

COLDA 2021



CONFERENCE ON LIVER DISEASE IN AFRICA

VIRTUAL | 9 - 11 SEPTEMBER 2021

BILINGUAL - ENGLISH/FRENCH - LIVE TRANSLATION

Program



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Welcome to COLDA 2021

Dear colleagues,

We are proud to welcome you to the 2021 edition of the Conference on Liver Disease in Africa!

Now endorsed by AASLD and EASL, we welcome and thank both of these societies for helping us continue empowering African healthcare professionals (HCPs) to diagnose, prevent, treat, and achieve a cure for all liver diseases.

We have developed an exciting conference program and have continued to increase the number of African speakers and global experts from outside the continent. We thank them for their continued support. They have freely given their time to participate in and help organize the conference, providing you with a highly scientific and educational abstract-driven meeting consisting of keynote speeches, state-of-the-art lectures, oral and poster abstract presentations, roundtable discussions, and debates with ample time for discussion.

We are confident that the conference will continue to act as a catalyst for translating science into clinical practice while promoting medical education in the field of hepatology and setting up collaborations within the African region. All delegates will have an exceptional opportunity to share and acquire knowledge and experience a broad spectrum of topics related to liver disease.

One sad piece of news is the passing of COLDA co-founder Charles Boucher. We send our heartfelt condolences to Charles's family, friends, and colleagues at Virology Education, the latter of which organizes both us and the conference. We will celebrate Charles's exceptional input to this program and other educational achievements in the region with a memorial lecture at the conference. We are sure Charles will be listening with interest and hope we do him proud.

We wish you an enjoyable and educational conference that will improve the care of those individuals living with liver disease in the region.

Sincerely,
Manal El-Sayed & Mark Nelson



**Manal El-Sayed
MD, PhD**

Ain Shams University
Egypt

Conference Co-Chair



**Mark Nelson
MA, MBBS, FRCP**

Chelsea and
Westminster Hospital /
Imperial College Medical
School,
United Kingdom

Conference Co-Chair





Needs Statement

Liver disease, of which cirrhosis is an end result, comprises of conditions that affect the liver due to a wide range of aetiologies that include viral hepatitis, malignant conditions, alcohol-related liver diseases, and non-alcoholic fatty liver diseases, among others. Cirrhosis mortality in Africa doubled between 1980 and 2010 (53,000-103,000 deaths per year)¹ and continues to rise. The major underlying causes were hepatitis B (HBV), hepatitis C (HCV), alcohol, although other aetiologies, particularly fatty liver disease are increasing in importance.

There has been significant progress in the diagnosis and management of liver disease within both academia and the health industry. Through international platforms, the medical community is being equipped with the best improved medications and expertise to optimize treatment of various liver-related conditions. However, this has mainly been concentrated in developed countries and more recently in Asian countries.

These international platforms for knowledge exchange have proven to be vital in combatting liver disease. Unfortunately, such platforms have not been easily accessible by most healthcare professions from the African region as they are too often region specific². This results in African-related needs, research, and findings not being widely covered during these international meetings. In this regard, there is a need for an African platform that is purely tailored to reflect the needs of the region. Consequently, the 3rd Conference on Liver Disease in Africa will gather a wide range of stakeholders working on liver disease within the African region.

Meeting objectives

- Gather experts from the African region involved in the research, diagnosis, and treatment of liver diseases in an interactive conference setting
- Discuss the diagnostic, therapeutic and preventative efforts of liver disease tailored to regional needs, translating best practices into daily practice guidelines and policies
- Contribute towards hepatitis elimination efforts
- Leverage on the findings from international studies through the delivery of updates from major meetings that can be applied at the local and regional level to combat liver diseases
- Facilitate a robust dialogue among participants through interactive networking and a networking reception
- Foster new and lasting interdisciplinary partnerships and collaborations among various researchers to improve knowledge sharing with aim of combating liver diseases in Africa

Learning objectives

After participating in this activity, the participants will be able to:

- Discuss the epidemiology and treatment of liver disease at an individual and population level
- Ensure the knowledge and availability of HBV and HCV therapy and their correct usage
- Discuss evolving modalities of monitoring liver disease and their availability in the African setting
- Update on new developments in the investigation of liver disease and their use in an African setting

1. Mokdad, A.A., Lopez, A.D., Shahrzad, S. et al. Liver cirrhosis mortality in 187 countries between 1980 and 2010: a systematic analysis. *BMC Med* 12, 145 (2014). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12916-014-0145-y>

2. Health disparities in liver disease in sub Saharan Africa; C. Wendy Spearman Mark W. Sonderup, <https://doi.org/10.1111/liv.12884>



Abstracts

Accepted abstracts are published in *Reviews in Antiviral Therapy & Infectious Diseases, Volume 2021_6*. You can download the abstract book on the conference website.

Certificate of attendance

Certificates of attendance will be sent by e-mail in the week following the virtual conference.

Conference Portal

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

Feedback

Your feedback is very valuable to us and enables us to further improve this conference. After each session a short questionnaire will pop-up and 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 this conference.

Group picture

We ask you all to take a photo of yourself and send it to the COLDA secretariat at Rikke.Rode@amededu.com. We will stitch it all together and send out the finished virtual group photo at the end of the conference.

Networking - 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 your contacts.

NGO Slots

COLDA places special attention to Non-Governmental Organizations. On day 2 we will have sessions from **EASL** (European Association for the Study of the Liver) and **AASLD** (American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases) and on day 3 Prof. Mark Nelson will chair a NGO session with **LWI** (LiveWell Initiative), **WIHA** (Women in Hepatitis Africa), **WHA** (World Hepatitis Alliance), **ICE-HBV** (International Coalition to Eliminate HBV), and the **Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination**. In addition, **FIND** (Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics) and **Project ECHO** contribute to several sessions.

Notes

You will be able to take notes during the virtual conference. Any notes that you take throughout the event can be exported by selecting the Export icon in the top right of the screen near your Profile image. In addition, all Meeting Hub connections you have made with other OnAIR participants will be saved and you can export them using the Export option.

Presentations and webcasts



Webcasts of the presentations along with the PDF presentations will be posted as webcasts on www.AcademicMedicalEducation.com shortly after the meeting.

Poster sessions

Thursday 9 September, 6:25 PM CAT/SAST
Friday 10 September, 12:00 PM CAT/SAST

On the virtual conference portal you will also be able to find the Poster Gallery. Here you can view all of the exciting posters and “star” those you would like to visit during the live Poster Viewing Sessions. The Poster Gallery can be visited at any time.

Disclaimer: This conference aims to offer participants the opportunity to share information. The Virology Education, cannot accept any liability for the scientific content of the sessions or for any claims which may result from the use of information or publications from this conference. Virology Education disclaim all liability for injuries or losses of whatever nature incurred by individuals attending the conference.



SHARE Global Health Foundation

COLDA 2021 is organized by the [SHARE Global Health Foundation](#). SHARE is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing global health by sharing and implementing expertise and evidence-based knowledge internationally.

Social Media

We encourage you to post news about COLDA to your social media accounts and tweet about COLDA as often as you like during the conference. You can either post your own tweet to your followers using the hashtag #COLDA or retweet a message through the official [@ShareGlobalHF](#).

Share your posts with the COLDA secretariat and the best post will get a registration waiver for COLDA 2022!

Technical Problems

Should you encounter any technical problems, please contact COLDA secretariat at Lara@amededu.com or message the live support team in the virtual conference portal.

Time Zones

Times are in Central Africa Time (CAT) / Central European Summer Time (CEST) / South African Standard Time (SAST). If you need to convert the times to your timezone, this website might be of interest to you: <https://www.worldtimebuddy.com/>

Our Team



Karin Siebelt
Senior Project Manager
Karin@amededu.com



Rikke Puggaard-Rode
Project Manager
Rikke.Rode@amededu.com



Lara da Silva Miguel
Project Coordinator
Lara@amededu.com



THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 9 - DAY 1

	GMT	WAT	CEST/CAT/SAST	EAT
Opening Session	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00
Session 1	12:35	13:35	14:35	15:35
Gilead Symposium	13:45	14:45	15:45	16:45
Session 2	14:45	15:45	16:45	17:45
Live Poster Viewing 1	16:25	17:25	18:25	19:25

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 10 - DAY 2

	GMT	WAT	CEST/CAT/SAST	EAT
Live Poster Viewing 2	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00
Clinical Case Presentations	10:30	11:30	12:30	13:30
Session 3	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00
EASL Session	12:30	13:30	14:30	15:30
Session 4 - Oral Abstracts 1	13:30	14:30	15:30	16:30
AASLD Session	14:20	15:20	16:20	17:20
Session 5	15:20	16:20	17:20	18:20

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 11 - DAY 3

	GMT	WAT	CEST/CAT/SAST	EAT
Biotech Symposium	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00
Session 6	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00
NGO Session	11:55	12:55	13:55	14:55
Session 7	12:55	13:55	14:55	15:55
Cepheid Symposium	13:55	14:55	15:55	16:55
Session 8	14:40	15:40	16:40	17:40

Organizing Committee



Manal El-Sayed, MD, PhD
Ain Shams University,
Egypt



Mark Nelson, MA, MBBS, FRCP
Chelsea and Westminster
Hospital / Imperial College
Medical School,
United Kingdom



Kosh Agarwal, MD
King's College Hospital,
United Kingdom



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



Hailemichael Desalegn Mekonnen, MD, PhD
St. Paul's Hospital Millennium
Medical College,
Ethiopia



Kenneth Kabagambe
National Organization for
People Living with Hepatitis B,
Uganda



Jeffrey Lazarus, PhD, MIH, MA
Barcelona Institute for Global
Health (ISGlobal),
Spain



Olufunmilayo Lesi, MD, MBA, FMCP
World Health Organization,
Switzerland



Wendy Spearman, MBChB, FCP, FRCP, MMed, PhD
University of Cape Town,
South Africa



John Ward, MD
Coalition for Global Hepatitis
Elimination, Task Force for
Global Health / Rollins School
of Public Health, Emory
University,
United States



Mary Afihene, MBChB, FWACP - Kwame Nkrumah University, Ghana

Geoffrey Dusheiko, MBBCh, FCP, FRCP - Kings College Hospital, United Kingdom

Alice Guingané, MD, MPH - Bogodogo University Hospital Center / University of Montpellier,
Burkina Faso / France

Emmanuel Musabeyezu, MD, FCP - King Faisal Hospital, Rwanda

Yvonne Nartey, MBChB, MSc, MPhil - Cape Coast Teaching Hospital, Ghana

Gibril Ndow, MD - Imperial College London / London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine,
The Gambia

Ramou Njie, MD, PhD, FRCP, FWACP - University of The Gambia Medical School, The Gambia

Peter Olupot-Olupot, MD, MPH, PhD - Busitema University, Uganda

John Rwegasha, MBChB, M.MED, FRCP, MSc - Muhimbili National Hospital, Tanzania

Edford Sinkala, MD, PhD - University Teaching Hospital / University of Zambia, Zambia

Sonjelle Shilton, MPH - Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND), Switzerland

Elijah Songok, MD, PhD - Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya

Christian Tzeuton, MD - Douala Medical School / Société Camerounaise de Gastro-Enterologie,
Cameroon



Thursday, 9 September 2021

All times are in SAST/CEST/CAT

Opening of the Conference

Chairs: Manal El-Sayed & John Ward

- 1:00 PM **Opening Words**
Manal El-Sayed, MD, PhD
 Ain Shams University, Egypt
Mark Nelson, MA, MBBS, FRCP
 Chelsea and Westminster Hospital / Imperial College Medical School, United Kingdom
- 1:10 PM **Professor Charles Boucher Memorial Lecture: The Story of Hepatitis C: Translating Science to Clinical Reality**
Harvey Alter, MD, MACP
 NIH, United States
- 1:30 PM **Opening Speech**
H.E. Madam Brigitte Touadera, The First Lady of Central African Republic
 Central African Republic
- 1:45 PM **Update on Hepatitis Statements / Guidelines / Policies**
Olufunmilayo Lesi, MD, MBA, FMCP
 World Health Organization, Switzerland
- 2:00 PM **Q & A**

2:20 PM Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

Session 1 Hepatitis Care After COVID-19

Chairs: Wendy Spearman & Alice Guingane

- 2:35 PM **Diagnostics / Prevention During COVID-19**
Sonjelle Shilton
 FIND, Switzerland
- 2:50 PM **Setting Up Networks - Project ECHO**
Sanjeev Arora, MD, MACP, FACC
 University of New Mexico Project ECHO, United States
- 3:05 PM **Service Delivery - Community Perspective**
Manal Ghazzawi, BPharm(Hons), PharmD, FPCP, MPH
 KnowHep Foundation Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone
- 3:20 PM **Q & A**

3:40 PM Virtual Tea Break

Symposium 1: Gilead - Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (MTCT) of Hepatitis B Virus: The Pragmatic Approach

Chair: Michael Reid

- 3:45 PM **Introduction**
Michael Reid, MBChB, MScMedSci, PGDip Pharm Med
 Gilead Sciences, South Africa



3:50 PM **Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of Hepatitis B: Learnings from The Gambia**
Gibril Ndow, MD

Clinical Research Fellow / Hepatitis Research Group Lead, The Gambia

4:07 PM **Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of Hepatitis B: Cameroon Experience**
Philippe Eugène Ngaunji, MD, MSc

Coordinator SOS Hépatites Cameroun Douala, Cameroon

4:25 PM **Q&A**

4:30 PM Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

Session 2 Vaccination Opportunities

Chairs: John Ward & Geoffrey Dusheiko

4:45 PM **Hepatitis A & E Vaccination Guidelines**

Rakesh Aggarwal, MD, DM, MSc

Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), India

5:00 PM **Vaccination of Healthcare Workers - Opportunities for Hepatitis B Prevention**

John Ward, MD

Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination, Task Force for Global Health / Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, United States

5:15 PM **Q & A**

5:25 PM **Introduction to Birth Dose Vaccination**

Julien Kabore, DDS, MPH

WHO, Republic of the Congo

5:35 PM **Experiences from Ethiopia**

Mulat Nigus, MPH

Ministry of Health, Ethiopia

5:45 PM **Experiences from The Gambia**

Maud Lemoine, MD, PhD

Imperial College London, United Kingdom

5:55 PM Key Considerations for The Introduction of Hepatitis B Birth Dose Vaccine in Cameroon Delphine Kamga #1

6:03 PM A Community of Practice for the Introduction and Scale-Up of Hepatitis B Birth Dose Vaccination in Africa: Challenges, Opportunities, and Lessons Learned Henry Njuguna #2

6:11 PM **Q&A**

Live Poster Viewing 1

6:25 PM **Topics:** Civil Society Experience: Impact of COVID-19 on Liver Services; COVID-19 Related Liver Disease; Diagnostics and Investigation; Drug Induced Liver Disease Including Alcohol; HBV Prevention, Testing and Treatment

6:55 PM **End of the First Day**



Friday, 10 September 2021

All times are in SAST/CEST/CAT

Live Poster Viewing 2

12:00 PM **Topics:** End-Stage Liver Disease (Incl. Cirrhosis, HCC); HCV Prevention, Testing and Cure; Hepatitis Coinfections; Other Causes of Hepatitis (Incl. Infectious, ETLG, Fatty Liver); Pediatric Liver Disease

Clinical Case Presentations

Chairs: Wendy Spearman & John Ward

12:30 PM **HBV Disease Management - Pregnancy Assessment of Maternal-Fetal Transmission of HBV** Houria Brahimi

12:35 PM **Discussion**

Houria Brahimi

Centre Hospitalo / Universitaire Dr Tidjani Damerджи, Algeria

Eduard Jonas, MB, ChB, MMed, FCS, PhD

University of Cape Town / Groote Schuur Hospital, South Africa

Seadimo Gabakgore, MD, MPH

Ministry of Health and Wellness, Botswana

12:45 PM **HBV Disease Management - Adult Chronic Hepatitis B Related HCC** Sulayman Bah

12:50 PM **Discussion**

Sulayman Bah, MBChB

Medical Research Council The Gambia, The Gambia

Eduard Jonas, MB, ChB, MMed, FCS, PhD

University of Cape Town / Groote Schuur Hospital, South Africa

Seadimo Gabakgore, MD, MPH

Ministry of Health and Wellness, Botswana

Session 3 Viral Hepatitis in Africa

Chairs: Manal El-Sayed & Edford Sinkala

1:00 PM **Elimination of Hepatitis C in Children**

Manal El-Sayed, MD, PhD

Ain Shams University, Egypt

1:15 PM **Tracking Viral Hepatitis in Africa**

Nafiisah Chotun, PhD, FRSPH, MRSTMH

Africa CDC, Ethiopia

1:30 PM **Q & A**



1:40 PM **Round Table Discussion**
Chair: Casimir Manzenge, WHO, Gabon

Country Experiences - Rwanda (HCV)
Sabin Nsanzimana, MD, MSc, PhD, FRCP
 Rwanda Biomedical Centre, Rwanda

Country Experiences - Egypt (HCV)
Wahid Doss, MD
 Cairo University, Egypt

Country Experiences - Uganda (HBV)
Ponsiano Ocama, MBChB, MMed, PhD, FCP(ECSA)
 Makerere University College of Health Sciences, Uganda

Country Experiences - Senegal
Fatou Fall, MD
 Hôpital Principal, Senegal

Country Experiences - Cameroon
Christian Tzeuton, MD

Douala Medical School; Société Camerounaise de Gastro-Entérologie, Cameroon

2:25 PM Virtual Tea Break

2:30 PM EASL: An Overview of the Challenges of Diagnosing and Treating Hepatitis B and D in Africa
Chair: Geoffrey Dusheiko

2:30 PM **Introduction**
Maria Buti, MD, PhD
 Hospital General Universitari Valle Hebron / EASL's EU Policy Councillor / Chair of EASL's Policy and Public Health Committee, Spain

2:35 PM **The Global Prevalence of Hepatitis D, Particularly in Africa**
Alex Stockdale, MBChB, PhD, MRes, MRCP, DTM&H
 University of Liverpool, United Kingdom

2:50 PM **Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis D**
Geoffrey Dusheiko, MD, MB, BCh
 Kings College Hospital, United Kingdom

3:05 PM **Panel Discussion**

3:15 PM Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

Session 4 Oral Abstract Presentations
Chairs: Gibril Ndow & Yvonne Nartey

3:30 PM Long Term Follow Up of Chronic Hepatitis B Cohort in Africa; The Prolifica Gambia Experience Isatou Mahmoud #5

3:38 PM Assessment of Fibrosis Markers in HEPANET: A Collaborative Network of Hepatitis B Cohorts in Sub-Saharan Africa Asgeir Johannessen #6

3:46 PM Age Cohort Screening for Hepatocellular Carcinoma in an African Population Jireh Makpu #7

3:54 PM **Q & A**

4:15 PM Virtual Tea Break



4:20 PM **AASLD: Future Partnership Opportunities**

Chair: Raymond Chung

- 4:20 PM **Opening / AASLD Activities**
Raymond Chung, MD, FAASLD
 Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School, United States
- 4:25 PM **Africa Connect Program**
Kidist Yimam, MD
 California Pacific Medical Center, United States
- 4:35 PM **Liver Learning**
Dominique Clayton, MBA
 American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases, United States
- 4:40 PM **AASLD Publications**
Gyongyi Szabo, MD, PhD, FAASLD
 Harvard Medical School / Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center / Beth Israel Lahey Health, United States
- 4:45 PM **Experiences of AASLD Members**
Lewis Roberts, MBChB, PhD, FAASLD
 Mayo Clinic, United States
- 4:55 PM **Future Collaborations (RACs)**
Ray Kim, MD, FAASLD
 Stanford University School of Medicine, United States
- 5:00 PM **Q & A / Closure**
Raymond Chung, MD, FAASLD
 Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School, United States

5:05 PM Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

Session 5 **Management of Hepatoma in an African Setting**

Chairs: Lewis Roberts & Kosh Agarwal

- 5:20 PM **Surgical Treatment of HCC**
Asare Offei, MBChB, MGCS, FWACS
 Korle Bu Teaching Hospital/University of Ghana Medical School, Ghana
- 5:35 PM **Systemic Therapy for HCC in Africa**
Ashraf Omar, MD
 Cairo University, Egypt
- 5:50 PM **Discussion**
Asare Offei, MBChB, MGCS, FWACS
 Korle Bu Teaching Hospital/University of Ghana Medical School, Ghana
Ashraf Omar, MD
 Cairo University, Egypt
Hailemichael Desalegn Mekonnen, MD, PhD
 St. Paul's Hospital Millennium Medical College, Ethiopia
Edith N. Okeke, BMBCh, FWACP, FRCP
 Jos University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria
- 6:20 PM **End of the Second Day**



Saturday, 11 September 2021

All times are in SAST/CEST/CAT

Symposium 2: Biotest - Prevention of HBV Mother to Child Transmission (MTCT)

Chair: Nabil Debzi

- 12:00 PM **Introduction**
Nabil Debzi, MD
Algerian Society of Hepatogastroenterology and Endoscopy / Mustapha Hospital Algiers, Algeria
- 12:05 PM **Management and Recommendations for Preventing Mother-to-Child Hepatitis B Virus Transmission**
Nabil Debzi, MD
Algerian Society of Hepatogastroenterology and Endoscopy / Mustapha Hospital Algiers, Algeria
- 12:25 PM **Cost-effective Approaches to the Management of Hepatitis B Virus Mother-to-Child Transmission**
Cynthia Raissa Tamandjou, BSc, MSc, PhD
Institut Pasteur, France
- 12:50 PM **Q&A**

Session 6 Fatty Liver Disease

Chairs: Mary Afihene & Hailemichael Desalegn Mekonnen

- 1:00 PM **Global Overview on Fatty Liver Disease**
Jeffrey Lazarus, PhD, MIH, MA
Barcelona Institute for Global Health, Spain
- 1:15 PM **Models of Care**
Abdelmounem Abdo, MD
Ibn Sina Hospital, Sudan
- 1:30 PM **Discussion**

1:50 PM Virtual Tea Break

1:55 PM Panel Discussion - NGO's in the Field

Chair: Mark Nelson

LWI - LiveWell Initiative

Bisi Bright, B.Pharm(Hons), MPH, FPCPharm, FPSN, C.Psych

WIHA - Women in Hepatitis Africa

Motolani Oyerinde, MD

WHA - World Hepatitis Alliance

Danjuma Adda, MPH, FIMS, Dip-IMS

ICE-HBV - International Coalition to Eliminate HBV

Anna Kramvis, BSc Hons, PhD

Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination

Henry Njuguna, MBChB, MPH

2:40 PM Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network



Session 7 Oral Abstract Presentations

Chairs: Emmanuel Musabeyezu & Kenneth Kabagambe

- | | | | |
|---------|---|--------------------|-----|
| 2:55 PM | Velpatasvir-Based Regimens in Treatment-Naïve and Treatment-Experienced Adults with Resistant Hepatitis C Virus Genotype 4 Subtypes Endemic to Sub-Saharan Africa: Findings from the SHARED-3 Study in Rwanda | Fabienne Shumbusho | #8 |
| 3:03 PM | Values and Preferences for Hepatitis C Self-Testing Among the General Population and Healthcare Workers in Rwanda | Janvier Serumondo | #9 |
| 3:11 PM | Genedrive® Point of Care Qualitative Testing in a Pilot Hepatitis C Treatment Program | Vanessa Hechter | #10 |
| 3:18 PM | EILF-Italian Migrants Study: an HCV and HBV Micro Elimination Pilot Project | Giuseppe Colucci | #11 |
| 3:27 PM | Have a Heart, Save My Liver! Who Has Access to the Cure in Africa? | Joelle Dountio O. | #12 |
| 3:35 PM | Q & A | | |

3:50 PM Virtual Tea Break

Symposium 3: Cepheid - Delivering Patient Centred Models for Hepatitis Care in Africa

Chair: Maud Lemoine

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|---------|--|--|--|
| 3:55 PM | Expanding Access to HCV Viral Load Testing Outside Centralized Settings in Nigeria
Chukwuemeka Agwuocha, PharmB
Clinton Health Access Initiative, Nigeria | | |
| 4:10 PM | Near Patient HBV Viral Load Testing in Ethiopia Can Improve Patient's Access to Treatment
Asgeir Johannessen, MD, PhD
Tønsberg Hospital / University of Oslo, Norway | | |

4:25 PM Virtual Tea Break - Time to Network

Session 8 Hepatitis Comorbidities

Chairs: Jeffrey Lazarus & Christian Tzeuton

- | | | | |
|---------|---|--|--|
| 4:40 PM | Comorbidities - Obesity
Shira Zelber-Sagi, BSc, RD, PhD
University of Haifa / The Tel-Aviv Medical Center, Israel | | |
| 4:55 PM | Comorbidities - Alcohol and Khat Abuse
Asgeir Johannessen, MD, PhD
Tønsberg Hospital / University of Oslo, Norway | | |
| 5:10 PM | Country Experiences - Egypt (Obesity/HT)
Imam Waked, MD, FRCP, FAASLD
National Liver Institute, Egypt | | |
| 5:20 PM | Country Experiences - Nigeria (NAFLD)
Charles Onyekwere, MBBS, FMCP, FACP, FASGE, AGAF
Lagos State University College of Medicine, Nigeria | | |
| 5:30 PM | Discussion | | |
| 5:50 PM | Closure of the Conference
Manal El-Sayed, MD, PhD
Ain Shams University, Egypt
Mark Nelson, MA, MBBS, FRCP
Chelsea and Westminster Hospital / Imperial College Medical School, United Kingdom | | |
| 6:10 PM | End of the Conference | | |



Faculty



SPEAKER

Abdelmounem Abdo, MD

Ibn Sina Hospital,
Sudan

Dr Abdelmounem E Abdo is consultant physician and Gastroenterologist working at Ibnsina gastroenterology Centre, Khartoum Sudan.
Field of interest is hepatitis, HCC, portal hypertension ERCP, Small bowel endoscopy.

He is the Director of the National Centre for the Gastrointestinal and liver disease.

Director of world gastroenterology Khartoum training Centre.

He is the Vice President of the Sudanese society of gastroenterology, president elect of the African and Middle East association of gastroenterology, Secretary General of Panarab Association of gastroenterology.

Dr Abdelmounem is leading through he National Centre for gastrointestinal liver disease in collaboration with department of Infection disease control FMOH and WHO great efforts in hepatitis strategic eradication program. Dr Abdelmounem is leading program of establishment of hepatobiliary , pancreatic and liver transplantation Centre in Khartoum, which will deliver the service and training in Sudan and neighbouring African countries. This program supported by Sudan federal ministry of health and Sudanese business man Mr Mohamed salih Idris donated 2.5 million dollars for building the center.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

Danjuma K. Adda, MPH, FIMS, Dip-IMS

World Hepatitis Alliance (WHA),
Nigeria

Danjuma K. Adda is a Nigerian prince and accomplished Public health expert on a mission to raise awareness about Hepatitis. Danjuma was infected with Hep B while in clinical rotations and then lost his own mother to the disease several years later. Even though Hepatitis kills more people per year than HIV/AIDS, it receives just a fraction of the global health funding.

Danjuma is a leading voice for Hepatitis patients in Nigeria and uses his platform to advocate for the most vulnerable populations across Africa. He wants to change the narrative about Hepatitis and raise awareness about the deadliness of the disease.

Danjuma is a native of Taraba state, Nigeria. He is married with four kids. He has a background in microbiology/virology, and an MPH, with over 15 years-experience in public health and advocacy.

Danjuma is the current President elect of the World Hepatitis Alliance (WHA), the first African to hold that position.

No potential conflict of interest



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
Kosh Agarwal, MD
King's College Hospital,
United Kingdom

Kosh Agarwal is a Consultant Hepatologist and Transplant Physician at the Institute of Liver Studies at King's College Hospital in London, UK. Dr Agarwal is also Lead for the Viral Hepatitis Service, the largest treatment centre for viral hepatitis in the UK. He is Clinical Director of the NIHR South London Clinical Research Network

In 1991 Dr Agarwal graduated from Newcastle University, UK and his postgraduate training was undertaken in Newcastle with the majority of his clinical and research training at the Regional Liver and Transplant Unit. He also spent a year at the Division of Liver Diseases, Mount Sinai, New York, USA. Dr Agarwal is an investigator for several ongoing studies evaluating the safety and efficacy of various antiviral treatment regimens for chronic hepatitis B virus. He is a member of EASL, AASLD, the BASL, and ILTS.

Potential conflict of interest:
No information received.



SPEAKER
**Rakesh Aggarwal,
MD, DM, MSc**
Jawaharlal Institute of Post-
graduate Medical Education
and Research (JIPMER),
India

Prof. Aggarwal is Director and Professor of Gastroenterology at Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, Puducherry, India. Before this, he worked for 28 years at Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow, India, where he headed a WHO Collaborating Center on Viral Hepatitis, and was engaged in teaching, clinical care of patients with liver disease, and research on viral hepatitis. He has undertaken several epidemiologic, molecular and immunologic studies on hepatitis E, and has written several reviews on this disease. He has also undertaken studies on hepatitis B and C, including on cost-effectiveness of various therapeutic and prevention strategies.

He is also a member of the WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) and chairs the WHO SAGE's Working Group on Hepatitis A Vaccines.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

Chukwuemeka Agwuocha, PharmB

Clinton Health Access Initiative, Nigeria

Chukwuemeka Agwuocha is a public health officer passionate about saving lives and improving health outcomes. With over 12 years in the public and private sectors, Chukwuemeka has experience in sales and marketing, management consulting, project management, stakeholder engagement, health system strengthening, and health policy.

Chukwuemeka Agwuocha joined Clinton Health Access Initiative Nigeria in 2014 as Assistant Program Officer on the Essential Medicines Program to accelerate the uptake of Zinc and ORS for the management of childhood diarrhoea. In 2017, he transitioned to the viral hepatitis landscape and currently leads the Hepatitis program of CHAI Nigeria, providing technical assistance to the government through designing strategies and policies for the advancement of Hepatitis outcomes in Nigeria. Chukwuemeka's recent activities and achievements in this space include coordination of the viral hepatitis response in Nasarawa State, Nigeria, and placing the State on the path to HCV Elimination through domestic resource mobilization and collaborations while working with the national program to provide country-level coordination.

Chukwuemeka Agwuocha holds a degree in Pharmacy from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, and pursuing an MBA, Business Management from Bradford University UK and has worked in public health and private sectors focusing on saving lives and improving global health outcomes.

Potential conflict of interest:
No information received.



SPEAKER

Harvey J. Alter, MD, MACP

NIH Clinical Center's Department of Transfusion Medicine, United States

Harvey J Alter, has been designated a Distinguished NIH Investigator, only one of 23 NIH scientists to hold that distinction. In his long career in clinical research, Dr. Alter has played a key role in the discovery of two hepatitis viruses, namely hepatitis B virus (HBV) and the non-A, non-B virus, later designated the hepatitis C virus (HCV). In long-term prospective studies, Alter helped define the natural history of NANB/HCV infection and proved its frequent progression to chronic hepatitis and its evolution to cirrhosis and liver related mortality.

Dr. Alter was principal investigator in sequential prospective studies of transfusion-associated hepatitis (TAH) that were instrumental in influencing national blood policy and documented the progressive decline of TAH incidence from 33% in the 1960s to near zero in 1997. Millions of cases of TAH have been prevented through interventions documented in these studies.

For these studies, Dr. Alter has been awarded the PHS Distinguished Service Medal, the AABB Landsteiner Prize, the First International Medal for Science from France's INSERM, the American College of Physicians (ACP) Award for Outstanding Work in Science, and the Distinguished Achievement Award of AASLD.

For his cumulative research accomplishments, Dr. Alter was elected to fellowship in the American Association of Physicians and received the prestigious Clinical Lasker Award and the Canada Gairdner International Award. He was elected to both the National Academy of Sciences and National Academy of Medicine and achieved Master status in the ACP. In 2020, Alter was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Sanjeev Arora,
MD, MACP, FAGC**

University of New Mexico
Project ECHO,
United States

Sanjeev Arora, MD, MACP, FAGC is the Director and Founder of Project ECHO. He is a Distinguished and Regents' Professor of Medicine with tenure in the Department of Internal Medicine at University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center.

Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) dramatically improves both capacity and access to specialty care for rural and underserved populations by linking expert inter-disciplinary specialist teams with primary care clinicians through teleECHO™ clinics, in which the experts mentor primary care clinicians to help them manage their patient cases and share their expertise via mentoring, guidance, feedback and didactic education. This helps rural clinicians develop knowledge and self-efficacy so they can adopt research findings and deliver best practice care for complex and chronic health conditions.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Bisi Bright,
B.Pharm(Hons),
MPH, FPCPharm,
FPSN, C.Psych**

LiveWell Initiative (LWI),
Nigeria

Bisi Bright is a Consultant Clinical Pharmacist, Lecturer, and Public Health Manager. She is 1st Vice Chairman and CEO of LiveWell Initiative LWI, a self-sustaining nonprofit healthcare social enterprise.

Appointed a Practicum Preceptor for MPH and DrPH candidates at the prestigious Harvard T H Chan School of Public Health in Boston USA, she sat on the faculty of the Economist Conferences' Healthcare in Africa and also served on the Africa Regional Steering Committee of the IAPO (International Alliance for Patients' Organisations) from 2009-2012.

Bisi Bright was the first black African Honoree to be recognized as GLOBAL CHANGEMAKER2017 IN HEPATITIS C, by the EIU (Economist Intelligence Unit) and she received a Commendation Letter from the Presidency at Aso Rock Villa, Nigeria, for her work in Hepatitis.

Bisi has written well over 100 published articles, some of which are in peer-reviewed journals, and is a Doctoral Thesis Supervisor at the University of Helsinki, Finland. She is a two-time International Award winner of the IATDM/CT and a winner of other Awards - local and international.

She is the Deputy National Coordinator of the National Hepatitis Coalition in Nigeria. Bisi serves as a Board Member of the International Alliance of Patients Organisations IAPO - a member of the British Charities Trust; and as a Patient Expert, she is passionate about the Patient Cause.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Maria Buti,
MD, PhD**

Hospital General Universitari Valle Hebron / EASL's EU Policy Councillor / Chair of EASL's Policy and Public Health Committee, Spain

Maria Buti earned her medical degree at the University of Barcelona and her PhD in Internal Medicine at the University "Autónoma" de Barcelona, Spain. She is currently Professor of Medicine and Chief of Internal Medicine and Hepatology at the Hospital General Universitari Valle Hebron, Barcelona. Dr Buti has worked in viral hepatitis for the last 35 years, particularly in diagnosis and therapy of hepatitis B and C. She has been published more than 300 papers the field of liver disease, with numerous papers and contributions to books.

Dr Buti is the vicepresident of the Spanish Association for the Study of Liver Diseases, and an active member of the EASL, and the AASLD and various professional societies.

Potential conflict of interest:
Gilead and AbbVie



SPEAKER

**Nafiisah Chotun,
PhD, FRSPH, MRSTMH**

Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), Ethiopia

Nafiisah Chotun, MSc, PhD, FRSPH, MRSTMH, is a public health professional currently working at the African Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), a specialised technical agency of the African Union. Dr Chotun currently heads the Unit of Endemic and Neglected Tropical Diseases in the newly established Division of Disease Control and Prevention, where she is overseeing the implementation of a 4-year funded programme for the prevention and control of viral hepatitis on the African continent.

She holds a PhD in Medical Virology from the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa and has over 10 years of experience in African public health issues, particularly in the areas of viral hepatitis and liver cancer.

Dr Chotun is also an experienced science communicator, having worked as a scientific editor and reviewer for the past 5 years, and more recently as a Section Editor for Africa CDC's Journal of Public Health in Africa.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

Raymond Chung, MD, FAASLD

Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School, United States

Dr. Raymond Chung is Director of Hepatology and the Liver Center, Vice Chief of Gastroenterology and the Kevin and Polly Maroni Research Scholar at Massachusetts General Hospital. He is also Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

He has been an internationally recognized leader in HCV research in the areas of virology and pathogenesis, including hepatocarcinogenesis. He directs the NIH Cooperative Center for Human Immunology and is co-PI of the Harvard HBV Consortium of the NIH HBV Research Network. He is PI of the MGH GI Division's T32 Training Grant and holds several NIH R01 grants.

He has been an Associate Editor of Hepatology, Gastroenterology, and the Journal of Infectious Diseases, and is currently President of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD). He has served as co-Chair of the AASLD/IDSA HCV Guidance panel charged with issuing treatment recommendations for hepatitis C. He also served as Co-Chair of the 24th International Symposium on HCV in 2017.

He has authored more than 500 original articles, reviews, and editorials.

Potential conflict of interest:
No information received



SPEAKER

Dominique Clayton, MBA

American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD), United States

Dominique Clayton, MBA is the manager, online education at the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases. She graduated from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette with a Bachelor of Science in business administration (marketing) and a master's in business administration with an emphasis in health systems management from Texas Woman's University. In her role, she provides professional development and continuing education for medical professionals through various eLearning activities and serves as the lead LMS administrator.

Dominique sits on two nonprofit boards in Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD. The organizations are serving domestic and sexual abuse survivors and youth mentoring programs. She is a member of the alumni associations for the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and Texas Woman's University, National Black MBA Association, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated, and American Society of Association Executives. In her spare time, she continues to advocate for mental health, freelance as a writer, and volunteer for causes that are important to her. She resides in Northern Virginia.

Potential conflict of interest:
No information received



SPEAKER

Nabil Debzi, MD

Algerian Society of Hepatogastroenterology and Endoscopy / Mustapha Hospital Algiers, Algeria

Nabil Debzi is a professor of medicine, graduated from the Algiers faculty of medicine. Since 2015, he is the head of the hepatology department in Mustapha Bacha University Hospital of Algiers. The team he leads is particularly interested and involved in liver transplantation, vascular liver diseases (Budd Chiari Syndrome), viral hepatitis, and hepatocellular carcinoma.

He is the president of the Algerian Society of Hepatogastroenterology and Endoscopy and the past president of the Algerian Society of Organ Transplantation. Professor Nabil Debzi is also the coordinator of the National Viral Hepatitis Committee.

Potential conflict of interest:

Biotest, Roche, Beker, and Boston Scientific



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Hailemichael Desalegn Mekonnen, MD, PhD

St. Paul's Hospital Millennium Medical College, Ethiopia

Hailemichael Desalegn graduated from medical school and specialty in Internal Medicine at Jimma University, Ethiopia. He completed a fellowship program in Gastroenterology/Hepatology in 2014 at Addis Ababa University. In 2020, he has successfully defended his PhD with an outstanding performance at Aklilu Lemma Institute of Pathobiology (ALIPB) on Tropical and Infectious Disease (TRID). The main focus of his PhD work on Non-invasive markers of Liver Fibrosis and simplified treatment program for Hepatitis B virus in Sub-Saharan Africa. He is currently working as an Associate Professor and Consultant Gastroenterologist/Hepatologist in St. Paul's Hospital Millennium Medical College. He has established and is a Director of Sub-Saharan Africa Gastroenterology ECHO clinic.

Dr. Hailemichael has publications in reputable Journals and is actively involved in the fight against viral hepatitis elimination. As one of the few gastroenterologists in his country of more than 100 million individuals, he has a passion to translate research findings to improvements in the access and quality of care and simplified approach for hepatitis in resource limited settings.

He has built successful research collaborations addressing key questions in the area of viral hepatitis and hepatocellular carcinoma. Through collaboration, he has established one of the largest treatment cohorts for Hepatitis B in sub-Saharan Africa. Through this cohort, he has contributed key knowledge in the presentation, natural evolution, and treatment success for Hepatitis B in Ethiopia. He was also involved in simplified point of care tests for Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C viruses. Additionally, he led a study on hepatocellular carcinoma through an award from the International Liver Cancer Association.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER
Wahid Doss,
MD

Cairo University,
Egypt

Wahid Doss is Professor of Hepatogastroenterology and Endemic Medicine at Cairo University. He became the Head of the National Hepatology Institute, Cairo from 2006 till 2015.

He is the Head of the National Committee for the control of viral Hepatitis from 2006 till present. Together with his colleagues, he established and supervised one of the most comprehensive Hepatitis treatment programs worldwide, which has received acclaim from local and international organizations including the WHO. The Egyptian national hepatitis C treatment program has been responsible for providing treatment for over 1.5 million Egyptian patients with hepatitis C over the last 3 years with a cure rate of 96%. This was achieved by establishing 130 treatment centers all over the country in which patients were treated at the expense of the ministry of health.

He is a founding member of the GI endoscopy unit at Kasr ElAini hospital, Cairo University and has special interest in therapeutic endoscopic procedures. He is a member of EASL, AASLD and ASGE.

He is a founding member and current vice-president of the Egyptian Liver Care Society. Professor Doss has over 75 publications in international peer-reviewed publications in the field of liver disease, hepatitis and gastrointestinal endoscopy.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER
Geoffrey Dusheiko,
MD, MB, BCh

Kings College Hospital,
United Kingdom

Geoffrey Dusheiko is Emeritus Professor of Medicine at the Royal Free Hospital and University College London School of Medicine and Consultant Hepatologist at Kings College Hospital London, in London, UK.

After earning his MBBS degree from the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, Professor Dusheiko completed his internship at the Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital in Johannesburg and his residency at Johannesburg Hospital. His fellowships were conducted at the Johannesburg Hospital Liver Unit and the National Institutes of Health, Maryland, and the University of Minnesota, USA.

Professor Dusheiko's research interests include the management and treatment of HCV and HBV and small hepatocellular carcinoma; he has a special interest in research on viral hepatitis, especially viral genotyping, applied molecular virology, the natural history of chronic viral hepatitis and antiviral therapies. A member of several organisations, including EASL, AASLD and IASL, Professor Dusheiko is also a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, the Royal College of Physicians of South Africa, and the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. He previously served as Educational Councillor on the Governing Board of EASL for 4 years and was the recipient of the EASL Recognition Award in 2014. An advisor for the UK National Institute of Health and Care Excellence, Professor Dusheiko is an author of the World Health Organization's HBV guidelines and he is the Director of the Skipton Fund, a UK ex gratia payment scheme for patients infected with HCV through contaminated blood products.

A member of the editorial board of the Journal of Viral Eradication, he is Co-editor of Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics, and has previously served on editorial boards for the Journal of Viral Hepatitis, Hepatology, Best Practice & Research Clinical Gastroenterology, and Gut among others. Professor Dusheiko has authored or co-authored more than 360 articles in international peer-reviewed journals or books.

Potential conflict of interest:

No information received.



CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR

**Manal El-Sayed,
MD, PhD**

Ain Shams University,
Egypt

Manal El-Sayed is Professor of Pediatrics at Ain Shams University. She is the clinical director of the national HCV Pediatric treatment program and the director of the clinical research unit and co-supervisor of the viral hepatitis treatment center at Ain Shams University. Manal has worked with pediatric hematology and oncology teams at Ain Shams University, National Cancer Institute, and 57357 Children's Cancer Hospital since 1990.

Manal is a founding member of the Egyptian National Committee for Control of Viral Hepatitis (NCCVH) charged with planning and implementing the nationwide program for prevention and management of viral hepatitis since 2006. She contributed to the establishment of a nationwide network of 55 specialized liver centers that provided interferon therapy to 350,000 HCV-infected patients. Since 2014 when the NCCVH introduced the new direct-acting antiviral agents for HCV, more than 3 million patients have been treated. Manal collaborated on the development of the national action plan for prevention and control of viral hepatitis published in October 2014 with representatives from WHO, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U.S. CDC), Pasteur Institute, and national stakeholders. In addition to co-supervising the nationwide mass screening program for adults and children reaching so far more than 56 million people.

Manal is also an active board member and secretary general of the Egyptian Liver Care Society, a non-governmental organization that offers financial assistance to patients receiving treatment for hepatitis or liver transplants. She has authored and co-authored numerous journal articles on hepatitis and liver diseases, and participated in the development of WHO's HBV, HCV and diagnostic guidelines. From 2011-2015, Manal was Vice Chair of WHO's Technical Advisory Group for Prevention and Control of Viral Hepatitis in Egypt. She is also a board member of the European Study of Liver Disease International Liver Foundation since January 2018. In addition to being an oversight committee member of the EndHep2030 initiative since the beginning of 2019.

Potential conflict of interest:
No information received.



SPEAKER

Fatou Fall, MD

Hôpital Principal de Dakar,
Senegal

Fatou Fall graduated from University cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar (Senegal) in 1992.

She has a certificate of special studies in Hepatology and Gastroenterology at Abidjan University (Côte d'Ivoire) in 2002 and is professor in Hepatology and Gastroenterology (Ecole du Val-de-Grâce at Paris) in 2012.

Current position: head of the Hepato-gastroenterology department at hôpital Principal de Dakar (Sénégal). Member of the Senegalese Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (SOSEGH).

Member of the African Society of Hepatology and Gastroenterology.

Member of the French Society of Gastroenterology.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Seadimo
Gasennelwe-
Gabakgore,
MD, MPH**

Ministry of Health and
Wellness,
Botswana

Registered Public Health Medicine Physician working in the Ministry of Health and Wellness in Botswana with 14 years' experience in program management, policy and strategy development and performance management.

Currently in Health Services Management Department, under Community Health Services working on Primary Health Care Support to revitalize primary health approaches and strengthen health systems in order to ensure that the country's health sector realizes its vision 2036 and sustainable development targets. Interested in collaborating and strategic partnerships as a vital global health intervention.

Extensive background clinical experience from the HIV/AIDS pandemic as a Medical Officer in Princess Marina Hospital Gaborone since 2001-2007. Interested in strengthening Occupational Health Medicine in the country.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Manal Ghazzawi,
BPharm(Hons),
PharmD, FPCP, MPH**

KnowHep Foundation Sierra
Leone,
Sierra Leone

Manal Ghazzawi is born and raised in Sierra Leone. She is a doctor of Pharmacy and a Fellow of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists and a public Health specialist.

She is the CEO of Citiglobe Pharmacies Ltd and Founder of the KnowHep Foundation Sierra Leone.

She is an associate Lecturer of the West African Postgraduate Studies and Foundation Fellow of the Sierra Leone Post Graduate College of Pharmacy.

She is an executive Member of the National Drug Expert Committee of the Pharmacy Board of Sierra Leone.

She is also a Member of Technical Working Group of Clinical Experts of the Ministry of health and sanitation- Sierra Leone.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Asgeir Johannessen,
MD, PhD**

Tønsberg Hospital /
University of Oslo,
Norway

Asgeir Johannessen completed his medical degree in Norway in 2000. He is a specialist in internal medicine and infectious diseases. In 2011 he defended his PhD at the University of Oslo which focused on simplification of HIV treatment in sub-Saharan Africa.

In 2015, he established a hepatitis B treatment program in Ethiopia, one of the largest treatment centres on the continent. He has been the primary supervisor of 3 PhD students in this project, who all defended their theses in 2019-2020. From 2021, he has led the expansion of this program, aiming for simplification and improved access to HBV therapy in the country.

He has published more than 40 peer-reviewed scientific papers and was deemed professor competent in infectious diseases and global health in 2020. He currently works as an infectious diseases consultant at Tønsberg Hospital and Deputy Director at the Centre for Global Health, University of Oslo.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Eduard Jonas,
MB, ChB, MMed,
FCS, PhD**

University of Cape Town /
Groote Schuur Hospital,
South Africa

Eduard Jonas underwent his pre-graduate training at the University of Pretoria, South Africa obtaining a MBChB in 1985. He did his surgical training at the University of Stellenbosch, becoming a Fellow of the South African College of Surgeons in 1995 and obtaining a MMed in general surgery.

He served as consultant surgeon in the Upper Gastrointestinal Service of the Department of General Surgery at the University of Stellenbosch and Tygerberg hospital before taking up an endoscopy fellowship position at Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden in 1997 where he obtained a PhD. He previously held clinical positions in Karolinska Institute affiliated hospitals, including the Departments of Surgery at Danderyd Hospital and Karolinska University Hospital.

He is affiliated to the Karolinska Institute as Associate professor and since 2015 is Professor of Surgery and Head of the Surgical Gastroenterology Unit at the University of Cape Town and Groote Schuur Hospital.

No potential conflict of interest



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Kenneth Kabagambe

National Organization for People Living with Hepatitis B, Uganda

Kenneth Kabagambe holds a bachelor of Arts Social Science from Makerere University Kampala. He is the Founding Executive Director of the National Organization for People Living with Hepatitis B (NOPLHB) the only patient driven Non-Governmental Organization advocating for the rights of Hepatitis B patients in Uganda. He is also a member of the Hepatitis Technical Working Committee of the Ministry of Health. Kenneth is also the Executive Board Member for the African Region at the World Hepatitis Alliance. Kenneth is also the Vice President for the African Liver Patients Associations (ALPA).

Kenneth has attended high level consultancy workshops by WHO on Viral Hepatitis. Kenneth was one of the judges during the WHO Hepatitis testing innovation contest that emerged into the Hepatitis B and C testing guidelines. He is also a Patient Advisory Council Member of Hepatitis Foundation International U.S.A.

Kenneth has 7 years extensive patient experience in the field of Viral Hepatitis and has spent most of his entire life working on advocating for patients' rights in accessing quality diagnosis, care and treatment in Uganda and across the region through his organization he founded in 2012. Kenneth is the initiator of the African Hepatitis Summit 2019 and he coordinated this high-level meeting in Kampala that brought over 400 delegates from across Africa and beyond.

Kenneth aims to strengthen the patient voice in Africa and across the global in recognizing the growing burden of Viral Hepatitis which now claims more people than HIV/AIDS.

Potential conflict of interest:
No information received.



SPEAKER

Julien Kabore, DDS, MPH

WHO, Republic of the Congo

Dr. H. Julien Kabore is an Epidemiologist with over 15 years of experience.

He is the Hepatitis B Immunization focal person at the WHO regional office for Africa based in Brazzaville. In this role, he leads the efforts for the control of hepatitis B through immunization in the African region. He provides strategic guidance and technical assistance to countries for the planning, introduction, and scale-up of the Hepatitis B birth dose vaccine.

He also conducts the assessment of the birth dose vaccine delivery in countries and is involved in hepatitis B sero survey studies that aim to generate evidence to support the introduction of the birth dose vaccine in the routine immunization schedule.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Ray Kim,
MD, FAASLD**

Stanford University School
of Medicine,
United States

W. Ray Kim is a Professor and Chief in the Division of Digestive Health at Stanford University School of Medicine. Dr. Kim earned his medical diploma at Seoul National University and received his GI and transplant hepatology training at Mayo Clinic.

Dr. Kim's research interest has been in outcomes modeling in liver disease. His research accomplishments include development of the Model for End Stage Liver Disease (MELD) score. His research has produced > 250 publications to date with an h-index of > 70.

Dr. Kim serves on the Governing Board of AASLD as a Councilor currently and is elected to be President in 2024.

Potential conflict of interest:

No information received



SPEAKER

**Anna Kramvis,
BSc Hons, PhD**

Hepatitis Virus Diversity
Research Unit / ICE-HBV,
South Africa

Professor Anna Kramvis is a Research Professor and Director of the Hepatitis Virus Diversity Research Unit (HVDRU), a university-recognized research entity. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSaf). Professor Kramvis together with Professor Jake Liang of the NIH organized the 2017 International HBV Meeting in Washington in September 2017 and has been asked to organize the 2023 International HBV Meeting, together with Professors Patrick Arbuthnot, Wits and Richard Njouom from the Cameroon. It will be the first time, in its over 35 year history, that this meeting will be held on African soil.

She is a member of the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) and sits on various international committees including the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) Hepatitis Transformative Science Group, Governing Body of the International Committee to Eliminate HBV (ICE-HBV), Member of ICE-HBV Virology, Chronic Hepatitis B Management in Resource-Limited Settings working groups and convener of the Biomarkers Group. In October 2020 with Professor Peter Revill, she organized a virtual ICE-HBV Biomarkers Workshop (<https://ice-hbv.org/hbv-serum-biomarkers-workshop/>).

She is or has been on the editorial board of Annals of Hepatology, Frontiers, Virology Journal, Hepatology, PlosOne and Biomed Central Infectious Diseases. She is a passionate advocate for the elimination of hepatitis in sub-Saharan Africa through increased vaccination coverage, especially of the birth dose; through diagnosis, to find the missing millions; and improved access to treatment for those eligible.

No potential conflict of interest



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

**Jeffrey Lazarus,
PhD, MIH, MA**

Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal), Spain

Jeffrey V. Lazarus holds positions as an associate research professor at the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal), Hospital Clínic, University of Barcelona, where he leads the health systems research team, and as Associate Professor at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Barcelona, Spain. His decade-long career as a health systems, HIV and viral hepatitis expert at WHO Europe was followed by three years (2009-2012) as a senior specialist at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, and from 2015 until June 2018 as board chair of the foundation AFEW International.

Prof Lazarus is Vice-Chairman of the board of the EASL International Liver Foundation, a member of the INHSU international education committee and co-chair of the HIV Outcomes Beyond Viral Suppression coalition. He is the author of more than 200 publications and his current scientific work includes leading the Hep C Free Baleares, HBV COMSAVA, and Copenhagen T'n'T projects, the HIV Fourth 90 consensus statement, and the Global NASH Policy study. He is a core member of The Lancet GastroHep Commission on Viral Hepatitis and a commissioner for the EASL-Lancet European Liver Commission.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Maud Lemoine,
MD, PhD**

Imperial College London, United Kingdom

Maud Lemoine completed her medical degree in France and holds a PhD in physiology and physiopathology from the University Pierre & Marie Curie in Paris. She also graduated in political sciences and international security from the Institute of Political Studies in Paris.

Maud Lemoine trained as a clinician and scientist in France. She has worked as a consultant in Hepatology in several teaching hospitals in Paris. Dr Lemoine was particularly involved in the clinical and therapeutic management of patients infected with viral hepatitis and/or HIV/AIDS and she was actively associated with clinical research on new directed acting agents against hepatitis C.

Dr Lemoine has also worked with Médecins du Monde, for the implementation of an integrated HIV/hepatitis care programme in Vietnam. She is a member of the French AIDS Research Agency (ANRS). In November 2011 she joined the PROLIFICA team in MRC Unit, The Gambia in November 2011 as a Hepatologist employed by Imperial College.

Potential conflict of interest:

No information received



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

**Olufunmilayo Lesi,
MD, MBA, FMCP**

World Health Organization,
Switzerland

Dr. Olufunmilayo ('Funmi) Lesi currently leads the Hepatitis team in the Global HIV, Hepatitis and STI Programmes at the World Health Organization and coordinates hepatitis activities in collaboration with other WHO Departments to provide technical and strategic support for viral hepatitis elimination efforts in countries.

She is Professor of Medicine, College of Medicine, University of Lagos (CMUL), Nigeria and was previously Honorary Consultant and Head of Hepatology at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital where she established a liver disease care programme for Hepatitis B and C and liver cirrhosis and cancer.

She was recently the regional advisor for viral hepatitis at the WHO Regional Office for Africa where she led the technical support for the development of national strategies and policies related to hepatitis epidemiology, prevention, and management in over 22 countries in sub-Saharan Africa and proactively contributed to enhancing the regional profile of viral hepatitis

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Casimir Manzengo,
MD, MPH**

World Health Organization,
Gabon

Casimir Manzengo Mingiedi, is a Medical Doctor and Master of Public Health. He is bilingual, Congolese from DRC and living in Libreville for working reason.

He is working for WHO as Regional Hepatitis Advisor, Regional Office for Africa.

He has 26 years of Public Health experience, beginning by the peripheral level as Clinician in DRC, at the Sub-National level, National level and now at Regional level since 2018.

As Hepatitis Regional Officer, he is supporting Africa countries for advocacy, put on place Hepatitis program, Technical Assistance for Strategic Planning, Guidelines elaboration and training materials dissemination and program implementation follow-up.

Also, with his strong Public Health and HIV background, as one of pioneers of PMTCT implementation in DRC rural Health Zones, he is fully involved in the Triple elimination advocacy and Technical Assistance to the countries in partnership with all PMTCT actors, including the Organization of First Ladies in Africa for Development.

No potential conflict of interest



CONFERENCE CO-CHAIR

**Mark Nelson,
MA, MBBS, FRCP**

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital / Imperial College Medical School, United Kingdom

Mark Nelson is a consultant physician at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London. He trained at Jesus College, Cambridge and Westminster Hospital medical school from where he qualified in 1986. He was appointed Consultant Physician at this hospital in 1991 where he is presently the professor of HIV medicine at Imperial College Medical School where he is also the senior tutor. Since that time he has built a large HIV practice with a special interest in HIV in patient care, co-infection with hepatitis B and C and the clinical utility of new antiretroviral agents. He has published over 650 papers on HIV and hepatitis.

Professor Nelson has chaired the BHIVA guidelines committee for opportunistic infections and for hepatitis C. He is a member of the Guidelines Committee for Treatment, Malignancy and for HIV transmission. He was previously the chair of the BHIVA hepatitis special interest group and of the BHIVA science and education committee. He is a trustee of several charities associated with HIV. He has been awarded a visiting professorship at the Aga Khan Hospital, Nairobi, Kenya and most recently the certificate of merit by the government of Vietnam.

Potential conflict of interest:

MSD, BMS, AbbVie, Gilead, ViiV Healthcare, Mylan, GSK, and Hetero



SPEAKER

**Mulat Nigus,
MPH**

Ministry of Health, Ethiopia

Mulat Nigus Alemu is a Public Health Professional since October 2006. He has Bachelor's Degree in Health Promotion & Health Education from Jimma University, Ethiopia; Bachelor's Degree in Public Health Officer from Central University College, Ethiopia; and Master of Public Health from University of Gondar, Ethiopia.

Currently, Mr Mulat is working as a routine immunization & measles strengthening national technical consultant seconded by McKing/BMGF for Ministry of Health, Ethiopia. He worked in various expertise and leadership positions like HepB-BD Consultant, National EPI Manager, National EPI Deputy Manager, National EPI Senior Expert, Expert of Health Promotion & Education, Expert of Health System Monitoring & Evaluation, and Expert of Health Extension Program.

As a summary, Mr Mulat has wide ranges of experiences in Public Health (Community Medicine). He is a self-motivated and well-qualified public health professional with more than 15 years of work experience and with very good performance track records in a various areas of public health programs and interventions.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

Henry Njuguna, MBChB, MPH

Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination, Taskforce for Global Health, United States

Henry Njuguna is an Epidemiologist with the Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination, Taskforce for Global Health, Atlanta. Henry is currently supporting African countries to build a community of practice to support the introduction and scale up of the hepatitis B birth dose vaccine.

Henry has worked in public health for the for the last 15 years. He led a population based infectious disease surveillance program with the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Kenya, he worked with CDC Kenya as a medical epidemiologist, coordinating hospital based routine sentinel surveillance for influenza and worked with CDC Atlanta's Global Immunization Division, supporting the uptake of hepatitis B birth dose vaccine in African Countries. Prior to joining the Coalition, Henry also worked for the CDC Foundation supporting CDC's Global Non-Communicable Disease Control in developing training materials and supporting the Field Epidemiology and Training Program's residents on cardiovascular disease epidemiology.

Henry trained as a CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Officer, assigned to the Washington State Department of Health. During his EIS training, he participated in several field investigations for both communicable and non-communicable disease clusters and outbreaks including a large healthcare facility-associated outbreak of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection. Henry completed his medical (MBChB) and MPH training in Kenya.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

Sabin Nsanzimana, MD, MSc, PhD, FRCP

Rwanda Biomedical Center, Rwanda

Sabin Nsanzimana is a Medical Doctor specialized in HIV global management. He holds a Master's degree in Clinical Epidemiology from the University of Rwanda and is pursuing PhD doctoral research studies in Epidemiology at University of Basel, Switzerland.

Currently, he serves as the Director of the National HIV Program for Rwanda and Division Manager for HIV/AIDS and Viral Hepatitis at the Institute of HIV Disease Prevention and Control, Rwanda Biomedical Center.

For the last 11 years, Dr. Sabin has worked for Rwanda's national HIV program, gaining senior-level experience in HIV program design, strategic planning, implementation, and operational research, with a focus on global care and treatment of people living with and affected by HIV. He has served on several HIV guidelines development group panels of the World Health Organization. He is a peer reviewer for scientific journals and has published extensively on HIV in Rwanda.

Dr. Sabin is a fellow at the African Scientific Institute (ASI) and serves as faculty member for the University of Global Health Equity in Kigali, Rwanda.

Potential conflict of interest:

No information received



SPEAKER

**Ponsiano Ocama,
MBChB, MMed, PhD,
FCP(ESCA)**

Makerere University College
of Health Sciences,
Uganda

Ponsiano Ocama is a Professor of Medicine and an academic hepatologist at Makerere University College of Health Sciences, in Kampala, Uganda. His major research interests are the interactions between viral hepatitis and HIV on liver disease and hepatocellular carcinoma in resource-limited settings. He holds a PhD from the University of Antwerp, Belgium under Prof Bob Colebunders following a fellowship in liver diseases at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical Centre at Dallas in 2002 with Professor William M. Lee.

In many parts of sub-Saharan Africa, hepatitis B infection is endemic and generalized HIV epidemics exist. Understanding the consequences of co-infection including hepatocellular carcinoma is crucial to inform approaches for targeting screening or secondary prevention with antiviral therapy. In his position he supervises the clinical services for GI/hepatology at Kiruddu National Referral hospital in Kampala, Uganda and he is immediate Past Chair of the Department of internal Medicine.

He has published more than 60 manuscripts in peer reviewed journals with several collaborations among others with Johns Hopkins University, University of Antwerp, Zurich University, University of Glasgow some of the collaborations related to viral hepatitis in refugee population in Uganda. He has participated in writing the Hepatitis B guideline and revision of hepatitis C guideline for WHO. He also leads the technical working group for viral hepatitis in the Ministry of Health of Uganda. He teaches and supervises both undergraduate and Postgraduate students in the University and involved in external examinations at various Universities across Africa.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Asare Offei,
MBChB, MGCS,
FWACS**

Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital /
University of Ghana Medical
School,
Ghana

Asare Offei is born on 13th November 1974 in Ghana. After completing secondary education at Pope John secondary school in 1993, he proceeded to pursue medicine at the University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana in 1994. He graduated from the School of Medical Sciences, University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana in 2002. He then specialized as a General surgeon at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Accra.

Dr Asare Offei is currently a Consultant Surgeon at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital; and a former lecturer at the School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Ghana.

Dr Asare Offei further specialized in surgery of the liver, pancreas, and biliary system at Sheeba Medical Center, Israel; Fortis hospital, Mulund, Mumbai, India; Tata Memorial Cancer Center, Mumbai, India; and Medanta Hospital, Gurgaon, India. He currently leads a multi-disciplinary team that performs routine surgeries of the liver, gallbladder and pancreas at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Accra.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Edith Okeke,
BMBCH, FWACP,
FRCP**

University of Jos / Jos University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria

Edith Okeke is Professor of Medicine in the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Jos, Nigeria. Prof. Okeke was born and raised in Nigeria. A 1979 graduate of Medicine from the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. She had her training in Gastroenterology / Hepatology in the Jos University Teaching Hospital, completing a Fellowship of the West African College of Physicians in 1992. She is also a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, London. She currently heads the Gastroenterology / Hepatology unit of the Jos University Teaching Hospital, Jos.

Professor Okeke is involved in national and international clinical research collaborations. She was the Principal investigator of the Prevention of Liver Fibrosis and Cancer in Africa (PROLIFICA) in Jos, a multi-country research project and also the principal investigator of 'The Presentation of HCC in Nigerian Patients', an NIH sponsored study with the Northwestern University, Chicago. She is currently co-leading U54 Epigenomic Biomarkers of HIV Associated Cancers in Nigeria, another NIH sponsored research.

She represents the African continent on the Rome Foundation executive committee for the global epidemiological study on irritable bowel syndrome. She has over 70 scientific publications in peer review journals.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Ashraf Omar,
MD**

Cairo University, Egypt

Ashraf Omar Abdel Aziz is Professor of Hepatology & Tropical Medicine Faculty of medicine at Cairo University. He is a Liver Transplant Consultant Cairo University & Dar Al-Fouad Hospital and Chairman of the Egyptian Society of Liver Cancer (ESLC).

Additionally he also Director of the Multidisciplinary Liver Cancer Clinic Cairo University, Consultant hepatologist at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Cairo, Board editor of Hepatocellular carcinoma journal, Chairman of MENA NCCN committee of Hepatobiliary cancer, and a council member of IC-HEP.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Charles Onyekwere,
FACP, FMCP, MD,
AGAF, FASGE, MBBS**

Lagos State University Col-
lege of Medicine,
Nigeria

Professor Onyekwere CA is a medical graduate of University of Nigeria College of Medicine, where he obtained his basic medical degree and proceeded to University of Lagos teaching hospital where he underwent his residency training in internal Medicine with sub specialization in Gastroenterology and Hepatology. He has had training fellowship in advanced endoscopy overseas at University of Magdeburg Clinic Germany and Theodore Bilharz Research Institute Cairo, Egypt.

He has been a lecturer at the Lagos State University College of medicine where he has risen to a Professor and also serves as consultant Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist as well as Chief of Endoscopy to the Lagos state University teaching hospital where he had previously served as head of department of Medicine.

He is a member of the Faculty board of internal Medicine, National postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria and also Chair of the subspecialty of Gastroenterology.

He has served as an examiner in all its level of examination; as well as external examiner to all number medical schools (including Obafemi Awolowo University Ife, university of Lagos and University of Nigeria) final MBBS exams

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Motolani Oyerinde,
MD**

Women in Hepatitis Africa
WIHA,
Nigeria

Motolani Oyerinde is Medical Doctor and Senior Family Health Officer at LWI. Dr Tolani as she is popularly called joined the organization 6 years ago as a Volunteer and Young Doctor under the organisation's Volunteer Membership scheme, during which time she participated in several Health Outreaches, Health Fairs and Corporate Health Programmes. She is an Award-winning Young Doctor.

Dr Tolani has worked assiduously in the areas of Training, Peer Leadership, and Corporate Health.

In particular, she led Health Missions into the Corporate Health Space, and she co-facilitated as Faculty Trainer in Hepatitis, at a continental Africa Regional Training Programme in Hepatitis which took place at the Golden Tulip Hotel, Festac Town Lagos State 4 years ago, attended by delegates from at least 15 African Countries.

She is a brilliant Medical Practitioner who remains focused, dedicated to duty, and innovative.

Since the advent of COVID-19, Dr Tolani despite being a Nursing Mother, rose promptly to the challenges posed by the pandemic – having acquired prior skills in Mental Health, and she has been a Team Lead in our TELEHEALTH services, providing succor as a Non-COVID Response to the teeming population out there.

Dr Tolani is an astute professional, empathetic and impactful and adding great value in the Hepatitis Space, albeit as a non-stipended Volunteer.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER
Lewis Roberts,
MBChB, PhD,
FAASLD

Mayo Clinic,
 United States

Lewis R. Roberts is the Peter and Frances Georgeson Professor in Gastroenterology Cancer Research and Consultant in Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Mayo Clinic, where he is Co-Principal Investigator of the Mayo Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) in Hepatobiliary Cancers.

His research focuses on molecular mechanisms of liver and biliary carcinogenesis; biomarkers for diagnosis of liver, bile duct and pancreas cancers; and prevention, diagnosis and treatment of hepatitis and liver cancer, with a particular interest in immigrant African communities in the USA as well as in Africa. He has authored over 400 articles, book chapters and letters, and co-edited the book “Evaluation and Management of Liver Masses”.

He serves as President of Africa Partners Medical, a non-profit organization focused on improving healthcare delivery in Africa through medical education, practical skills training, provision of medical equipment and supplies, and health advocacy; as President of the West Africa Institute for Liver and Digestive Diseases Foundation; and as a member of the Advisory Council for The Hepatitis Fund. Dr. Roberts is also a founding member of the Africa HepatoPancreatoBiliary Cancer Consortium.

Potential conflict of interest:

AstraZeneca, Eisai, Exact Sciences, Focus Medical Communications, Exact Sciences, GRAIL, Inc., Pontifax, TAVEC, Gilead Sciences, QED Therapeutics, Inc./Helsinn, Ariad pharmaceuticals, Bayer, BTG, International/Boston Scientific, Fujifilm Medical Systems, Glycotest Inc., RedHill, TARGET, and aPharmaSolutions



SPEAKER
Sonjelle Shilton,

FIND,
 Switzerland

Sonjelle joined FIND in January 2017 and is currently Deputy Head HCV Access.

Sonjelle started her career in public health as Director of Operations of HardtHaven, a community-based health outreach organization in rural Ghana. She has over fifteen years of experience in leading programmes and implementation science studies. Her time in Ghana cemented her dedication to public health approaches that are collaboratively designed and implemented with rigorous and meaningful data capture.

She attained a Master of Global Public Health and the Global WACH Graduate Certificate for integrated health of Women, Adolescents and Children from the University of Washington, United States.

No potential conflict of interest



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
Wendy Spearman,
MBChB, FCP, FRCP,
MMed, PhD

University of Cape Town,
 South Africa

Wendy Spearman is Head of the Division of Hepatology, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Cape Town. She is Head of the Liver and Liver Transplant clinics at Groote Schuur Hospital and Lead Clinician of the Paediatric Liver Transplantation Programme at Red Cross Children's Hospital.

She completed her 2-year Hepatology Fellowship under Professors Ralph Kirsch and Simon Robson at the UCT/MRC Liver Research Centre in 1991 and obtained her PhD in 2008 from the University of Cape Town on "The effect of two novel C-type lectins, Ba100 and Ba25, isolated from the venom of the puff adder, *Bitis arietans* on T lymphocyte proliferative responses." She is actively involved in outreach Liver education programmes and was appointed by the International Association of Providers of AIDS Care to develop Training modules on the management of Hepatitis B for sub-Saharan Africa. She was recently appointed as the lead consultant to develop the National Guidelines on the management and prevention of viral hepatitis in South Africa. Her research interests include viral hepatitis, liver transplantation, drug-induced liver injuries and novel immunosuppressants.

Potential conflict of interest:
 No information received



SPEAKER
Alexander
Stockdale,
MBChB, PhD, MRes,
MRCP, DTM&H

Liverpool University,
 United Kingdom

Alexander Stockdale is a Clinical Lecturer at Liverpool University and an Infectious Diseases physician with an interest in HIV and viral hepatitis.

He trained in Edinburgh, Cambridge, and Liverpool in the UK. In 2009 he worked in rural Kenya as a Medical Officer. Between 2014-15 he was appointed as an Academic Clinical Fellow studying HIV and hepatitis B co-infection in Ghana. Between 2017-2019 he worked as a Consultant Physician in Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre, Malawi, and led a research program on viral hepatitis in Malawi as a Wellcome Trust Clinical PhD Fellow.

He has collaborated with the World Health Organization to produce estimates of hepatitis D epidemiology. He is a lead for HIV and viral hepatitis teaching on the Diploma of Tropical Medicine at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and Deputy Editor at PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases. His research interests are in eliminating viral hepatitis and reducing the burden of liver disease in southern Africa.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

**Gyongyi Szabo,
MD, PhD, FAASLD**

Harvard Medical School
/ Beth Israel Deaconess
Medical Center / Beth Israel
Lahey Health,
United States

Gyongyi Szabo is and the Mitchell T. Rabkin, M.D. Chair, Professor of Medicine and Faculty Dean at Harvard Medical School and Chief Academic Officer at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Beth Israel Lahey Health. In this role, she leads all basic, translational, and clinical research activities, innovation, education, and faculty development for the BIDMC, a Harvard teaching hospital and for BILH, the second largest health care system in New England.

Dr. Szabo's is member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and fellow of the AASLD, AGA and the American College of Physicians (ACP). Dr. Szabo serves on advisory boards of several federal agencies, leading academic institutions, and pharmaceutical companies. Dr. Szabo served on the Governing Board and as President of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) in 2015 and she is the inaugural Editor-in-Chief of Hepatology Communications.

Potential conflict of interest:

No information received



SPEAKER

**Cynthia Raissa
Tamandjou,
BSc, MSc, PhD**

Institut Pasteur,
France

Cynthia Tamandjou is a medical virologist. She obtained her PhD degree in Medical Virology at the University of Stellenbosch in Cape Town, South Africa. In collaboration with the Namibian Ministry of Health and the Namibia Institute of Pathology, her PhD focused on the feasibility of implementing routine antenatal POCT of hepatitis B virus (HBV), and the cost-effectiveness of a screen-treat-vaccinate intervention against HBV mother-to-child transmission (MTCT).

Dr Tamandjou did a two-year post-doctoral research fellowship with the Health Economics Unit/Division at the University of Cape town. Her postdoctoral research focused on the cost-effectiveness analyses of strategies against HBV MTCT. She is currently with l'Ecole Institut Pasteur – Conservatoire national des arts et métiers, France finalizing a master's in public health, with a focus on the control of infectious agents and infectious disease epidemiological modelling.

Her research interests cover maternal and child health, the epidemiology, diagnosis, prevention and management of hepatitis B infection, and economic evaluations of strategies for the control of infectious diseases such as hepatitis B.

No potential conflict of interest



SPEAKER

Christian Tzeuton, MD

Douala Medical School /
Société Camerounaise de
Gastro-Entérologie,
Cameroon

Christian Tzeuton is Professor of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at many medical faculties including Yaounde University: Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (Cameroon), Douala University: Faculty of Medicine and Pharmaceutical Sciences (Cameroon), Bangangté Université des Montagnes Faculty of Health Sciences (Cameroon), Marien NGOUBI University (Brazzaville): Faculty of Health Sciences (Congo) and Cocody University Abidjan: Abidjan Faculty of Medicine (Côte d'Ivoire).

He is a Member of the African Association for the Study of Liver Diseases and he is currently President of the "Société Camerounaise de Gastro-Entérologie" (Cameroonian Society of Gastroenterology). He is also a member of the World Gastro Organisation IBS Task Force.

Prof. Tzeuton has previously served as the President of the »Association Africaine Francophone de Formation Continue en Hépatogastro-Entérologie« (AAFFCHGE - Francophone African Hepato-gastroenterology Association) and was Past Vice President of the African and Middle East Association of Gastroenterology (AMAGE).

Potential conflict of interest:
Gilead Sciences



SPEAKER

Imam Waked, MD, FRCP, FAASLD

National Liver Institute (NLI),
Egypt

Imam Waked is Professor of Medicine and Hepatology, and past Dean of the National Liver Institute (NLI) in Egypt.

Dr Waked graduated Cairo University School of Medicine, obtained a Doctorate degree from Ain Shams University in Cairo, and trained in the liver unit of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP) in London and a Fellow of the American Association of the Study of Liver Disease (FAASLD).

Dr. Waked has more than 100 peer-reviewed publications in international journals. He supervised more than 60 Masters and 40 Doctorate theses in hepatology and medicine, and he currently heads the clinical trial unit in the NLI.

He is a board member of the Egyptian National Committee for Control of Viral Hepatitis which oversees the National hepatitis C treatment, screening and elimination programs and a member of the technical advisory board of the Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination.

No potential conflict of interest



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

**John Ward,
MD**

Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination, Task Force for Global Health / Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, United States

Dr. John W. Ward created and directs the Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination of the Task Force for Global Health. The Coalition is a community of practice providing technical assistance and monitoring progress toward hepatitis elimination in over 190 countries. Dr. Ward is an advisor to WHO Geneva, WPRO, PAHO and the African Union. Dr. Ward chairs the AASLD Task Force for Hepatitis Elimination.

Over a 13-year tenure, Dr. Ward directed the US CDC Division of Viral Hepatitis with responsibilities for viral hepatitis surveillance, prevention, and research. At the national level, Dr. Ward developed recommendations for hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccination, hepatitis B and hepatitis C screening, and authored the first national action plan to prevent viral hepatitis. Dr. Ward guided the launch of pioneer HCV elimination programs.

Previously, Dr. Ward led US HIV/AIDS surveillance and served as Editor of the CDC MMWR and of Silent Victories, a history of public health in the 20th century.

Dr. Ward has authored over 150 scientific publications. He received his medical training at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and University of Washington, Seattle. Dr. Ward is a Professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta.

Potential conflict of interest:

Abbott, Gilead, AbbVie, Merck, Siemens, Cepheid, Roche, Pharco, Zydus-Cadila, governmental agencies, and philanthropic organizations.



SPEAKER

**Kidist K. Yimam,
MD**

California Pacific Medical Center, United States

Kidist K. Yimam is a Transplant Hepatologist and the Medical Director of California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC), San Francisco, CA, Autoimmune Liver Disease (AILD) Program. She is also the Director of CPMC's Cholangiocarcinoma Program, Director of the Autoimmune Liver Disease Research Fellowship, and serves as a Research Advisor for the Internal Medicine Residency Program.

She is a founding member of the North America Consortium for Autoimmune Liver Diseases (CALiD) and has served as a member of its steering committee. Dr. Yimam is engaged in efforts in promoting healthcare equality locally and nationally in collaboration with the American Liver Foundation where she serves as a member of its medical advisory board.

She is involved in promoting Women's Health and has served as American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD)'s Women Health Representative for the last 3 years with significant contributions including the formation of the first Women's Health in Liver Diseases Program at The Liver Meeting which has now become a recurring yearly event at the Liver Meeting main forum. She currently serves as a member of AASLD's Global Health Outreach and Engagement Committee, and a member of its sub-Saharan Africa working group. Dr. Yimam is dedicated to promoting AASLD's engagement and collaboration with colleagues in Africa to promote research, education, and improved patient care in the region.

Potential conflict of interest:

No information received



SPEAKER

**Shira Zelber-Sagi,
BSc, RD, PhD**

University of Haifa / The Tel-
Aviv Medical Center,
Israel

Shira Zelber-Sagi is a clinical dietitian, Epidemiologist and a researcher in nutritional epidemiology. Graduated BSc in nutrition sciences at the Hebrew University. Graduated a PhD in epidemiology and preventive medicine at the Sackler School of Medicine at Tel Aviv University.

Currently, is an associate Professor and Head of School of Public Health, Faculty of Social Welfare and Health Sciences, University of Haifa. She works as a clinical dietitian at the liver Unit of the Tel-Aviv hospital.

She is a member at the “National Committee for Nutrition, Gastroenterology and Liver Disease” and Head of the “Gastroenterology and Hepatology Nutrition forum” on behalf of The Israeli Nutrition Association.

No potential conflict of interest



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