

# INTEREST 2021

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HIV TREATMENT, PATHOGENESIS,  
AND PREVENTION RESEARCH IN RESOURCE-LIMITED SETTINGS



**VIRTUAL** | 12 - 14 OCTOBER 2021



## Programme



Dear colleagues and friends,

I welcome you to the 15th annual **INTEREST Conference** for the year 2021. Not too long ago in December 2020, in the midst of the COVID-19 global pandemic, we adapted and hosted our first virtual INTEREST Conference. We learnt useful lessons on organising and managing a conference virtually, which will help us to further improve our approach to the digital conference experience. The INTEREST Conference remains the premier scientific HIV colloquium on the African continent. With the support of the International Conference Committee, we will continue to develop this annual event through the years to meet the needs and aspirations of scientists across Africa. Starting from the maiden voyage of the INTEREST Conference in Kampala in 2007, this event has attracted many participants not only from across Africa, but from all over the world. Participant attendance has increased by over 500%. The INTEREST family is a movement that seeks to advance and share knowledge on HIV/AIDS whilst building capacity and cultivating a community of young investigators to help future generations.

In 2021, we lost important personalities in the INTEREST family, notably Professors **Charles Boucher** and **James Hakim**. Charles was the co-founder of INTEREST with Dr. Joep Lange, whilst James was the Local Chair of INTEREST 2015 and a member of the International Conference Committee. We honour them for their humanity and service to the African continent in the area of education, health, and research.

A lot has changed around the continent in regards HIV not only in the past two decades, but particularly in the last 18 months. These changes are reflected in the conference programme for 2021. Over the next three days, you will hear talks on a wide variety of topics, such as the relationship between HIV and COVID-19, vaccination rollout in the region, new developments in prevention and treatment technologies, HIV comorbidities, HIV in young people, and the future of HIV in Africa and the plan to end AIDS, to name a few. We also have special sessions for young scholars to hone their skills, as well as moments to remember and honour those who have passed on. We look forward to sharing this experience with you. We welcome new participants to the INTEREST family and, for the familiar faces, we are happy to see you return.

We look forward to having a fruitful, interactive, and eventful conference.

Sincerely,

Kwasi Torpey and Elly Katabira



**Kwasi Torpey,  
MD, PhD, MPH,  
FGCP**

University of Ghana,  
Ghana

Scientific Chair



**Elly Katabira,  
MD, FRCP**

Makarere University  
College of Health  
Sciences, Uganda

Conference Co-Chair





# General Information

## Certificate of attendance

Certificates of attendance will be sent by e-mail in the week following the conference after completion of the post-conference survey.

## Exhibition

Visiting the exhibition booths in the virtual exhibition space will give you the opportunity to meet and network with key suppliers and leaders in healthcare and medicine. This will help keep you up-to-date with the latest industry developments.

## Feedback

Your feedback is of utmost value to us as it enables us to further improve this conference. After each session a short questionnaire will pop-up. We would like to ask you to take a minute to complete it. After the conference, a survey will be sent to you via email, with other questions to improve help us this conference.

## Group picture

We ask you all to take a photo of yourselves and send it to the INTEREST secretariat at [rikke.rode@amededu.com](mailto:rikke.rode@amededu.com). We will combine all of the photos and send out the finished virtual group photo at the end of the conference.

## Meeting Hub

The Meeting Hub allows you to connect and communicate with other attendees. Once you have located an attendee you want to connect with, click the Connect button. Once the other attendee accepts your request, you can choose to interact by starting a live chat or live video call. You can also schedule a meeting at a later time, send messages and take notes. Contact information for all attendees you have connected with will be included when you export contacts.

## OnAIR - Virtual Platform

OnAIR is the virtual conference platform being used for INTEREST 2021. A video tutorial on how to use the workshop Portal can be found [here](#).

## Notes

You will be able to take notes in the portal during the virtual conference. Any notes that you take throughout the event can be exported by selecting the Export icon on the top right of the screen near your Profile image.

## Social Media



Follow us on Instagram @INTERESTConference and Twitter @INTERESTconf to stay up-to-date on the conference! We hope to see you there!

We encourage you to post news about INTEREST on your social media accounts and tweet about INTEREST as often as you please during the conference. You can either post your own tweet to your followers using the hashtag #INTEREST2021 or retweet a message through the official @INTERESTconf account.

## Technical Team

Should you encounter any technical problems, please contact us at [magda@amededu.com](mailto:magda@amededu.com).

## Time Zones

Times are in Central Africa Time (CAT) / South African Standard Time (SAST). If you need to convert the times to your timezone, this website can help you: [www.worldtimebuddy.com](http://www.worldtimebuddy.com). You will be able to watch the presentations on the workshop portal until three weeks after the conference.

## Presentations and webcasts



Webcasts of the presentations along with the PDF presentations will be available on [www.interestconference.org](http://www.interestconference.org) and [www.AcademicMedicalEducation.com](http://www.AcademicMedicalEducation.com) for three weeks after the conference.

Disclaimer: This conference aims to offer participants the opportunity to share information. The organisers of this conference, AIGHD and Virology Education, cannot accept any liability for the scientific content of the sessions or for any claims that may result from the use of information or publications from this conference.



## TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER

	EST	WAT	SAST/EET/CEST/CAT	EAT
<b>Opening of the Conference</b>	07:00	12:00	13:00	14:00
<b>Session 1</b>	07:25	12:25	13:25	14:25
<b>Symposium 1 - MSD</b>	08:55	13:55	14:55	15:55
<b>Symposium 2 - Johnson &amp; Johnson</b>	10:10	15:10	16:10	17:10

## WEDNESDAY 13 OCTOBER

	EST	WAT	SAST/EET/CEST/CAT	EAT
<b>Abstract Writing /Grant Writing Session</b>	06:00	11:00	12:00	13:00
<b>Session 2</b>	07:00	12:00	13:00	14:00
<b>Symposium 3 - AbbVie</b>	08:00	13:00	14:00	15:00
<b>Session 3</b>	09:00	14:00	15:00	16:00
<b>Symposium 4 - ViiV</b>	10:00	15:00	16:00	17:00

## THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER

	EST	WAT	SAST/EET/CEST/CAT	EAT
<b>Mentoring Sessions</b>	06:00	11:00	12:00	13:00
<b>Opening Session</b>	07:00	12:00	13:00	14:00
<b>Session 4</b>	08:30	13:30	14:30	15:30
<b>Symposium 5 - Gilead</b>	09:30	14:30	15:30	16:30
<b>Session 5</b>	10:15	15:15	16:15	17:15



### Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development



The Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD) is an international research and education institute that works to develop sustainable solutions to major health problems. By taking a problem-oriented approach, AIGHD transcends the boundaries of traditional academic disciplines and integrates three fundamental activities into one institute: research, education, and policy. Founded by the late Professor Joep Lange in 2009, AIGHD brings together experts from multiple disciplines including biomedicine, economics, and social and behavioral sciences to address the most critical medical, social, economic, and political challenges in global health and development.

### Virology Education



Virology Education (VE) is a leading provider of top quality, accredited programmes for scientific interchange, knowledge sharing, and healthcare professional education. VE supports the healthcare community in discovering, researching, treating, and ultimately, curing viruses and infectious diseases. VE identifies needs, drives new initiatives, designs tailored programmes, develops educational and scientific content, and handles logistical programme management. Using a network of leading global experts, a database of 26,000 opt-in subscribers, and an in-house team of skilled professionals, Virology Education produces relevant, high-level content within the fields of HIV, hepatitis, co-infections, tuberculosis, emerging viruses, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, liver disease, pharmacology, and oncology.



# International Conference Committee



**Kwasi Torpey,**  
**MD, PhD, MPH, FGCP**  
University of Ghana,  
Ghana



**Elly Katabira,**  
**MD, FRCP**  
Makarere University College of  
Health Sciences,  
Uganda



**Catherine Hankins,**  
**MD, PhD, FRCPC, CM**  
Amsterdam Institute  
for Global Health and  
Development (AIGHD),  
The Netherlands / Canada



**Linda-Gail Bekker,**  
**MBChB, DTMH, DCH,**  
**FCP(SA), PhD**  
Desmond Tutu Health  
Foundation / University of  
Cape Town,  
South Africa



**Charles Boucher,**  
**MD, PhD**  
Erasmus Medical Center,  
The Netherlands



**Elizabeth Anne Bukusi,**  
**MBChB, M.Med**  
**(ObGyn), MPH, PhD,**  
**PGD (Research Ethics),**  
**MBE (Bioethics), CIP**  
Kenya Medical Research  
Institute,  
Kenya



**Guido Ferrari,**  
**MD**  
Duke University Medical Center,  
United States



**Pierre-Marie Girard,**  
**MD, PhD**  
Hôpital Saint-Antoine /  
Université Pierre et Marie  
Curie,  
France



**Sam Phiri,**  
**DCM, MSc, PhD**  
Partners in Hope,  
Malawi



**Peter Kilmarx**  
**MD, FACP, FIDSA**  
NIH / Fogarty International  
Center,  
United States



# International Conference Committee



**Andrew Kambugu,  
MBChB, MMed, FRCP**  
Makerere University College of  
Health Sciences,  
Uganda



**Nagalingeswaran  
Kumarasamy, MD**  
Voluntary Health Services  
Hospital,  
India



**Chewe Luo,  
MD, PhD**  
UNICEF / University  
Teaching School,  
United States / Zambia



**Timothy Mastro,  
MD, FACP, DTM&H**  
FHI 360 / University of North  
Carolina at Chapel Hill,  
United States



**Anton Pozniak, MD, FRCP**  
Chelsea and Westminster Hospital  
NHS Foundation Trust / Imperial  
College of London,  
United Kingdom



**Anna Laura Ross,  
PhD**  
Unitaid,  
Switzerland



**Coumba Touré Kane,  
PharmD, PhD**  
Laboratoire de Bacteriologie-  
Virologie CHU Le Dantec, Cheikh  
Anta Diop University,  
Senegal



**François Venter,  
MD, FCP, PhD**  
Ezintsha, Sub-division of  
Wits RHI, University of the  
Witswatersrand,  
South Africa



**Stephen Watiti,  
MD**  
Mildmay Hospital,  
Uganda



**Serge Eholie, MD, PhD**, CHU de Treichville, University of Abidjan, Ivory Coast

**Grace John-Stewart, MD, PhD, MPH**, University of Washington, United States

**Saidi Kapiga, MD, MPH, ScD**, Mwanza Intervention Trials Unit / National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) / London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), Tanzania/United Kingdom

**Sinata Koulla-Shiro, MD**, Ministry of Health, Cameroon

**Richard Koup, MD**, Vaccine Research Center, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), United States

**Sabin Nsanzimana, MD, PhD, FRCP** Rwanda Biomedical Center, Kigali

**Helen Rees, MD, MA, MRCGP**, WITS Reproductive Health and HIV Institute (WRHI), University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

**Mauro Schechter, MD, PhD**, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**Robert Schooley, MD**, University of California, United States

**Stefano Vella, MD**, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Italy

**Debrework Zewdie, PhD**, City University New York School of Public Health & Health Policy, United States

## Our Team



**Karin Siebelt**  
Senior Project  
Manager

[karin@amededu.com](mailto:karin@amededu.com)



**Conor McCann**  
Junior Project  
Manager

[c.mccann@aighd.org](mailto:c.mccann@aighd.org)



**Rikke Puggaard-Rode**  
Project Manager

[rikke.ode@amededu.com](mailto:rikke.ode@amededu.com)



**Jacqueline Weiner**  
Communications  
Manager

[j.weiner@aighd.org](mailto:j.weiner@aighd.org)



**Magda Sevlidou**  
Junior Project  
Coordinator

[magda@amededu.com](mailto:magda@amededu.com)





## Tuesday, 12 October

Times are in South African Standard Time (SAST)

### Day 1 HIV and COVID-19 Prevention in Africa

#### Opening of the Conference

Chair: Kwasi Torpey (Scientific Chair)

- 13:00 **Welcome to INTEREST 2021**  
**Kwasi Torpey, MD, PhD, MPH, FGCP**  
University of Ghana, Ghana
- 13:05 **Honouring Our Departed**
- 13:10 **Global HIV/AIDS Update: UNAIDS Strategy to End AIDS in 2030**  
**Paula Munderi, MD, FRCP**  
UNAIDS, Switzerland

#### Session 1 Increased Availability of COVID-19 Vaccines and HIV Prevention Technologies

Chairs: Timothy Mastro and Elizabeth Anne Bukusi

- 13:25 **James Hakim Memorial Lecture - Access to COVID-19 Vaccines in Africa: Situational Analysis and Local Manufacturing Options**  
**John Nkengasong, PhD**  
Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, Ethiopia
- 13:40 **Q&A**
- 13:50 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network
- 14:00 **HIV and COVID-19 Considerations**  
**Jean Nachega, MD, PhD, MPH, FRCP, FAAS**  
University of Pittsburgh / Johns Hopkins University, United States  
Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- 14:15 **New HIV Prevention Methods for Women**  
**Nyaradzo Mgodzi, MBChB, MMed**  
University of Zimbabwe Clinical Trials Research Centre, Zimbabwe
- 14:30 **Q&A**
- 14:40 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

#### Symposium 1 - MSD - Living the Present, PrEParing for the Future

Chair: Elizabeth Anne Bukusi

- 14:55 **Welcome and Introduction**  
**Elizabeth Anne Bukusi, MBChB, M.Med (ObGyn), MPH, PhD, PGD (Research Ethics), MBE (Bioethics), CIP**  
Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya
- 15:00 **PrEP Today: Where Are the Gaps?**  
**Sinead Delany-Moretlwe, MBBCh, PhD, DTM&H**  
Wits RHI - University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- 15:10 **PrEParing for PrEP**  
**Nyaradzo Mgodzi, MBChB, MMed**  
University of Zimbabwe Clinical Trials Research Centre, Zimbabwe
- 15:25 **Discussion and Q&A**
- 15:40 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network



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*Chairs: Joseph Baluku and Kwasi Torpey*

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15:55 **Accessing Effective Treatments and Prevention Tools at Affordable Prices**  
**Sébastien Morin, PhD**

Medicines Patent Pool, Switzerland

16:05 **Q&A**

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**Symposium 2 - Johnson & Johnson - New Therapeutic Options for PLWH**

*Chair: Fafa Addo Boateng*

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16:10 **Welcome, Introduction, and Objectives**

**Fafa Addo Boateng, MD, MPH**

Johnson & Johnson, Ghana

16:11 **Choices, Choices, Choices: New Therapeutic Options for PWLH**

**Kogieleum Naidoo, MBChB, PhD**

Centre for the AIDS Program of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA), South Africa

16:33 **Audience Q&A**

16:39 **Close**

**Fafa Addo Boateng, MD, MPH**

Johnson & Johnson, Ghana

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**Closure of Day 1**

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16:40 **Overview and Closure of the Day**

**Kwasi Torpey, MD, PhD, MPH, FGCP**

University of Ghana, Ghana

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## Wednesday, 13 October

### Day 2 Expanding Access to Treatment in Adults and Children

- 12:00 **Grant Writing Session**  
**Guido Ferrari, MD**  
 Duke University, United States  
**Nadia Sam-Agudu, MD, CTropMed**  
 University of Maryland School of Medicine / Institute of Human Virology Nigeria, United States / Nigeria  
**Nagalingeswaran Kumarasamy, MD**  
 Voluntary Health Services Hospital, India  
**Kwasi Torpey, MD, PhD, MPH, FGCP**  
 University of Ghana, Ghana

12:50 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

### Session 2 HIV Treatment Optimization and Managing Co-Morbidities

*Chairs: Sam Phiri and Anna Laura Ross*

- 13:00 **What Has the Dolutegravir Era Taught Us?**  
**François Venter, MD, FCP, PhD**  
 Ezintsha, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- 13:15 **Preventing Cervical Cancer among Women Living with HIV in Low-and-Middle Income Countries**  
**Lameck Chinula, MD**  
 University of North Carolina (UNC) / UNC Project Malawi, Malawi
- 13:30 **Q&A**

13:45 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

### Symposium 3 - AbbVie - Novel Approaches to Improve Retention of HIV Patients in Care and Treatment

*Chair: Sipho Dlamini*

- 14:00 **Opening Remarks & Introduction of Speakers**  
**Sipho Dlamini, MBChB, FCP, Cert ID Phys**  
 Groote Schuur Hospital, South Africa
- 14:05 **Novel Approaches to Improve Patient Retention in Care & Treatment**  
**Izukanji Sikazwe, MBChB, MPH**  
 Centre for Infectious Disease Research, Zambia
- 14:20 **Retention in Care: Same Day Initiation; COVID-19**  
**Jeremy Nel, MBChB**  
 Helen Joseph Hospital / University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- 14:35 **Open Discussion, Q & A**
- 14:44 **Final Remarks & Closing**  
**Sipho Dlamini, MBChB, FCP, Cert ID Phys**  
 Groote Schuur Hospital, South Africa

14:45 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network



### Session 3 Managing Children and Adolescents Living With HIV

*Chairs: Chewe Luo and Stephen Watiti*

- 15:00 **Elimination of HIV in Children**  
**Dorothy Mbori-Ngacha, MBChB, MMed**  
UNICEF, United States
- 15:15 **Diagnosis, Management, and Challenges of ART Treatment Failure in Children and Adolescents**  
**Sabrina Bakeera-Kitaka, MD, PhD**  
Makerere University College of Health Sciences / Mulago National Referral Hospital, Uganda
- 15:30 **Q&A**
- 15:45 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

### Symposium 4 - ViiV - Paediatric Dolutegravir at the Core for Children Living with HIV

*Chair: Ismaeel Ebrahim*

- 16:00 **Welcome and Introduction**  
**Ismaeel Ebrahim, MD, FCP**  
ViiV Healthcare, South Africa
- 16:05 **Paediatric Dolutegravir Clinical Data**  
**Serufusa Sekidde, MPH, MBBS**  
ViiV Healthcare, United Kingdom
- 16:20 **The Need for Paediatric DTG for CLWHIV**  
**Mogomotsi Matshaba, MBBCh**  
Baylor Children's Clinical Centre of Excellence, Botswana
- 16:36 **Q&A**

### Closure of Day 2

- 16:45 **Overview and Closure of the Day**  
**Kwasi Torpey, MD, PhD, MPH, FGCP**  
University of Ghana, Ghana





## Thursday, 14 October 2021

### Day 3 Charles Boucher Memorial Day

12:00 **Mentoring Sessions**  
**Peter Kilmarx, MD, FACP, FIDSA**  
 National Institutes of Health, United States  
**Anna Laura Ross, PhD**  
 Unitaid, Switzerland  
**Kwasi Torpey, MD, PhD, MPH, FGCP**  
 University of Ghana, Ghana

12:50 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

### Opening Session 21st Century - How Care Has Changed in Africa Chairs: Rob Gruters and Catherine Hankins

13:00 **Honouring Charles**  
**Kwasi Torpey, MD, PhD, MPH, FGCP**  
 University of Ghana, Ghana

13:10 **Charles Boucher Memorial Lecture – CDC Epidemiology Trends**  
**John Nkengasong, PhD**  
 Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, Ethiopia

13:25 **Charles Boucher Memorial Lecture – How Treatment Has Evolved – 2000 Until Now**  
**Meg Doherty, MD, PhD**  
 WHO, United Kingdom

13:40 **Charles Boucher Memorial Lecture – Changes in How Services Have Been Delivered**  
**Linda-Gail Bekker, MBChB, DTMH, DCH, FCP(SA), PhD**  
 Desmond Tutu Health Foundation / University of Cape Town, South Africa

13:55 **Q&A**

14:15 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

### Session 4 Managing Virological Failure Chairs: Brendan Larder and Anne Wensing

14:30 **HIV Drug Resistance - Bench to Bedside**  
**Leon Levin, MBBCh(Wits), FCPaed(SA), DTM&H**  
 Right to Care, South Africa

14:45 **Management of Virological Failure within the African Setting**  
**Chijioke Ummunakwe, PhD**  
 Ndlovu Research Centre, South Africa

15:00 **Q&A**

15:15 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network



### **Symposium 5 - Gilead Sciences - The Future of HIV Management**

*Chair: Michael Reid*

15:30 **Introduction**

**Michael Reid, MBChB, MSc, PGDipClinPharm**

Gilead Sciences, South Africa

15:35 **The Challenge and Promise for HIV Therapeutic Vaccines**

**Azure T. Makadzange, MD, DPhil**

Infectious Diseases Research Laboratory / Charles River Medical Group / Stanford Healthcare, Zimbabwe / United States

15:53 **Q&A**

16:00 Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

### **Session 5 What Does the Future Hold?**

*Chairs: Tokameh Mahmoudi and Nyaradzo Mgodzi*

16:15 **HIV Cure – Where Are We?**

**Casper Rokx, MD, PhD**

Erasmus University Medical Center, The Netherlands

16:30 **PrEP in Africa - The Future**

**Elizabeth Anne Bukusi, MBChB, M.Med (ObGyn), MPH, PhD, PGD (Research Ethics), MBE (Bioethics), CIP**

Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya

16:45 **Q&A**

### **Closure of the Conference**

17:00 **Overview and Closure of the Conference**

**Kwasi Torpey, MD, PhD, MPH, FGCP**

University of Ghana, Ghana



# Faculty

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## INVITED SPEAKER

### **SABRINA BAKEERA-KITAKA, MD, PhD**

Makerere University College of Health Sciences/ Mulago National Referral Hospital, Uganda

Sabrina Bakeera-Kitaka is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Paediatrics and Childhealth at the Makerere University, College of Health Sciences. She completed her MBChB in 1995; Masters of Paediatrics and Child Health in July 2012, both at Makerere University. She was a Gilead Fellow and a Research Scholar at the Infectious Diseases Institute from 2003-2011 where she undertook a Fellowship in Paediatric Infectious Diseases and did research on HIV-infected adolescents. She has a PhD from the School of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Antwerp, Belgium.

She is involved in conducting basic research in various Paediatrics Infectious Diseases and offers clinical care to HIV infected children and adolescents, most of whom are perinatally infected.

She directs the Adolescent Health training program at the Makerere University College of Health Sciences and is the Founder President of the Society of Adolescent Health in Uganda ([www.sahu.ug](http://www.sahu.ug)). Dr. Kitaka is also an active member of the African Paediatric Society of Infectious Diseases (AFSPID).

No potential conflict of interest to report



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

### **LINDA-GAIL BEKKER, MBChB, DTMH, DCH, FCP(SA), PhD**

Desmond Tutu Health Foundation / University of Cape Town (UCT), South Africa

Linda-Gail Bekker is the Director of the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre at the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine, University of Cape Town and Chief Research Officer of the Desmond Tutu Health Foundation. She is a physician scientist and infectious disease specialist.

Her research interests include programmatic and action research around antiretroviral roll out and TB integration, prevention of HIV in women, youth and MSM. Bekker has also recently been involved in a number of COVID19 vaccine trials and co-leads the Sisonke Phase 3B study which has seen the vaccination of 500 000 health care workers in South Africa. She has led numerous investigator-driven studies in HIV treatment, prevention and tuberculosis.

She is a past president of the International AIDS Society and served as the International Co-Chair of the 9th IAS Conference and 22nd International AIDS Conference and Co-Chaired the Research 4 Prevention Conference that was held in January 2021.

No potential conflict of interest to report





## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

**ELIZABETH ANNE BUKUSI,  
MBChB, MMed  
(ObGyn), MPH, PhD,  
PGD (Research Ethics),  
MBE (Bioethics), CIP**

Kenya Medical Research  
Institute (KEMRI),  
Kenya

Elizabeth Anne Bukusi (ObGyn), MPH, PhD, PGD (Research Ethics), Masters in Bioethics, Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences, earned her general medical degree and Masters in Obstetrics and Gynecology degree from the University of Nairobi. She then earned a certificate in international health, MPH and a PhD from the University of Washington's Department of Epidemiology; a post graduate diploma in Research Ethics from the University of Cape Town and a Masters in Bioethics from Centre for Bioethics and Culture at the Sind Institute of Urology and Transplantation in Karachi. She is a certified IRB Professional.

She is a Senior Principal Clinical Research Scientist at the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), a Research Professor at the University of Washington (Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Global health), an honorary lecturer at Aga Khan University in Nairobi And Maseno University (Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology) and Volunteer Clinical faculty – Professor at the University of California San Francisco (Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences). Prof. Bukusi, in collaboration with Dr. Craig Cohen at UCSF, established the KEMRI Research Care and Training Program in 1995.

She is the chairperson of the National Bioethics Society of Kenya. She is also a board member of AVAC, Chaired the WHO HRP Alliance (capacity building for RH research), is a trustee for the HIV Trust, and an Elected Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences (FAAS).

No potential conflict of interest to report



## INVITED SPEAKER

**LAMECK CHINULA,  
MD**

University of North Carolina  
(UNC) / UNC Project Malawi,  
Malawi

Chinula is assistant professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology's Division of Global Women's Health at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill, a Clinical Research Site Leader at UNC Project Malawi, a collaboration between UNC and Malawi Ministry of Health and a Director of UNC Obstetrics and Gynecology Activities in Malawi.

Dr. Chinula completed medical training at University of Malawi College of Medicine and residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at University of Cape Town in South Africa. He is a former Fogarty International Clinical Research Fellow, AORTIC ACLI participant and leads UNC Global HIV Clinical Trials Unit Malawi Clinical Research Site participation in HIV prevention and treatment trials and also in NCI AIDS Malignancy Consortium.

He is a Co-chair for IMPAACT 2010 study. Dr. Chinula is also an honorary lecturer at University of Malawi College of Medicine. He also serves on several national technical working groups and task forces, including the Malawi National Cancer Task Force, Malawi Immunization Technical Advisory Group and Malawi Cervical Cancer Steering Committee. He has research interests in HIV prevention and cervical cancer control, and his research projects have been funded by NIH, USAID and UNC Linerberger Comprehensive Cancer Center.

No potential conflict of interest to report



INVITED SPEAKER

**MEG DOHERTY,  
MD, PhD**

WHO,  
United Kingdom

Meg Doherty is the Coordinator of Treatment and Care in the Department of HIV/AIDS at the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva and provides overall technical and managerial support to treatment and care for adults, adolescents, children and pregnant women, as well as, the development of the consolidated global antiretroviral treatment guidelines and all technical updates related to HIV treatment and care.

She leads a team of technical experts in the fields of adult, adolescent and paediatric HIV, EMTCT, TB/ HIV collaborative activities, HIV service delivery, and laboratory and diagnostics for HIV.

Dr. Doherty received her MD from Harvard Medical School and her MPH and PhD in Infectious Disease Epidemiology from JHU Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is board certified in internal medicine and infectious diseases.

No Potential conflict of interest



INVITED SPEAKER

**LEON LEVIN,  
MBBCh(Wits),  
FCPaed(SA), DTM&H**

Right to Care,  
South Africa

Leon Levin is a paediatrician who has been managing HIV infected infants, children and adolescents for the past 25 years. He was Head of Paediatric HIV Programmes from 2013 to 2018 and is currently Senior Technical Advisor in Paediatrics at Right to Care NGO.

He was the Chairman of the Paediatric Subcommittee of the SA HIV Clinicians Society from 1999-2011 and the convenor of the Southern African HIV Clinicians Society Paediatric Antiretroviral Guidelines 2000, 2002 and 2005 and Co-convenor for the 2009 guidelines.

He has been on the South Africa Department of Health (SA DOH) Paediatric and Adolescent ART Guidelines Committees and is on the Paediatric 3rd line ART Committee for the SA DOH. He founded and runs the South African HIV Clinicians Society Paediatric Discussion Group, which is an internet based forum for clinicians to discuss and learn about problems in paediatric patients with HIV.

He has given numerous lectures and HIV viral resistance workshops throughout Africa. His current areas of interest include infants, children and adolescents with HIV infection, new paediatric ART formulations, treatment failure and drug resistance and HIV disclosure to adolescents

Potential conflict of interest:

Abbvie, Janssen, Cipla Medpro, Mylan, and Caprisa



INVITED SPEAKER

**DOROTHY  
MBORI-NGACHA,  
MBChB, MMed, MPH**

UNICEF,  
United States

Dorothy Mbori-Ngacha is the Senior HIV Specialist on eMTCT and Paediatric HIV for UNICEF's global HIV/AIDS programmes. She is an epidemiologist with specialist training in pediatrics, infectious disease and child health. She has extensive experience as a public health professional working in academia, the public sector, the NGO community and international organizations. In her current role, she supports global efforts towards achievement of global targets to eliminate mother to child HIV transmission and attain universal treatment coverage for women, children and adolescents living with HIV.

Dr. Mbori-Ngacha is also responsible for fostering inter-agency collaboration and establishing strategic partnerships within the UN and with other key stakeholders, including Ministries of Health and civil society. A national of Kenya, Dr Mbori-Ngacha holds a Medical Degree and a Master of Medicine in Paediatrics from the University of Nairobi School of Medicine, and a Master's in Public Health (Epidemiology) from the University of Washington, Seattle.

Dr. Mbori-Ngacha's research area is in the field of PMTCT and Paediatric HIV. She has served on several DSMBs of groundbreaking studies and is a member of a number of national and international advisory committees related to her expertise.

No potential conflict of interest to report



INVITED SPEAKER

**NYARADZO MGODI,  
MBChB, MMed**

University of Zimbabwe Clinical Trials Research Centre, Zimbabwe

Nyaradzo Mavis Mgodi - JIAS Deputy Editor, Associate Editor at Frontiers in Global Reproductive Health - HIV and STIs - is a clinical pathologist with over 10 years of experience conducting clinical trials for HIV prevention in women of reproductive age in Sub-Saharan Africa, including Zimbabwe, home to the University of Zimbabwe-Clinical Trials Research Centre.

As lead investigator in Harare, she has overseen the implementation of several trials assessing acceptability, safety and effectiveness of oral PrEP, vaginal microbicides, the Dapivirine vaginal ring, long-acting injectable PrEP and broadly neutralizing antibodies for HIV prevention in African women at risk for HIV. She is protocol co-chairperson for HVTN 703/HPTN 081 study, also known as Antibody Mediated Prevention (AMP) and of MTN 025/HOPE study. Nyaradzo, who serves as the International Principal Investigator on the HPTN Executive Committee, is also a scientific reviewer for the Medical Research Council of Zimbabwe, and has served as a technical advisor for the Zimbabwe Population-based HIV Impact Assessment (ZIMPHIA) survey.

She is a member of the Policy and Implementation Steering Committee for the Global Evaluation of Microbicide Sensitivity (GEMS) project, HIVR4P Program Organizing Committee and served as Conference Advisory Committee member for International AIDS Society (IAS) 2017.

No potential conflict of interest to report



INVITED SPEAKER  
**PAULA MUNDERI**  
**MD, FRCP**  
UNAIDS,  
Switzerland

Paula Munderi is the HIV Prevention Team Leader / Coordinator, Global HIV Prevention Coalition at UNAIDS HQ. The HIV Prevention Team at UNAIDS provides strategic leadership and guidance on effective approaches to achieving the global HIV prevention targets towards the goal of zero new infections. Before joining UNAIDS, Dr. Munderi was Vice President for Programs with the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care (IAPAC), mainly overseeing IAPAC's support to urban HIV responses of several African cities within the Fast-Track Cities Initiative.

Dr. Munderi also worked for the Uganda Virus Research Institute in Entebbe for 15 years where she led the establishment of a Programme in HIV Care Research for the Medical Research Council, UK. She was principal investigator on several multinational studies, including the DART trial which was the largest HIV treatment strategy trial conducted in Africa and the landmark START trial that paved the way for our present-day policy early treatment for asymptomatic HIV infected. Dr. Munderi has earned recognition among African leaders in the public health response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic and contributed to scientific and technical advisory bodies on HIV policy, HIV research and HIV programming within Uganda and at the international level.

Dr. Munderi graduated in Medicine from Makerere University and is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (Edin).

No potential conflict of interest to report



INVITED SPEAKER  
**JEAN NACHEGE**,  
**MD, PhD, MPH, FRCP,**  
**FAAS**  
University of Pittsburgh /  
Johns Hopkins University,  
United States Stellenbosch  
University,  
South Africa

Jean B. Nachege is an Infectious Diseases-Internist and Epidemiologist and a Professor Extraordinary of Medicine at Stellenbosch University Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Cape Town, South Africa. He is also a tenured Associate Professor of Medicine, Infectious Diseases, Microbiology and Epidemiology, at Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA as well as an Adjunct Associate Professor of Epidemiology and International Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD, USA.

He has over 30 year-experience in patient care, teaching, designing, and implementing HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis studies or programs funded by NIH/NIAID, NIH/FIC, Wellcome Trust, PEPFAR, and EDCTP. He authored more than 200 peer-reviewed publications, including in top-tier journals such as The Lancet, The New England Journal of Medicine, JAMA, Clinical Infectious Diseases and Annals of Internal Medicine.

He is an ad hoc consultant at WHO, CDC, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, member-elect of the Academy of Sciences of South Africa (ASSAf) and the African Academy of Sciences (AAS).

No potential conflict of interest to report





INVITED SPEAKER

**JOHN NKENGASONG,  
PhD**

Africa Centres for Disease  
Control and Prevention,  
Ethiopia

John Nkengasong currently serves as Director of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, a specialized technical institution of the African Union. In early 2020, he was appointed as one of the WHO Director-General's Special Envoys on COVID-19 Preparedness and Response. In addition, Dr. Nkengasong was most recently awarded the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's 2020 Global Goalkeeper Award for his contributions to the continental response in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic in Africa.

Prior to his current position, he served as Acting Deputy Principal Director of the Centre for Global Health and Chief of the International Laboratory Branch, Division of Global HIV and TB for the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Dr. Nkengasong holds a master's degree in tropical biomedical science from the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium, and a doctorate in medical sciences (virology), from the University of Brussels, Belgium.

Dr. Nkengasong has received numerous awards for his work, including Sheppard Award, the William Watson Medal of Excellence, the highest recognition awarded by the US CDC. He is also recipient of the Knight of Honour Medal by the Government of Cote d'Ivoire, was knighted in 2017 as the Officer of Lion by the President of Senegal, H.E. Macky Sall, and knighted in November 2018 by the government of Cameroon for his significant contributions to public health. He is an adjunct professor at the Emory School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, GA.

He serves on several international advisory boards, including the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Initiative (CEPIT) and the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI), among others. He has authored over 250 peer-review articles in international journals and published several book chapters.

No potential conflict of interest to report



INVITED SPEAKER

**SÉBASTIEN MORIN,  
PhD**

Medicines Patent Pool,  
Switzerland

Sébastien Morin joined the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) in 2019 as Policy and Advocacy Manager, bringing more than six years of policy and advocacy experience in HIV and viral hepatitis to the organisation. From 2013 to then he was a Research Officer at the International AIDS Society (IAS), where he led the work of the Industry Liaison Forum on paediatric HIV and regulatory affairs. He also spearheaded the HIV Co-Infections and Co-Morbidities initiative in the areas of HCV and TB.

Dr Morin is author of several publications on paediatric drug formulations, hepatitis C, COVID-19, people who inject drugs, regulatory affairs, and treatment access, in addition to scientific articles originating from his previous basic science research on antibiotic resistance and HIV infection. Dr Morin holds a PhD in Biochemistry from Laval University (Québec, Canada) and completed postdoctoral training at the University of Basel (Basel, Switzerland). He speaks French, English, and Spanish.

At MPP, his work in the policy space covers various disease areas (including HIV, HCV, and TB) and geographies (with a focus on the Africa, Latin America, and Caribbean regions). Dr Morin is also involved in paediatrics, especially through the Global Accelerator for Paediatric Formulations (GAP-f) WHO Network.

No potential conflict of interest to report



## INVITED SPEAKER

**CASPER ROKX,  
MD, PhD**

Erasmus University Medical  
Center,  
The Netherlands

Casper Rokx works as a fellow infectious diseases specialist and post-doctoral researcher at the Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam, the Netherlands. He obtained his Medical Degree in 2009 and worked in Zambia. He started his residency in Medicine in 2010. He finished his PhD on HIV treatment in 2016, resulting in over 30 peer reviewed publications.

He was awarded for the best HIV related scientific work in the Netherlands in 2015, and received young investigator awards at CROI, EACS, and HIV Glasgow conferences. He coordinates multiple studies on HIV in the Netherlands. In 2018, he did a clinical post-doctoral fellowship in HIV under supervision of Dr. Anton Pozniak at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital in London. His current research focuses on translational HIV treatment and HIV cure research.

He participates in the European HIV Vaccine Alliance (EHVA) and is a member of the scientific committee with focus on cure of the Young Investigator Conference of EACS.

### Potential conflict of interest:

ViiV, Gilead, Merck, Janssen, AIDSfonds, Erasmus MC, ZonMW, and Health-Holland for research



## INVITED SPEAKER

**CHIJOKE UMUNNAKWE,  
PhD**

Ndlovu Research Centre,  
South Africa

Chijioke Umunna obtained his PhD from Iowa State University, Iowa, USA, in 2014, where he majored in Genetics with a minor in Bioinformatics. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Maryland, USA in 2020. His postdoctoral studies were conducted within the HIV Dynamics and Replication Program in the National Cancer Institute division of the NIH where he trained as a molecular virologist with a focus on HIV expression, trafficking, and assembly.

He is currently Senior Research Scientist at Ndlovu Research Department, a research consortium in rural Limpopo, South Africa, whose aim is to directly translate acquired research knowledge into improved public health policies and health and wellness of rural communities in the province.

CJ partners with clinical and academic investigators at University Medical Center (UMC) Utrecht with the goal of leveraging research resources in developed countries towards expanded research capacity in resource limited communities in South Africa. His current research areas include HIV treatment and drug resistance monitoring, HIV reservoir and cure studies, and SARS-CoV-2 monitoring in rural settings.

CJ has a unique professional and scientific background that allows him to connect, inspire and mentor aspiring African scientists and professionals more effectively.

No potential conflict of interest to report



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

**FRANCOIS VENTER,  
MD, FCP, PhD**

Ezintsha, University of the  
Witwatersrand,  
South Africa

Professor WD Francois Venter, MD, FCP, PhD is the Head of Ezintsha at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, where he received most of his training. His work involves health systems research that directly translates into national programmes, most recently involving the antiretrovirals dolutegravir and TAF.

He leads multiple antiretroviral treatment optimisation studies, and is currently working on new first and second line options, as well as patient linkage-to-care interventions and self-testing projects. He has led large PEPFAR-funded HIV programmes in South Africa, focusing on men, women, children, young people, truckers, sex workers, and LGBTI communities. For over 20 years he has been an advisor to bodies such as the South African government, UNAIDS, and WHO, contributing to international, regional, and national HIV guidelines.

He is currently a member of the Department of Science and Technology's Research and Innovation Committee, advising on COVID-19 research and innovation needs. He has an active interest in medical ethics, and has been involved in several HIV-related human rights cases within the Southern African region.

He supervises a large number of Masters and PhD projects. Recent work has included publications in Lancet HIV, New England Journal of Medicine, Nature, AIDS, and PLOS Medicine.

No potential conflict of interest to report



# INTEREST 2022

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AND PREVENTION RESEARCH IN RESOURCE-LIMITED SETTINGS



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**Sabrina Bakeera-  
Kitaka, MD, PhD**

Makerere University  
College of Health  
Sciences / Mulago  
National Referral  
Hospital,  
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Working together in HIV

# SYMPOSIUM INVITATION

**Date:** 13 October

**Time:** 16:00 – 16:45 CAT

**Topic:** Paediatric Dolutegravir at the core for children living with HIV



## Agenda:

16:00 – 16:05	Welcome and Introduction	Dr. Ismaeel Ebrahim
16:05 – 16:20	Paediatric Dolutegravir Clinical Data	Dr. Serufusa Sekidde
16:20 – 16:35	The need for paediatric DTG for CLWHIV	Dr. Mogomotsi Matshaba
16:36 – 16:45	Q&A	

## Speakers:

### Dr. Ismaeel Ebrahim



**Dr. Ismaeel Ebrahim** is a Clinical Pharmacologist, currently the Regional Medical Scientist for ViiV Healthcare in the African region. His experience in the pharmaceutical industry started in 2017 after joining GSK as a medical advisor for South Africa. He has a passion for advancing science through clinical research and using data to support clinical decision making and increasing access to anti-retroviral therapy for people living with HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Dr. Ismaeel Ebrahim joined ViiV Healthcare in 2020 and has had the opportunity to be part of the planning discussions to increase widescale access to PrEP and paediatric Dolutegravir in Africa. His passion for improving HIV healthcare started as a medical student exposed to the high burden of HIV related mortality and morbidity. This unmet need was the catalyst to specialize in Clinical Pharmacology where he contributed to HIV research at the University of Cape Town. During this time, he was involved in pharmacokinetic clinical research, and the clinical management of people living with HIV in the public sector of South Africa.

### Dr. Serufusa Sekidde



**Dr. Serufusa Sekidde** is the Global Medical Lead for Paediatrics in ViiV Healthcare. He is a medical doctor from Uganda, with a Master of Public Health degree from Harvard University.

He has clinical and hospital management experience in Uganda, South Sudan and China. Prior to joining GSK's Corporate Affairs Team in 2017 and then ViiV in 2020, he was a management consultant working to support both governments and private sector in Africa and Asia on their access to medicines strategies, business development and creation of effective partnerships.

### Dr. Mogomotsi Matshaba



**Dr. Mogomotsi Matshaba**, Assistant Clinical Professor of Paediatrics, Retrovirology, Baylor College of Medicine, and Executive Director - Botswana-Baylor Clinic, is a graduate of University College of Dublin, Ireland. He worked as a medical officer in Botswana from 2005-2008, during which time he spent one year as a physician-in-training at the Botswana-Baylor Children's Clinical Center of Excellence. He completed his residency training in paediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine (2008 to 2011).

In 2014 he moved to Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) Centre of Excellence as the Interim Executive Director and later returned to Botswana at the end of the same year. He is the Principal Investigator of several studies including the NIH funded Collaborative African Genomics Network (CAfGEN) leading a team of researchers from 6 institutions and 4 countries. He is in country PI of The Individual Findings in Genetics Research in Africa (iFGenRA) H3Africa ELSI Collaborative Centre.

He is the co-Chair and incoming Chair of the H3Africa Steering Committee. He is also the Chairman of Botswana's National HIV/Syphilis Elimination Validation Committee. Currently, Dr Matshaba is the Scientific Advisor for the Botswana Presidential COVID 19 Task Force. He also sits in several Ministry of Health and Wellness Committees as the paediatric HIV expert: Botswana National HIV Guidelines Committee, TB/ HIV Integration Technical Working Group, HIV Drug Forecasting and Procurement Committee, TB/HIV Drug Resistance Technical Working Group, Adolescent HIV Guidelines Committee among others. He was awarded the International Lifetime Achievement Award by the Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology Transplant and Nutrition in Jaipur, India in 2016.



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