

# Edifofon Akpan

65 Drive 1, Kaura 900103, Abuja, Nigeria.

[edifofonakpan@gmail.com](mailto:edifofonakpan@gmail.com) | +234 806 817 0041 | [www.linkedin.com/in/edifofon](http://www.linkedin.com/in/edifofon)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

---

My interest lies broadly in assessing the value of healthcare interventions using health economics methods. I am curious about two methodological challenges in economic evaluations using individual-level data. One is the generalizability of results from randomized trial data. The other is bias in studies that use observational data. I am also interested in better analyzing and visualizing decision uncertainty, especially when health economic models are integrated with epidemiological models.

## ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

---

**Master's degree in Public Health, University of Melbourne, Australia** Mar 2020 – Nov 2021  
89.3% average mark; specialization in health economics and economic evaluation. [\[Course content\]](#)  
Thesis: Cost-effectiveness of iron supplements and micronutrient powders for anaemia among young children in Bangladesh: analysis of a three-arm randomized, placebo-controlled trial. [\[Publication\]](#)

**Bachelor's degree in Pharmacy, University of Uyo, Nigeria** Jan 2009 – Oct 2014  
4.3/5.0 GPA; courses in biomedical sciences, clinical pharmacology, pharmaceuticals, public health.

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

---

**Research Assistant, Health Economics (Academic Level A)** Jul 2022 – present  
*University of Melbourne, Australia*

- conducting systematic searches and eliciting expert opinion to obtain input parameters for models.
- contributing to preparation of grant applications and health economic analysis plans for clinical trials.
- developing decision models for economic evaluation of infectious disease interventions and policies.
- contributing to preparation of tutorials and other teaching materials for health economics seminars.
- contributing to preparation of conference presentations, technical reports, and manuscripts.

**Programs Director** Jan 2022 – Sep 2022  
*Centre for Health Economics and Development, Nigeria*

- producing technical reports from completed projects for ministry of health, donors, and other clients.
- managing projects implemented by about 20 staff, and the onboarding and mentoring of new staff.
- conducting quality assurance of analysis and reporting on all health financing and planning projects.

**Casual Academic Support** Jun 2020 – Jan 2022  
*University of Melbourne, Australia*

- conducting systematic literature and data searches, and other research support for research projects.
- contributing to preparation of conference presentations, technical reports, and manuscripts.

**Contact Tracing Support** Jun 2021 – Dec 2021  
*North Eastern Public Health Unit at Austin Health, Australia*

- supporting COVID-19 contact tracing activities in north-eastern suburbs of Victoria, Australia.

**Programs Assistant, Healthcare Financing** Jan 2018 – Dec 2019  
*Centre for Health Economics and Development, Nigeria*

- carrying out data analysis and technical reporting for household health use and expenditure surveys.
- contributing to development of fiscal space and investment cases models for health insurance schemes.
- carrying out data collection and analysis, and technical reporting, for national and state health accounts.

## SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

---

Research skills	critical thinking; report writing and formatting; visualization; project management
Computer software	Stata – expert; R – beginner; Excel – expert; VBA – proficient; OneDrive – expert

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

---

- 2020 Australia Awards Africa master's degree scholarship**  
approx. \$ 120,000 (tuition, living costs, and research support) over two years
- 2017 Award of excellence for outstanding service, Young Pharmacists Group, Nigeria**  
recognition for developing website, membership database, and for services to the profession
- 2011 Agbami/Chevron medical and engineering undergraduate scholarships**  
approx. \$ 7,500 (tuition, living costs) over four years

## NON-DEGREE COURSES

---

- 2022 Decision modelling for health economic evaluation | LSHTM and University of York**  
Decision trees, Markov models, uncertainty, value of information, Excel VBA, R. [\[Course content\]](#)
- 2021 Analysis of cost data | Statistical Horizons LLC**  
Univariate statistics, generalized linear models, missing data, censoring, Stata. [\[Course content\]](#)
- 2019 Health financing policy for universal health coverage | WHO**  
Revenue raising, pooling revenues, strategic purchasing, benefit package design. [\[Course content\]](#)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

---

- ISPOR**—The Professional Society for Health Economics and Outcomes Research      expiring 2023
- iHEA**—International Health Economics Association      expiring 2026

## TEACHING CONTRIBUTIONS

---

- Tutorial on cost-effectiveness modelling for MPH infectious diseases modelling course. [\[POPH90271\]](#)
- Seminars on uncertainty in economic evaluation for Malaysia Ministry of Health. [\[Project details\]](#)

## RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

---

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- **Akpan E**, Hossain S, Devine A, et al. (2022). Cost-effectiveness of universal iron supplementation and iron-containing micronutrient powders for anemia among young children in rural Bangladesh. *The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*. 116(5):1303–1313. [\[Article\]](#) [\[Editorial\]](#)
- Blakely T, Thompson J, Bablani L, et al (2021). Association of simulated COVID-19 policy responses for social restrictions and lockdowns with health-adjusted life-years and costs in Victoria, Australia. *JAMA Health Forum*. 2(7):e211749. [\[Article\]](#)
- Okhale SE, **Akpan E**, Fatokun O, et al. (2016). *Annona senegalensis* Persoon: a review of its ethnomedicinal uses, biological activities and phytochemicals. *Journal of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry*, 5(2):211-219. [\[Article\]](#)

### CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

- **Akpan E**, Devine A, STRIVE PNG Collaborators. Costs of molecular epidemiology techniques for malaria and arboviruses in Papua New Guinea (manuscript writing stage)
- Carvalho N, **Akpan E**, Watts E, et al. What do newer cost-effectiveness threshold estimates imply for infant pneumococcal conjugate vaccine programs in Asia Pacific region? (manuscript writing stage).
- Carvalho N, Nurhasni K, **Akpan E**, et al. The economic and health burden of COVID-19 in Malaysia: a cost-of-illness and burden of disease study (manuscript writing stage)
- Carvalho N, Nurhasni K, **Akpan E**, et al. Economic evaluation of COVID-19 public health interventions in Malaysia (manuscript writing stage)
- Mishra S, Wilson T, Andrabi H, et al. The health gains and cost savings of eradicating cold housing in Australia. (manuscript under review). [\[Preprint\]](#)
- Carvalho N, Mow M, **Akpan E**, et al. Cost-effectiveness of ivermectin-based mass drug administration alongside the Big Skin Health Intervention Fiji Trial (research planning stage)