



# African Society for Sexual Medicine

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Dear colleague/healthcare professional,

The ASSM (which represents the African Continent and which is seeking affiliation to the International Society for Sexual medicine (ISSM)), together with Asia Pacific Society for Sexual Medicine, European Society for Sexual Medicine, Latin American Society for Sexual Medicine, Sexual Medicine Society of North America, International Society for the Study of Women's Sexual Health and the Middle East Society for Sexual Medicine together constitute the International Society for Sexual medicine (ISSM)

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) sexual dysfunction is a huge public health issue due to quality of life decrease. In spite of the fact that sexual and reproductive health is a stated priority of the World Health Organization very few countries have gone there.

**'Sexual health** is the experience of the ongoing process of physical, psychological and socio-cultural wellbeing related to Sexuality. It is evidenced by the free and responsible expression of sexual capabilities that foster harmonious personal and social wellness, enriching individual and social life. It is not merely the absence of disease, dysfunction or infirmity.

**Sexual medicine** is the medical discipline that embraces the study, diagnosis and treatment of sexual health concerns of men and women. Sexual medicine is the branch of medicine concerned with human sexuality and its disorders. Sexual medicine attempts to improve sexual health through the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of conditions or diseases that involve sexual function, sexual and/or partnership experiences and behaviour, gender identity, sexual trauma and its consequences Sexual medicine takes into account the individual and couple dimensions as well.

The specific and primary purposes of the ASSM is to:

- (1) establish a scientific society to benefit the public by encouraging the highest standards of practice, education and research in the field of human sexuality;
- (2) develop and assist in developing scientific methods for the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of conditions affecting human sexual function;
- (3) promote the publication and encourage contributions to the medical and scientific literature in the field of sexual function;
- (4) focus on the African area specific major sexual health problems and explore the potential of African remedies.

The ASSM welcomes all specialists in the field of sexual medicine, researchers, registered professionals with interest in sexual medicine and all colleagues who want to take Sexual Medicine to new heights in Africa to become a member of the ASSM. Together we can raise and remove the paucity of research in Africa and lobby and organise our people and countries to assist in advancing sexual medicine independently and steadily so that we ultimately impact on everyone's quality of life.

### Benefits of the ASSM Membership

- ASSM Newsletter
- Vote at the ASSM Business Meetings
- Discounted registration fees for ASSM Meetings and Symposia
- Access to the members section of the ASSM website

The ASSM Membership fee 2014 is EUR 35,00 per year.

To become a member of the ASSM please visit the website [www.assmweb.org](http://www.assmweb.org) where you can download the ASSM Membership Application Form, fill out the form and send it to the ASSM Executive Office by mail, email or fax.

The ASSM Executive Office and Secretariat is based in the Netherlands, please feel free to address any of your questions, comments, ideas, remarks etc. to them. They will make sure that your request will be processed in a fast and appropriate way.



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Stephen Watya, Uganda  
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We look forward welcoming you as an ASSM Member!

With kind regards,

ASSM Board of Directors

Dr. Prithy Ramlachan  
President

Prof. Serigne Gueye  
Deputy President