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Lipid model membrane systems as a tool for unraveling the underlying factors for skin barrier dysfunction

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CURRICULUM VITAE

Lorretta Uche was born on the 27th of February 1969 in Nigeria. She obtained a bachelor's degree in Pharmacy from the University of Nigeria Nsukka in 1991. Thereafter, she undertook a one-year internship program at the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital Enugu in drug dispensing and compounding. Afterward, she did the mandatory one-year National Youth Service at the Essential Drugs division of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare Port-Harcourt. She then worked as a community Pharmacist in New Life Care Pharmacy Port-Harcourt for two years.

In 1997 she obtained a master's degree in Pharmaceutical Technology (with distinction) from Kings College, London. Her dissertation investigated the effect of oil structure on microemulsion formation and was supervised by Prof. Jayne Lawrence. She was awarded the Abbott Laboratories Prize for best student in Pharmaceutical Technology and the College Prize for the best student from all of the Pharmacy Departments three MSc degrees. Thereafter, she joined Juhel Nigeria Limited, a pharmaceutical manufacturing company as a Production Pharmacist. In the year 2000, she was awarded the World Bank Robert S. McNamara Fellowship to investigate the Regulation of the Pharmaceutical industry in Nigeria. She worked in the Pharmaceutical industry for 15 years during which she gained experience in various sections including drug formulation, quality assurance, and regulatory affairs.

In 2017, she was admitted to a PhD position at Leiden Academic Centre for Drug Research, Leiden University under the supervision of Prof. Joke Bouwstra and Dr. Charlotte Beddoes. Her project focused on using lipid model membrane systems as a tool to unravel the underlying factors for skin barrier impairment in inflammatory skin diseases.

In November 2021, she was employed as Pharmaceutical Scientist, Manufacturing Science and Technology at Abbott laboratories, Weesp, Netherlands

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Uche, L. E.; Gooris, G. S.; Beddoes, C. M.; Bouwstra, J. A., *New insight into phase behavior and permeability of skin lipid models based on sphingosine and phytosphingosine ceramides*. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta*, **2019**; 1861(7): p. 1317-1328.

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