



**AHPBCC**

Africa HepatoPancreatoBiliary Cancer Consortium



# Annual Conference

Labadi Beach Hotel, Accra Ghana  
August 23 - 26, 2023



Main Sponsors:





## BACKGROUND

In 2020, the Africa HepatoPancreatoBiliary Cancer Consortium (AHPBCC) was organized to harness resources and expertise across the African Continent, the United States, and Europe to investigate the influences of lifestyle, environment, viral and host biological factors on the development of HPB cancers. Today the Consortium has more than 200 clinicians and research investigators who inform new strategies for risk prevention, early detection, and improved survival of patients with these cancers.

To expand the overall knowledge of HPB cancers, the Consortium members present an Annual Conference. This forum provides a framework for discussion, development, and pursuit of new research directions, fosters collaborations among the academic, medical, and scientific communities, and supports the development of early career physicians and clinicians.

The AHPBCC is a program administered by the WAILD Foundation Inc., a 501c3 organization registered in the United States and Ghana. The Foundation has secured a 3-year grant from the US National Institutes of Health to support the 2022, 2023 and 2024 AHPBCC Conference activities.

## MISSION

- Develop and support collaborations between member groups
- Identify factors that influence the epidemiology, etiology, pathobiology, and prognosis of liver, biliary tract and pancreatic cancers
- Encourage free exchange of results (published or unpublished) and ideas in a collegial environment without fear of competition.



The Ghana Association for the Study of Liver and Digestive Diseases (GASLIDD) is a professional body made of the Physicians, Surgeons, Pathologists, Paediatricians, Radiologists, and Allied Health Professionals practicing in Ghana and abroad who are dedicated to the advancement of knowledge on the prevention, recognition, investigation and treatment of liver and digestive diseases. The association is also committed to the promotion of education and training in all fields of Gastroenterology and Hepatology and to the offering of professional/technical advice to the relevant authorities of the Ghana government and GI community of practice. As an expert group, GASLIDD provides the following information and recommendations to guide institutions and practices that provide endoscopy and gastrointestinal (GI) consultation services.

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

## PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, August 23rd, 2023

● **Morning Session : 9:00am – 12:00 pm**

**Clinical Tools And Skills To Diagnose and Monitor HPB Related Cancers  
Abdominal Ultrasound And Fibroscan**

Chairs: Professor Ashraf Omar - Egypt and Dr. Yaw Wiafe - Ghana

**Advanced Endoscopy Workshop**

Chairs: Dr. Akwi Asombang -USA and Professor Amoako Duah -Ghana

**Pathology Case Discussions: HPB Cancer Review for Pathologists**

Chairs: Dr. Ernest Adjei - Ghana and Dr. Abidemi Omonisi - Nigeria

**Conducting Basic and Translational Science Research in Africa**

Professor Regina Appiah-Opong - Ghana, Professor Jesus Banales - Spain  
and Dr. Marius Nagalo -USA

**Lunch and Networking (12:00 – 1:00 pm)**

● **Afternoon Session : 1:00pm – 4:00 pm**

**Career Development Workshop – in Partnership with the American  
Association for the Study of Liver Diseases**

Chairs: Dr. Hailemichael Desalegn - Ethiopia

**Global Advocacy for HPB Cancers**

Chair: Ms Stacie Lindsey - Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation, USA,  
Dr. Riaz Kasmani - Mombasa Cancer Center, Kenya, and  
Pharm Bisi Bright - LiveWell Initiative LWI, Nigeria

# CONFERENCE AGENDA

## PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Wednesday, August 23rd , 2023

● **Opening Session : 5:00pm**

**AHPBCC Welcome Address**

Professor Lewis Roberts (USA) and Dr. Yvonne Nartey (Ghana)

**Gaslidd Welcome Address**

Professor Yaw Asante Awuku (Ghana) and Professor Amoako Duah (Ghana)

**Aortic Welcome Address**

Dr. Hannah Ayettey Anie (Ghana)

**Ghana Health Service Welcome Address** Dr. Patrick-Kuma Aboagye (Ghana)

**Opening Keynote:**

**History of Liver Transplantation in Africa and  
Transfer of Experience in Living Donor Liver Transplant**

Professor Amr Abdelaal (Egypt)

*President of the Egyptian Liver Transplantation Society (ELTS)*

*Secretary of the Pan Arab Liver Transplantation Society (PALTS)*

**Dinner And Conference Objectives:**

**Identifying Challenges, Successes, And  
Opportunities For HPB Cancer Research And Care In Africa**

Mr. Matthew Cooley (USA)

# SESSION 1

## HPB CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY, RISK, AND PREVENTION

Thursday, August 24th, 2023

Chair: Dr. Samuel Antwi - USA/Ghana

**9:00 – 9:20 am Genomics and Cancer Risk**

Dr. Manal Hassan (USA/Egypt)

**9:20 – 9:40 am Germline Associations for Hepatocellular Carcinoma**

Dr. Kirk Wangensteen (USA)

**9:40 – 10:00 am Genetic Epidemiology of Pancreatic Ductal  
Adenocarcinoma and Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors**

Dr. Samuel Antwi (USA)

**10:00 – 10:20 am “STOP” Hepatitis C Project—Ghana**

Dr. Yvonne Nartey (Ghana) and Dr. Samuel Antwi (USA)

**10:20 – 10:40 am HEPSANET**

Dr. Hailemichael Desalegn (Ethiopia)

**10:40 – 11:00 am Presentation, Treatment, and Survival of Patients with  
Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Changes in Egypt Over the Last Decade**

Professor Mohamed El-Kassas (Egypt)

**11:00 – 11:10 am Chronic Hepatitis in Nalerigu, Ghana**

Dr. Teresa Clark Fowler (USA)

**11:10 – 12:00 pm Discussion Panel: Implementing Cancer Prevention  
Through Risk-Factor Elimination and Reduction**

Session 1 Speakers

**12:00 – 1:00 pm Lunch, Networking, Posters, and Exhibit Hall**

# SESSION 2

## HPB CANCER DETECTION AND DIAGNOSIS

**Thursday, August 24th, 2023**

Chair: Dr. Emmanuel Nweke - South Africa

- 1:00 – 1:15 pm**     **Multimomics of PDAC in (South) African Patients**  
Dr. Emmanuel Nweke (South Africa)
- 1:15 – 1:30 pm**     **Pathology Techniques To Diagnose And Monitor HPB Diseases**  
Professor Fatimah Abdulkareem (Nigeria)
- 1:30 – 1:45 pm**     **Liquid Biopsy: Novel cfDNA Assays to Detect  
and Diagnose HPB Cancers**  
Professor Jesus Banales (Spain)
- 1:45 – 2:00 pm**     **AI-Assisted Tools for the Early Detection of Liver Disease**  
Dr. Douglas Simonetto (USA)
- 2:00 – 2:15 pm**     **GALAD Score Performance in Liver  
Cancer Detection in Africa (Virtual)**  
Dr. Ju Dong Yang (USA)
- 2:15 – 2:30 pm**     **Expanding Advanced Endoscopy Capabilities in Africa**  
Dr. Akwi Asombang (USA)
- 2:30 – 3:30 pm**     **Discussion Panel: Assessing and Implementing Novel  
Detection and Diagnostic Methods in Africa**  
Session 2 Speakers
- 3:30 – 3:45 pm**     **Roche Africa Diagnostics Symposium:  
Early Diagnosis, Screening, and Surveillance of  
Hepatocellular Carcinoma**  
Professor Mark Sonderup (South Africa)
- 6:00 – 8:00 pm**     **Dinner Program**

## SESSION 3

### BUILDING COLLABORATIVE TEAMS, IDENTIFYING FUNDING MECHANISMS, AND PUBLISHING RESEARCH IN AFRICA

Friday, August 25th, 2023

Chair: Professor Abidemi Omonisi (Nigeria)

- 9:00 – 9:30 am**     **AHPBCC Project Updates: Epidemiology of HCC in Africa, HCC Genomics in Africa, Biospecimen Collection Pilot Awards, and ERCP Training**  
Professor Lewis Roberts (USA), Dr. Kurt Sartorius (South Africa),  
Dr. Emmanuel Nweke (South Africa), Dr. Akwi Asombang (USA)
- 9:30 – 9:45 am**     **Publishing in Africa**  
Dr. Kurt Sartorius (South Africa) and Dr. Samuel Antwi (USA)
- 9:45 – 10:00 am**     **Global Registries for HPB Cancers**  
Professor Jesus Banales (Spain) and Dr. Abidemi Omonisi (Nigeria)
- 10:00 – 10:15 am**     **New Opportunities to Improve Cancer Health Disparities Research**  
Dr. James Alaro (USA)
- 10:15 – 11:15 am**     **Discussion Panel: Building [and Funding] Collaborative Research Teams**  
Session 3 Speakers
- 11:15 – 12:00 am**     **Guided Poster Session**
- 12:00 – 1:00 pm**     **Lunch, Networking, Posters, and Exhibit Hall**

## SESSION 4

### CLINICAL TREATMENT AND PALLIATIVE CARE IN HPB DISEASES

**Friday, August 25th, 2023**

Chair: Professor Ashraf Omar (Egypt)

- 1:00 – 1:15 pm      Systemic Therapy for HPB Cancer**  
Dr. Mohammed Ezzi (Kenya) and Dr. Njoki Njiraini (Kenya)
- 1:15 – 1:30 pm      Intervantional Radiology Management of HPB Cancers- Ablation, Percutaneous Biliary Stenting**  
Dr. Benjamin Sarkodie (Ghana)
- 1:30 – 2:10 pm      Surgical Management of HPB Cancers**  
Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Dr. Michael Okello (Uganda)  
Cholangiocarcinoma and Gallbladder Cancer: Dr. Asare Offei (Ghana)  
Pancreatic Cancer: Dr. Jackson Chipaila (Zambia)  
Colorectal Liver Metastasis: Dr. John Devar (South Africa)
- 2:10 – 2:25 pm      Global Clinical Trials for HPB Cancers**  
Dr. Mitesh Borad (USA)
- 2:25 – 2:40 pm      Clinical Trial Readiness**  
Dr. Adelynn Harris (USA)
- 2:40 – 3:10 pm      Palliative Care in HPB Cancer**  
Dr. Helena Musau (Kenya), Dr. Mawuli Gyakobo (Ghana),  
and Dr. Edwina Addo (Ghana)
- 3:10 – 3:25 pm      Advocacy for Patients with HPB Cancers**  
Stacie Lindsey, Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation (USA)
- 3:25 – 4:00 pm      Discussion Panel: Improving Clinical Care for Patients with HPB Diseases in Africa**  
Session Speakers
- 4:00 – 4:30 pm      Roche Africa Symposium:  
The Role of Checkpoint Inhibitors and Other Targeted Therapy in the Systemic Management of HCC -- A Case Study**  
Professor Hamdy Abdel Azim (Egypt)
- 6:00 – 8:00 pm      Dinner Program**



## SESSION 5

### IMPLEMENTING LIVER TRANSPLANTATION PROGRAMS IN AFRICA

Friday, August 25th, 2023

Chair: Professor Victor Ankoma-Sey (USA)

- 9:00 – 9:15 am**     **Liver Transplantation Update: Egypt**  
Professor Ashraf Omar (Egypt)
- 9:15 – 9:30 am**     **Liver Transplantation in Africa: What is Needed and Where We Are (Virtual)**  
Professor Wendy Spearman (South Africa)
- 9:30 – 9:45 am**     **Barriers to Liver Transplant Program Sustainment in Ghana**  
Dr. Asare Offei (Ghana)
- 9:45 – 10:00 am**     **Brain Death, Circulatory Death and Diseased Organ Donation Systems**  
Professor David Thompson (South Africa)
- 10:00 – 10:15 am**     **Liver Transplantation Options for Patients in Africa**  
Dr. Pathik Parikh (India)
- 10:15 – 11:00 am**     **Discussion Panel: Implementing Sustainable Liver transplantation Programs in Africa**  
All Session 5 Speakers
- 11:00am**     **CLOSING SESSION**
- 11:00 – 11:30 am**     **Awards and AHPBCC 2024 Conference Announcement**  
Professor Lewis Roberts (USA) and Mr. Matt Cooley (USA)
- 11:30 am**     **Closing Remarks**  
Professor Lewis Roberts (USA)

# ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE



Victor Ankoma-Sey, MD



Samuel Antwi, MPH, PhD



Akwi Asombang, MD, MPH



Yaw Asante Awuku, MBChB



Jackson Chipaila, MBChB, PhD



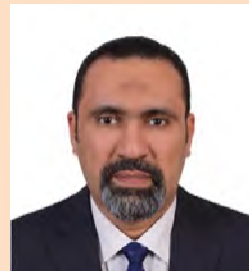
Matt Cooley, MS,MLS(ASCP)CM



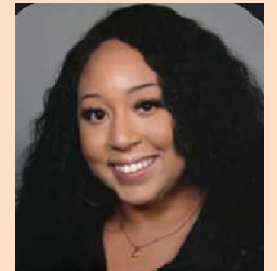
Hailemichael Desalegn, MD, PhD



Amoako Duah, MBChB



Mohamed El-Kassas, MD, PhD



Linsey Jackson



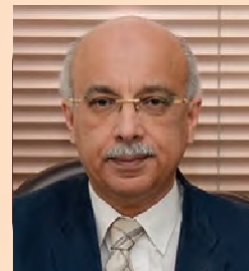
Donna Mayer



Yvonne Nartey, MBChB, PhD



Marius Nagalo, PhD



Ashraf Omar, MD, MSc



Abidemi Omonisi, MBBS, FWACP



Miranda Rank



Lewis Roberts, MBChB, PhD



Caitlin VanLith



Marko Zaki, MS, PhD



## SPEAKERS



**DR. ABIDEMI OMONISI** | Ekiti State University, Nigeria  
Sub-Dean, Faculty of Basic Clinical Sciences,  
College of Medicine, Ekiti State University Ado-Ekiti,  
Nigeria Founder, Ekiti Cancer Registry  
Executive Member, AHPBCC



**DR. ADALYNN HARRIS** | Equity Bridge LLC, USA  
Dr. Adalynn E. Harris is a scientist, educator, and public health proponent who has been committed to health equity and community engagement for over 20 years. Dr. Harris holds a PhD, an MPH, and a MHA. Throughout her career specializing in oncology clinical trials, Dr. Harris has co-authored research articles and offered presentations about emerging therapies, health disparities, and scientific research. As the founder and president of Equity Bridge, LLC, Dr. Harris remains dedicated to the advancement of medical knowledge and practices, specifically for marginalized communities within the US and for those on the continent Africa.



**DR. AHMAD MADKOUR** | Helwan University, Egypt



**DR. AKWI ASOMBANG** | Massachusetts General Hospital, USA  
Dr Akwi W. Asombang is an interventional gastroenterologist and the Director of Global Health Programs in Gastroenterology at Massachusetts General Hospital. She completed her advanced endoscopy fellowship at Beth Israel Deaconess Medicine Center, Boston, Massachusetts. She completed her gastroenterology fellowship at Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, Missouri and a Fogarty International Clinical Research fellowship. She has extensive experience in global health including clinical experience in Zambia, Nigeria, Tanzania, and India. She is the co-founder of Pan-African Organization for Health, Education and Research (POHER) - a non-governmental organization and the founder of The African Association of Future gastroenterologists (AAFGE).

## SPEAKERS



**DR. AMOAKA DUAH** | University of Ghana Medical Center, Ghana  
Dr. Amoako Duah is Head of Internal Medicine Department and Gastroenterology Unit of the University of Ghana Medical Centre Ltd. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Ghana Medical School in 2004. He is a fellow of the West Africa College of Physicians and Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons. He is the general secretary of GASLIDD. He has published 26 articles in peer-reviewed journals and his research is to make local data of gastrointestinal and liver disease available to international world.



**DR. AMR ABDELAAL** | Helwan University, Egypt  
Professor Amr Abdelaal, MD, FACS, of HBP surgery Ain Shams University (1993). Master degree (1997) & MD degree (2000) in General Surgery. Trained in HPB Surgery in HEH- Lyon, France as a resident (2001-2002) and Fellow (2005- 2008). Currently, Head of the HPB unit & director of LDLTx program in Air Force Specialized Hospital. Founder and first President of the Egyptian Liver Transplantation Society. Member of the Egyptian Supreme Council of Organ Transplantation. Secretary of the Pan Arab Liver Transplant Society (PALTS). Fellow of the American college of Surgeons (FACS) and Founder of the MENA chapter of IHPBA. Founder of the LDLTx unit in SGH- Jeddah - KSA, from 2016. Founder of the LDLTx unit in Triche ville university Hospital Abidjan - Cote d' Ivoire, from 2021 through collaboration with the WHO.



**DR. ASARE OFFEI** | Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Ghana  
Dr Asare Offei is a Consultant Surgeon at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, and a senior lecturer at the University of Ghana Medical School. He is a fellow of the West African College of Surgeons and has further specialized in surgery of the liver, pancreas, gallbladder and biliary system. He currently leads a multi-disciplinary team that performs routine surgeries of the liver, gallbladder and pancreas at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Accra. He is a member of the Ghana Medical Association, member of the Ghana College of Surgeons and a fellow of the West African College of Surgeons. His research interest involves cancers of the liver, biliary system, pancreas as well as liver transplantation.



**PROFESSOR ASHRAF OMAR ABDELAZIZ OSMAN** | Cairo University, Egypt

- Professor of Hepatology & Tropical Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University
- Liver Transplant Consultant, Cairo University & Dar Al-Fouad Hospital
- President of Egyptian Society of Liver Transplant (ESLC)
- Founder/Director of the Multidisciplinary Liver Cancer Clinic, Cairo University
- Consultant Hepatologist, National Cancer Institute (NCI) Cairo
- Board Editor of Hepatocellular Carcinoma Journal
- Chairman of MENA NCCN Committee of Hepatocellular Carcinoma

## SPEAKERS



**DR. ATSU SEAKE-KWAWU** | University of Ghana Medical Center, Ghana  
Dr. Atsu Godwin Seake-Kwawu is the Programme Manager of the National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme in Ghana. He came to this job in June 2020 with a background in medical and public health practice at district level in the Ghana Health Service, providing effective leadership to district health teams with the objective of attaining universal health care for all households under his jurisdiction. His passion is to identify the critical points to intervene in order to achieve real benefits for people and have his vision of Ghana free of the threat of viral hepatitis firmly set on course.



**DR. BENJAMIN SARKODIE** | University of Ghana Medical School, Ghana  
Dr. Benjamin Dabo Sarkodie is a Ghanaian Consultant Vascular and Interventional Radiologist of high repute. He is, also, a Senior Lecturer at the University of Ghana Medical School and has pioneered multiple VIR procedures in Ghana after his completion of various fellowships in Ghana, USA, Singapore, and Korea. In pursuit of his vision of expanding capacity and manpower development in VIR, Dr. Sarkodie has pioneered a VIR fellowship in Ghana (since 2020) and currently has 2 fellows in training. This fellowship program is accredited and is run, collaboratively, with the Ghana College Of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr Sarkodie has published many papers in VIR and has special interest in Neuro and oncological interventions



**PHARM. BISI BRIGHT** | LiveWell Initiative LWI, Nigeria  
Bisi Bright is a Consultant Clinical Pharmacist, Lecturer, Health Systems Researcher, and Public Health Practitioner. She is 1st Vice Chairman and CEO of LiveWell Initiative LWI, a self-sustaining nonprofit organization. Her organisation has trained over 4,500 women from 18 African countries as Hepatitis Champions including 450 lady pharmacists from Egypt, 120 Women in Mauritius including the Mayor of Quatre Bornes, 100 Lady Pharmacists and Clergy women in Lagos & Abuja, 70 young pharmacists including Rwanda, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Zambia etc and more than 70 low income low literacy women who have never been schooled. She represents the Commonwealth of Massachussets' Extraordinary Women Advancing Healthcare Awards - the EWAH Awards Africa, as its Regional Representative in Africa.



**DR. DAVID THOMSON** | University of Cape Town, South Africa  
David Thomson is a critical care subspecialist and abdominal transplant surgeon at Groote Schuur Hospital and the University of Cape Town. His interests are medical education and system improvement creating the massive open online course Organ Donation: From Death to Life hosted on Coursera.org. He is the immediate past president of the Southern African Transplantation Society and developed a national report on Organ and Tissue Donation in South Africa: Creating a National Strategic Roadmap in collaboration with the International Society for Organ Donation and Procurement and worked on the World Brain Death Project.

## SPEAKERS



**DR. DOUGLAS SIMONETTO** | Mayo Clinic, USA

Dr. Doug Simonetto is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Director of the Gastroenterology and Hepatology Fellowship Program at Mayo Clinic Rochester. Dr. Simonetto is the medical director for REMODI (Reimagining Medical Oversight Through Digital Innovation) in the department of medicine and he serves as the AI and bioinformatics topic editor for AGA's GastroHep Advances journal. Dr. Simonetto's research and practice focus on management of alcohol-associated liver disease, vascular liver disorders and complications of portal hypertension. His research spans from clinical trials to advanced data analytics and digital solutions and his program is funded by institutional and federal grants.



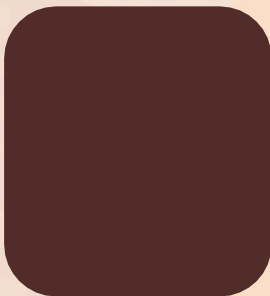
**DR. EDWINA ADDO** | Castle Clinic, Ghana

Edwina Beryl V N D Addo is a Specialist Family Physician and serves as the Director of Clinical Services at The Office of the President, the Castle Clinic, in Osu, Accra, Ghana, the facility that provides primary care to the staff at the seat of government as well as the surrounding community of Osu. Until her current appointment, she was Chief Resident of the Family Medicine program at the Korle-Bu Polyclinic, Accra, Ghana. She believes strongly in the importance of integrating patients' beliefs, spirituality and culture into their medical care. Her goal is to become a trainer of Palliative Care providers in order to help incorporate Palliative Care into the Ghanaian healthcare system.



**DR. EMMANUEL NWEKE** | University of Witwatersrand, South Africa

Dr. Nweke obtained an MSc (cum laude) in 2015 and a PhD in 2017 from WITS University. Currently, he is a Research Scientist and Coordinator. His primary research interests are in biomarker discovery and understanding molecular mechanisms in the development and progression of hepatopancreatobiliary cancers amongst patients of African ancestry by utilizing a multi-omics approach. He is currently an executive member of the Surgical Research Society of Southern Africa, an appointed member of the membership and development committee of the European-African Hepatopancreatobiliary Association and the co-chair of the Biospecimen and laboratory analysis committee of the African HepatoPancreatoBiliary Cancer Consortium.



**DR. ERNEST ADJEI** | Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, Ghana

## SPEAKERS



**PROFESSOR FATIMAH ABDULKAREEM** | University of Lagos, Nigeria



**DR. HAILEMICHAEL DESALEGN** | St. Paul's Hospital Millennium, Zambia  
Dr. Hailemichael Desalegn, MD, PhD, is currently working as an Associate Professor and Consultant Gastroenterologist/Hepatologist at St. Paul's Hospital Millennium Medical College. He is a Director of Sub-Saharan Africa Gastroenterology iECHO clinic. He is current Vice President of the Ethiopian Gastroenterology Association. He is also one of the the co-founders of Hepatitis in Africa Network (HEPSANET). He has built successful research collaborations and leading one of the largest treatment cohorts for Hepatitis B in sub-Saharan Africa, since 2015. He is also leading a national scale-up of Hepatitis treatment in Ethiopia, which is established in four regions. He was awarded as "Hepatitis Elimination Champion" on 2022, by the Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination.



**DR. HANNAH NAA GOGWE AYETTEY** | Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Ghana  
Dr. Hannah Naa Gogwe Ayettey is a Senior Specialist Oncologist at the National Radiotherapy Oncology and Nuclear Medicine Centre, Korle-Bu. She is a Fellow of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons and Faculty Chairperson for Radiology/ Oncology and Radiotherapy. Dr. Ayettey is a Project Coordinator with IAEA in Ghana, member of the Research and Technical Committee, RPI Board, GAEC and a member of the African Cancer Coalition. Her Clinical and research interests are in Breast, Head and Neck Cancers and Cancer Genomics. She is the Secretary General of AORTIC and President of the Breast Society of Ghana.



**DR. HELENA MUSAU** | Kenyatta University, Kenya  
I am a consultant Clinical/Radiation Oncologist and palliative care specialist. I am the Head of the Oncology Department at Kenyatta University Teaching Research and Referral Hospital and an Adjunct Lecturer in the Radiation Oncology program at the University of Nairobi. I currently serve as the secretary of the Kenya Society of Haematologist and Oncologists (KESHO). I'm also a member of various MOH initiatives, NGO's and professional organizations related to cancer awareness and education. My passion is to improve cancer care standards in Kenya through research, teaching, clinical practice, and advocacy.

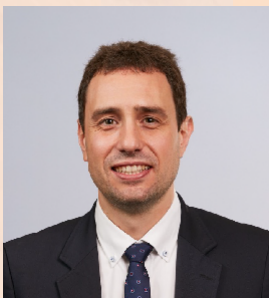
## SPEAKERS



**DR JACKSON CHIPAILA** | Levy Mwanawasa University Teaching Hospital, Zambia



**DR. JAMES ALARO** | National Cancer Institute, USA



**DR. JESUS BANALES** | Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Ghana

Dr. Jesús Bañales is Ikerbasque Research Professor and Head of the Liver Diseases Group at Biodonostia Institute (Spain). He is also Professor of Molecular Biology at Univ. Navarra (Spain) and Associate Professor of Medicine/Sciences at Mayo Clinic (USA) and Univ. Área Andina (Colombia). His group is studying the molecular mechanisms involved in liver pathobiology and the development of novel diagnostic and therapeutic strategies. Prof. Bañales has authored > 200 scientific publications and has led over 50 national and international competitive research projects. He is Editorial Board member of Hepatology, Journal of Hepatology (Associate Editor), and Nature Reviews Gastroenterology & Hepatology. He has been recognized with international research awards like the "EASL Emerging Leader Award 2018" and "UEG Rising Star Award 2018".



**PROFESSOR JOHN DEVAR** | Wits University, South Africa



## SPEAKERS



**DR. JU DONG YANG** | Cedars-Sinai, USA



**DR. KIRK WANGENSTEEN** | Mayo Clinic, USA

Dr. Kirk Wangenstein is a physician-scientist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. His areas of expertise are in liver biology, liver cancer, and clinical and molecular genetics. The overarching mission for his lab and clinical practice is to characterize genetic drivers of liver disease and cancer and to discover new therapeutic targets. His research focuses on unraveling poorly understood genetic pathways involved in liver repopulation, homeostasis, and oncogenesis.



**PROFESSOR KULWINDER DUA** | Medical College of Wisconsin, USA Kulwinder S Dua is a Professor in the Department of Medicine and Pediatrics (Gastroenterology) and Professor of Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He is the Director of Advanced GI Endoscopy program at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Dr. Dua's primary interest has been in advanced interventional endoscopy. He is an inventor and has several patents and FDA cleared devices. Some of Dr. Dua's awards include the prestigious ASGE Master of Endoscopy award, the B.J. Vakil Memorial gold medal, the Poona Oration Gold Medal, Solly Mark Oration of South Africa, and the 2017 USA Healthcare Hero award. He has continuously been on America's Best Doctor's list since 2002.



**PROFESSOR KURT SARTORIUS** | University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa

## SPEAKERS



**DR. LEWIS ROBERTS** | Mayo Clinic, USA

Dr. Lewis R. Roberts is the Peter and Frances Georgeson Professor in Gastroenterology Cancer Research and Consultant in Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Mayo Clinic. 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 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. Dr. Roberts is also a founding member of AHPBCC.

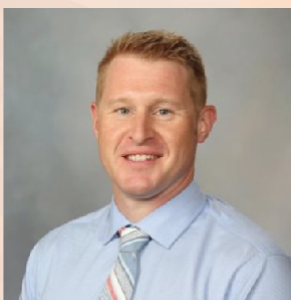


**DR. MANAL HASSAN** | Baylor College of Medicine, USA



**DR. MARIUS NAGALO** | University of Arkansas, USA

Bolni Marius Nagalo, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Pathology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) and a Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute Cancer Biology Research Program member. Nagalo received his bachelor's degree, a master's in molecular genetics, and a Ph.D. in molecular biology and infectious diseases from the University of Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso, West Africa. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Molecular Medicine at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, and joined the Mayo faculty in Arizona as an Assistant Professor of Molecular Medicine and Oncology.



**MR. MATTHEW COOLEY** | Mayo Clinic, USA

## SPEAKERS



**DR. MAWULI GYAKOBO** | University of Cape Coast, Ghana

Dr. Gyakobo is an Associate Professor with the Department of Internal Medicine and Therapeutics, School of Medical Sciences, University of Cape Coast. He doubles as the National Coordinator for the Pain Free Hospital Initiative Programme and supervises the training of health staff in the management of pain in a scale up across the country. Dr. Gyakobo is also the current Chief Examiner for the Faculty of Family Medicine, Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons. For more than half his medical practice, Dr. Gyakobo served in rural areas in Ghana in various capacities clinical care, public health and administration. He was an "all duty" doctor with a flair for all manner of cases regardless of sex, age, organ system or acuteness of illness.



**DR. MICHAEL OKELLO** | Makerere University College, Uganda

Dr. Okello Michael is Laparoscopic, Hepatobiliary and Liver transplant surgeon. He is the Chief surgeon of Uganda Martyrs Hospital Lubaga and serves as a senior lecturer at anatomy department, Makerere University College of Health Sciences. Kampala, Uganda. He has special interest in advancing Interventional endoscopy, laparoscopic liver surgery and liver transplant surgery in Uganda. He pioneered ERCP service In Uganda and has successfully made liver surgery, Whipple's procedures and complex biliary resections routine procedures in Uganda after performing the highest single center Whipple's pancreaticoduodenectomies and laparoscopic liver resections in Uganda.



**DR. MITESH BORAD** | Mayo Clinic, USA



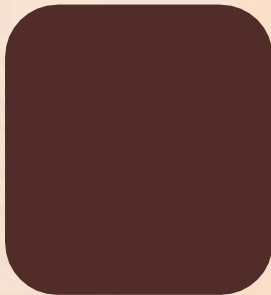
**PROFESSOR MOHAMED EL-KASSAS** | Helwan University, Egypt

## SPEAKERS



**DR. MOHAMMED EZZI** | University of Nairobi Kenya

Dr. Mohammed Ezzi is a Lecturer and Consultant Medical Oncologist in the Department of Clinical Medicine and Therapeutics at the University of Nairobi in Nairobi, Kenya. His academic focus is in medical education and is passionate about teaching across the spectrum of medical learners with an interest in enhancing oncologic knowledge amongst non-oncologist. Dr. Mohammed Ezzi is a member of KESHO, ASCO, ESMO, AORTIC and KAP. His key areas of interest include breast cancer, rare cancers and clinical pharmacology.



**DR. NJOKI NIJRAINI** | Kenyatta National Hospital, Kenya



**DR. PATHIK PARIKH** |

- Senior Consultant
- Hepatologist & Liver Transplant Physician
- MD (Medicine), DM (Medical Gastroenterology) (University First)
- Fellowship in Hepatology, Liver Transplant (Royal Free Hospital, London)
- Fellowship in Liver Intensive Care (King's College Hospital, London)
- Fellowship in Liver Oncology and Radiology (Kindai University, Osaka, Japan)
- Trained in Hepatology and Liver Transplant (Mayo Clinic, USA)
- Trained in Portal Haemodynamics (ILBS, New Delhi)



**DR. PATRICK-AKUM ABOAGYE** |

## SPEAKERS



**DR. REGINA APPIAH-OPONG** | Noguchi Memorial Institute, Ghana

Dr. Regina Appiah-Opong is a Professor of Toxicologist and Pharmacology at the Department of Clinical Pathology, Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, College of Health Sciences, University of Ghana. Her research is focused on establishing cytochrome P450 (CYP) drug-metabolizing enzyme variants in Ghanaians to determine the safety of drugs and other therapeutic products on the market.. Her interest in drug discovery from plant sources has caused her to carry out several research works in this area, particularly anticancer, anti-malaria and antioxidant studies on medicinal plants.



**DR. RIAZ KASMANI** | Mombasa Cancer Centre, Kenya

Dr Riaz is currently based in Mombasa, practicing as a Medical Oncologist. He is the Head Oncologist at Mombasa Cancer Centre. He has a busy practice, with offices based at Mombasa Cancer Centre, Mombasa Hospital and Aga Khan Hospital. He is a visiting consultant at all the major hospitals in Mombasa, Kenya. Dr. Riaz has a deep interest in research and has published in renowned oncological journals and has also been a speaker in many national and international conferences.



**DR. SAMUEL ANTWI** | Mayo Clinic, USA

Dr. Samuel Antwi, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, and a Senior Associate Consultant in the Mayo Clinic Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, and the Mayo Clinic Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Antwi's research is focused on the molecular genetic epidemiology of hepatopancreatobiliary cancer. His research seeks to understand host cancer susceptibility by integrating epidemiological methods with human genetics, molecular biology, and cellular biochemistry to infer individual cancer risk with a focus on quantitative risk assessment and cancer prevention.



**DR. SANDIE THOMSON** | University of Cape Town, South Africa

## SPEAKERS



**PROFESSOR SOLOMON ROTIMI** | Covenant University, Nigeria

Solomon Rotimi, Ph.D., is a Professor of Clinical Biochemistry and co-Chair of the research committee of the African Organization for Research and Training in Cancer (AORTIC). His research focuses on understanding the contributions of genomics and environmental factors, including pathogens, nutrients and xenobiotics to He is involved in various molecular and genomics studies on cancer in Africans and currently collaborating with Dr. Clayton Yates (CaPTC Co-PI and Professor, Johns Hopkins University) on DOD-funded research to investigate the role of inflammation in prostate cancer in men of African ancestry. It is my hope that my studies will contribute to reducing the burden and disparity of genetic disorders among Blacks.



**DR. TERESA CLARK FOWLER** | Good News Clinic, USA

I completed my Internal Medicine residency at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. I practiced medicine in Atlanta from 1981-2016, treating patients in outpatient, hospital, and long-term care settings. During those years, I also volunteered my skills for the underserved both in the US and in Nalerigu, starting about 2006. Since leaving my practice in 2016, I have volunteered as Medical Director for an indigent clinic in the US, and twice a year at the Baptist Medical Center in Nalerigu. Having seen a significant need for hepatitis treatment, my particular interest at both sites is chronic hepatitis, having started hepatitis B and C programs in Nalerigu, and run the hepatitis C effort at my clinic.



**DR. VICTOR ANKOMA-SEY** | Houston Methodist Hospital, USA



**DR. WENDY SPEARMAN** | 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. She is a co-lead of the 'Viral Hepatitis in sub-Saharan Africa' Project ECHO Clinic programme promoting delivery of care for patients with viral hepatitis in under-resourced regions. She was appointed by WHO Africa as the Lead consultant to develop the National Guidelines on the management and prevention of viral hepatitis in South Africa. She is the co-chair of the WHO 2023 Hepatitis B Guidelines Development Group. Her research interests include viral hepatitis, Hepatocellular carcinoma, MASLD, drug-induced liver injuries and liver transplantation.

# SPEAKERS



**DR. YAW AWUKU** | University of Cape Coast, Ghana



**PROFESSOR YAW WIAFE** | Kwame Nkrumah University, Ghana

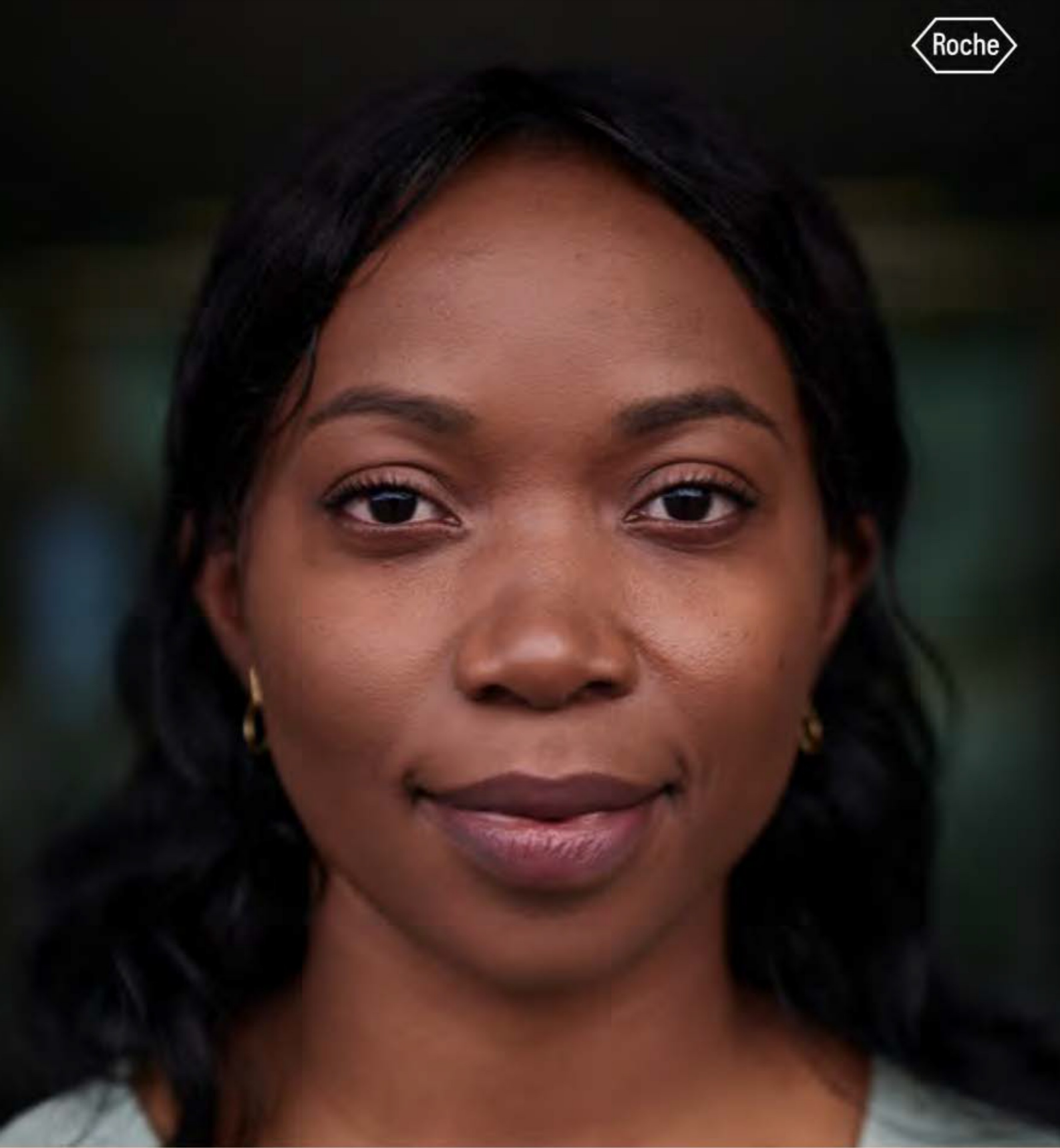
Dr. Yaw Amo Wiafe is a Senior Lecturer in Medical Imaging at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. He is an Advanced Practice Sonographer with over 18 years of clinical ultrasound experience. He holds a PhD and MSc in Advanced Practice Imaging from University of Derby, and a Graduate Diploma in Medical Ultrasound from Monash University. His current research interest focuses on the impact of diagnostic ultrasound and elastography in hepatobiliary, cardiovascular, and cardio metabolic diseases. He also has extensive clinical experience in women's health imaging.



**DR. YVONNE NARTEY** | University of Cape Coast, Ghana

Dr Yvonne Ayerki Nartey is a physician specialist at the Cape Coast Teaching Hospital, Cape Coast, Ghana. She holds a PhD in Medical Epidemiology from the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden. Dr Nartey is pursuing a research fellowship with the Coalition for Global Hepatitis Elimination, working on projects related to testing and treatment of viral hepatitis in Ghana. Her clinical research focuses on the risk factors and clinical outcomes of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) in sub-Saharan Africa. She is a member of the AHPBCC biospecimen and laboratory analysis committee and is working to establish the first AHPBCC biobank and registry in Ghana.





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