023 CLINICAL EXAMINATIONS

The clinical exam for Year 4 trainees was held at Livingstone Central Hospital in Zambia. There were ten examination candidates, 16 internal ECSACOP examiners, and two external examiners, Professor Ansa Victor from the West Africa College of Physicians and Dr. Mumtaz Patel of the Royal College of Physicians, London. All ten candidates were successful.





29 ECSACOP Trainees and Examiners at the Clinical Exam at Livingstone Central Hospital-Zambia on 2023 August

7. 2023 GRADUATION CEREMONY

The graduation ceremony was held at Elephant Hills in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The ceremony commenced with a procession led by the Deputy Minister of Health for Zimbabwe, Honourable Dr John Mangwiro, the Director of the ECSA Health Community, the RCP representative, the founding president of ECSACOP, members of the ECSACOP council, and graduands. The guest of honour representing the Government of Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwean Ministry of Health was the Honourable Dr. John Mangwiro.



Dr. Leo Katsidzira, the ECSACOP Examination Chairperson, delivered a speech during the 2023 graduation ceremony. Seating (L-R) Dr. Mbongeni Ndlovu, Professor Evarist Njelesani, and Professor James Jowi.

8. ECSACOP CURRICULUM REVIEW

In 2023, ECSACOP constituted a curriculum review committee to assess the performance and adequacy of the ECSACOP curriculum, which had completed its first four-year cycle with the graduation of the first cohort of ECSACOP trainees in 2022. The review committee included past ECSACOP trainees, ECSACOP clinical supervisors, members of the Academy of Educators, past examiners and external examiners, and a representative from the RCP. The committee surveyed and received feedback from past curriculum users, including the trainees and clinical supervisors. The content of the curriculum was found, and both trainers and trainees were satisfied with the standard. The main gaps found were related to the delivery of training. Specifically, the areas for improvement that were noted were improving the quality of supervision and assessments, the absence of some subspecialties in some training sites, the need for better guidance on exam preparation for both trainees and trainers, the need for better technical support for the use of the learning platform and more support and refresher training for clinical supervisors.

The ECSACOP training committee is working to implement the recommendations drawn from this curriculum review.

9. THE 8TH ANNUAL ECSACOP SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) IN 2023

The 8th Annual ECSACOP Scientific Conference and AGM were successfully held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, from the 31st of August to the 2nd of September 2023. The National Physicians Association of Zimbabwe (NaPAZ) hosted the conference at the Elephant Hills Hotel. The conference brought together delegates from over ten countries. The meeting was held under the theme **“From the Bench to the Bedside”** and was an in-person event. The conference was well balanced; presentations included question-and-answer sessions. The graduation of the second cohort of successful ECSACOP trainees took place at the same meeting.

The ECSACOP Scientific Conference and AGM is an annual fixture on the ECSACOP calendar. It provides rich scientific content and promotes networking among the physician community, trainees, and other healthcare professionals.

The clinical exam and council meeting are held on the sidelines of the conference.



Participants at the 2023 Scientific Conference and Annual General Meeting

10. KEY ECSACOP COLLABORATIONS

The Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI)

The Infectious Diseases Institute at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, hosts the college secretariat, finance, and procuring system. Through IDI, ECSACOP is subjected to an annual audit process to ensure transparency and proper stewardship of funds.

The college signed a tripartite agreement with IDI and the Royal College of Physicians of London.

The Royal College of Physicians – London

The Royal College of Physicians of London has been instrumental in setting up and establishing the college's operations. It supports the college's fundraising activities and is key to its faculty development program. The RCP has also provided an external examiner at each exit clinical exam the college has held. Dr Mumtaz Patel was the external examiner from RCP for the 2023 clinical exam.

The West African College of Physicians (WACP)

The college has a formal agreement with the West African College of Physicians through a Memorandum of Understanding. The two colleges cooperate closely in training, assessment, standards, and appraisal. The WACP has provided an external examiner at the college's exit clinical examinations. Professor Victor Ansa was the external examiner from WACP for the 2023 clinical exam.



Dr. Mumtaz Patel (RCP London) (front row, third from the left) and Prof Victor Ansa (WACP) (front row, fourth from the left with Internal ECSACOP Examiners at the ECSACOP Clinical Exam on 29th August 2023 at Livingstone Central Hospital – Zambia

11. ECSACOP FINANCES

ECSACOP continues to benefit from the Infectious Disease Institute (IDI)'s finance and procurement systems. Because ECSACOP has, dedicated accounts and expenditure arrangements within IDI it was part of Earnest and Young's full IDI audit in the 2023 process.

To improve revenue collection, trainee tuition fees were revised to \$1000 annually, and fellowship subscription fees were revised to 150\$ annually.

ECSACOP 2023/2024 BUDGET

The college budget for the 2023/2024 financial year is USD 399,240. The budget is broken down below.

BUDGET ITEM	BUDGET NOTES	FY24/23
OPERATIONS		
Database	Annual maintenance costs	3,000
Computer Equipment		1,200
Office Furniture		1,200
Certificates and Fellowship costs		3,000
Office rent	Fixed - General	5,800
IT support costs		1,800
Office utilities	Variable costs of office utilities and general bills	1,800
Bank Charges		1,400
Office supplies		2,700
Travel &Transport	Program related Costs	10,000
Fundraising	Travel& Transport (International Travel)	20,000
Committee Activities	Travel &Transport	20,000
Office Communications	Staff Airtime, Office Telephone	1,400
Mailings and print communications		1,600

Audit		3,000
Docu - Sign Account		100
SUBTOTAL		78,000

GOVERNANCE		
Conference fees	ECSA-HC/COSECSA - Presidents travel and accommodation for 2 nights	6,000
ECSA-HC Fees	Annual contribution to ECSA- HC	2,000
Support for ECSACOP Conference		10,000
ECSACOP Council Meetings	Flights and accommodation for Council Members	16,000
SUBTOTAL	34,000	5,800

TRAINING		
Virtual Learning Environment		3,010
Training Course and reference Materials		18,000
VLE Extension (Fellows)		14,000
Deckermed Subscription		5,000
Curriculum Review Meeting		1,200
Faculty Development		2,700
Train the trainer (Physicians as Educators Course)	3 courses, Annual Supervision Visits	18,000
Academy of Educators		18,000
Recruitment of Dean of studies (Medical Director)		18,000
SUBTOTAL		97,910

ACCREDITATION OF SITES		
Training sites Accreditation	10sites/ a year (Re-accreditation of 4, Accreditation of 6 New sites)	12,000
SUBTOTAL		12,000

EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE		
Examination Committee meetings	4 virtual meetings (In person preparatory meeting, flights and accommodation for committee members)	12,000
In person Review of Exam papers	2face to face (6)	18,000
Courier and distribution of written paper Exams	One Cycle-to and fro Exam 12 centres	500
External Examiner transport, meals and Accommodation	One from RCP, One from WACP S/A, once annually&10 from the Region annually (will cater for 2)	5,000
OSCE Exam Logistics &Patient Reimbursement	One cycle annually during FCP II OSCEs during Annual Scientific Conference/AGM	3,000
Clinical Supervisors Training on Exam setting	Twice a year-during Feb Council meeting and during the Annual Scientific Conference. 15 Clinical Supervisors each time	6,000
SUBTOTAL		44,500

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE		
Registrar's office	Site visit to the Secretariat twice Annually	8,000
SUBTOTAL		8,000
OTHER DIRECT COSTS		
ECSACOP COUNTRY ACTIVITIES		
National Training Boards		2,500
Regional Training Committee		10,000
SUBTOTAL		12,500
TOTAL -OTHER DIRECT COSTS		
Website	Maintenance costs	4,500
E-learning	Annual VLE Operational cost	3,010
Monitoring and Evaluation	M&E Consultant	5,000
SUBTOTAL		12,510

PERSONNEL		
Secretariat	3 full time staff and Dean of Studies	100,000
SUBTOTAL		100,000
GRAND TOTAL		399,420
SUBTOTAL		8,000

24/2023 PROJECTED REVENUE FY

INCOME	AMOUNT	NOTES
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SOURCE	USD	
Uganda Development Bank	30,000	
Safaricom	30,000	
Freedom Fund	30,000	
RCP Grant	7,681.95	Assume £ 6,000 is received and converted
Trainee Fees YR.1	41,000@1000	Assumes 41 trainees fully pay their fees
Trainee Fees YR.2	26,000	Assume 26 trainees pay their fees
Trainee Fees YR.3	17,000	Assume 17 trainees pay their fees
Trainee Fees YR.4	10,000	Assume 10 trainees pay their fees
Examination Fees YR. 2	13,000@500	Assumes 26 trainees take the exam
Examination Fees YR. 4	5,000	Assume 10 trainees take the Exam
Fellowship subscriptions	48,000	Assumes 300 renewals and 20 new fellows (Renewals@150, New@250)
Total	257,681.95	

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

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College of Physicians

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