

Forensic Hair Analysis as a Toxicological Tool for the Detection of Psychoactive Substances in Inmates – Tuesday 30 January 2024

Dr Lawrence Kofi Acheampong

Medical Director of the Ghana Prisons Service and Forensic Correctional Physician

Dr Acheampong is a Specialist Forensic Clinician Scientist and a Member of the Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine (MFFLM) of the Royal College of Physicians and a Commissioned Officer of the rank of Superintendent in the Ghana Prisons Service.

He is a trained Tactical Counterterrorism Combat Medic Responder and Rescuer from the Joint European Union and Guardia Civil Special Tactical Operations Training in Spain for terrorism in Open Space and the Medical Director of the Ghana Prisons Service and the Medical Superintendent of the Prisons Hospital in the Medium Security Prison, Nsawam.

He holds a Bachelors's Degree in Human Biology (Medicine) and MB, ChB (Medicine & Surgery) from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST). He also holds a Master of Business Administration (MBA- Distinction) with specialization in Healthcare Management from Hochschule fur Angewandte Management, Germany.

He is a Postgraduate Researcher in the department of Molecular Medicine – Chemical Pathology (Forensics) and a Graduate (MPhil in Forensic Science- Distinction) from the Department of Biochemistry and Biotechnology all of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and holds a professional Diploma in Forensic Psychology by the Complementary Therapists Accredited Association- CTA ,U.S.A.

He is a Member of the African Society of Forensic Medicine (ASFM) and a Certified Forensic Investigation Professional (CFIP) – IICFIP ,USA. Also, he is a member of the International Institute of Certified Forensic Investigation Professional- IICFIP- (U.S.A) of which he is a regular speaker at the IICFIP Global Conferences and an international presenter of a research paper in the 42nd Annual National Conference of the Indian Academy of Forensic Medicine in January 2021.

He is a Fellow of the International Academy of Criminology, Disaster, Emergency and Forensic Professional- IACDEFP-UK and the Country Director for Ghana. Currently, the Director Forensics Advisory& International Affairs for the International College of Disaster Management and Forensics Studies- ICDMFS, a training Center for IACDEFP-UK. He has a certificate in Correctional Management as part of the completion of the Officer Cadet Course of the Ghana Prisons and is a member of the American College of Correctional Physicians (ACCP).

He has authored and co-authored publications in prestigious journals. He has organized and facilitated several practical training in Crime Scene Investigation, DNA /Serology, Fingerprint analysis, Question Document, Trace Evidence, Firearm & Ballistics, Forensic Psychology, Toxicology etc. in Sub-Saharan Africa especially Ghana and Nigeria with participants from UK, U.S.A, Europe, Asia etc.

He is a Certified Wellness Recovery Action Plan- WRAP Co-Facilitator trained by the Copeland Institute, U.S.A.