



RESIDENT DOCTORS
ASSOCIATION OF ZAMBIA

2025



RESIDENT DOCTORS ASSOCIATION OF ZAMBIA

NEWSLETTER

5th Edition



RESIDENT DOCTORS
ASSOCIATION OF ZAMBIA

EDITOR'S NOTES



**"Every milestone we achieve is a reminder that together,
we can transform healthcare in Zambia."**

-Dr Mpangela Bwalya

Welcome to this edition of the RDAZ Newsletter!

From the Luapula Branch gala improving call rooms at Mansa General Hospital, to mentoring future leaders at the UNZAMEDSA–ZAMSA Summit, fostering innovation at the Entrepreneurial Medical Indaba, and lifesaving efforts during World Blood Donor Day, RDAZ continues to lead, inspire, and make an impact.

This edition celebrates our commitment to doctor welfare, professional growth, and community health, reminding us all that investing in doctors is investing in Zambia's future.

Chief Editor, RDAZ Newsletter

Dr Mpangela Bwalya.



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RDaz Calls for Action on Medical Supply Chain Challenges

“Access to essential medicines is a cornerstone of any functional health system.”

– Dr. Paul Chibwe, RDaz President

On 16th May 2025, the Resident Doctors Association of Zambia (RDaz) expressed deep concern over the suspension of U.S. health sector aid linked to irregularities in Zambia’s medical supply chain. As frontline providers, RDaz noted that disruptions in access to essential medicines threaten service delivery and public health.

While commending ongoing efforts by the Ministry of Health to strengthen procurement systems, RDaz stressed the urgent need for transparency, accountability, and ethical leadership in managing medical supplies.

RDaz’s 5 Key Recommendations

Multi-Stakeholder Oversight – Civil society, health bodies & partners to monitor the supply chain.

Ethical Leadership – Asset declarations & lifestyle audits for procurement officials.

Equal Justice – Misconduct cases investigated fairly, regardless of rank.

Digital Supply Chain – Real-time tracking & improved transparency.

Whistleblower Protection – Stronger safeguards to report malpractice safely.

RDaz reaffirmed its commitment to working with government and partners to safeguard public health. “By acting collectively, we can rebuild trust, improve service delivery, and ensure equitable access to medicines for all Zambians,” said Dr. Chibwe.

Empowering Oral Health in Zambia

The Resident Doctors Association of Zambia (RDZ), under the leadership of President Dr. Paul Chibwe and Secretary General Dr. Lucky Mulelemba, proudly joined the Zambia Dental Association in collaboration with the Copperbelt Provincial Health Office for a clinical symposium in Ndola.

Held under the inspiring theme “Oral Health Revolution: Innovations, Insights, and Interdisciplinary Care,” the event brought together Dental Surgeons and Dental Therapists from across the northern region to deliberate on innovations, challenges, and opportunities in oral healthcare.

The symposium was honored by the presence of distinguished guests, including:

Dr. Charles Mwinuna, Copperbelt Provincial Health Director (Guest of Honor)
Dr. Kapeshi, National Oral Health Coordinator
Dr. Horeb Munsaka, Secretary General of the Zambia Dental Association

Key discussions centered on strengthening capacity building to tackle the growing oral health burden in communities. Participants emphasized the importance of innovation and interdisciplinary collaboration in advancing oral healthcare services in Zambia.

The Zambia Dental Association and the Provincial Health Director commended RDZ for its active participation and acknowledged the Association as a crucial stakeholder in the ongoing advocacy for a stronger, more inclusive healthcare system.





RDZ Luapula Branch Leads with Fundraising Gala

On 30th August 2025, the RDZ Luapula Branch hosted a fundraising gala to renovate the dilapidated call rooms at Mansa General Hospital, the main referral center for all 15 constituencies in the province. For years, doctors there have endured unsafe conditions that compromise both welfare and emergency response.

RDZ President Dr. Paul Chibwe and Vice President Dr. Collins Simbeye stressed that dignified, functional call rooms are essential—not luxuries—and urged other branches to emulate Luapula's initiative.

The event drew strong support: the Provincial Minister (via DPS Sikabuba) pledged government action; Hon. Dr. Chitalu Chilufya committed K100,000 and parliamentary backing; and the Mayor promised to mobilize further local resources. Corporate partner Xtenda Finance Limited was also recognized for its contribution.

The NEC commended Luapula's proactive stance, affirming that this effort signals a broader call: investing in doctors' welfare is investing in Zambia's healthcare system and future.





RDAZ Engages in Entrepreneurial Medical Indaba to Foster Innovation in Healthcare



The Resident Doctors Association of Zambia (RDAZ) proudly participated in the Entrepreneurial Medical Indaba, held at Ciela Resort last Friday—a dynamic platform designed to empower medical professionals and cultivate a culture of innovation.

This landmark collaboration brought together Teledoktor Zambia, SAI-CRIO, RDAZ, and the Zambia Medical Association (ZMA), offering stakeholders an opportunity to engage in discussions, strengthen cooperation, and explore advancements in the medical field.

Highlights of the event included an Entrepreneurship & Financing Session, an Elevator Pitch Competition, and a panel discussion titled “Fixing the Gaps – Skills, Research & Policy for a Healthier Zambia.”

The RDAZ delegation was led by President Dr. Paul Chibwe and Vice President Dr. Collins Simbeye. Distinguished guests included Guest of Honour Dr. Kennedy Lishimpi, Permanent Secretary for Technical Services; Prof. Wilbroad Mutale, CEO of Teledoktor; ZMA President Dr. Masiku Phiri; ZMA Secretary General Dr. Innocent Ngwira; and Former ZMA Publication Board Chair Dr. Malan Malumani.

The Indaba showcased the power of collaboration in driving innovation, improving skills, and shaping policies to strengthen Zambia’s healthcare system. RDAZ extends special thanks to the organizers and all participating organizations, including Teledoktor Zambia and SAI-CRIO, for making this event a resounding success.



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RDaz Engages Future Medical Leaders at UNZAMEDSA–ZAMSA Summit



On 26th April 2025, the Resident Doctors Association of Zambia (RDaz) participated in the Medical Leadership and Entrepreneurship Summit hosted by UNZAMEDSA in collaboration with ZAMSA at UNZA Ridgeway Campus. The summit, themed “Rising to the Challenge: Empowering Medical Students to Lead, Innovate, and Thrive in the Evolving Medical Landscape,” brought together students, professionals, and key stakeholders including Dr. Kennedy Lishimpi, Permanent Secretary for Technical Services.



RDaz Vice President Dr. Collins Simbeye engaged students on leadership, innovation, and professional excellence, highlighting the association’s role in mentoring and bridging the gap between practicing doctors and future medical professionals.

The summit provided a platform for RDaz to reinforce its commitment to inspiring, guiding, and empowering the next generation of medical leaders in Zambia’s evolving healthcare landscape.



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RDaz Hosts Successful Blood Donation Drive at Texila American University

In celebration of World Blood Donor Day, observed annually on 14th June, the RDaz Executive, in partnership with the Zambia National Blood Transfusion Service, held a blood donation drive at the Texila American University Zambia, Lilayi campus.

The event saw an enthusiastic turnout, with over 70 blood donations collected—each contributing to the vital cause of saving lives.

RDaz extends heartfelt thanks to Texila American University, Pledge 25, and the Humanitarian Club for their collaboration in making this initiative a success.

The Association remains committed to supporting the National Health Strategic Plan 2022–2026, reaffirming that, together, we can make a meaningful difference in Zambia's healthcare landscape.



Medical Quiz Competition 2025: A Battle of Brains and Skill

On August 17, 2025, the UNZA Ridgeway Campus came alive with energy as seven of Zambia's leading medical schools gathered for the much-anticipated Medical Quiz Competition.

The competing institutions were:

University of Zambia (UNZA) Ridgeway Campus
Levy Mwanawasa Medical University
Apex Medical University
Eden University
Cavendish University
Mulungushi University
Texila American University



The competition tested participants' mastery across eight core medical disciplines—Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Pathology, Pediatrics, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Surgery, and Internal Medicine—delivered in an intense and engaging six-hour marathon of questions.

The atmosphere reached fever pitch during the final rounds, where a gripping sudden-death tie-breaker decided the ultimate winner. After an electrifying showdown, Texila American University triumphed, securing the coveted title of Medical Quiz Champions 2025!

Final Standings

1. Texila American University
2. Cavendish University
3. UNZA Ridgeway

The champions not only walked away with glory but also impressive prizes, including K2,500 from 1 Day Africa, K2,500 from RDAZ, a week of free newspaper advertisements, and a prestigious trophy.

The Resident Doctors Association of Zambia (RDAZ) extends heartfelt congratulations to all participants for their hard work, brilliance, and sportsmanship. Events like these remind us that the future of medicine in Zambia is in capable, inspired hands.



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RDZ at the 75th WHO Regional Committee for Africa



On 25th August 2025, the Resident Doctors Association of Zambia (RDZ) proudly participated in the Opening Ceremony of the 75th WHO Regional Committee for Africa, hosted at the Mulungushi International Conference Centre in Lusaka under the inspiring theme: “Building a Healthier Africa Together.”

RDZ President, Dr. Paul Chibwe, had the distinct honor of attending this high-level gathering, which was officially opened by His Excellency, President Hakainde Hichilema. The event convened Heads of State, Ministers of Health, global health experts, and policy-makers from across Africa to deliberate on strategies to strengthen health systems, improve service delivery, and accelerate progress toward universal health coverage.

For RDZ, this historic event was more than just an invitation — it was an opportunity to give visibility to the voice of resident doctors at a continental stage. Our presence underscored the vital role that young and frontline medical professionals play in shaping policies that impact healthcare access and outcomes.

The Association remains committed to:

Advocating for stronger health policies that address both patient and healthcare worker needs.

Building collaborations with regional and global stakeholders to drive health reforms.

Championing innovation and resilience in healthcare delivery, especially in the face of emerging public health challenges.

Participation in the 75th WHO Regional Committee reinforced RDZ’s pledge to actively engage in platforms where the future of healthcare in Africa is discussed. As resident doctors, we believe that our contributions, experiences, and perspectives are key in shaping a healthier, more resilient Africa for generations to come.



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CALL TO ACTION

“Investing in doctors is investing in the health of our nation.”

As RDAZ continues to champion safe working conditions, professional development, and community health, we call on government, stakeholders, corporate partners, and communities to join us in supporting initiatives that strengthen our healthcare system.

From improving call rooms at Mansa General Hospital, fostering innovation through medical entrepreneurship, mentoring future doctors, to lifesaving efforts like blood donation drives, our collective action can transform healthcare in Zambia.

I urge every branch, every partner, and every Zambian to stand with us—let’s build a stronger, healthier future together.

Dr. Paul Chibwe

President, Resident Doctors Association of Zambia

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