

Africa

Immunopaedia Ambassadors – Africa

Our Ambassadors from across the African continent.

What is your name?

Tégmaba Gnodja



What is your current position:

PhD candidate

Which institute and country do you work in?

Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar, Senegal

What is your home country?

Togo

What are your research interests?

Immunology, virology, Cancers

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a Master's degree holder in immunology and infection from Cheikh Anta Diop University. I completed my Bachelor's degree in medical and biological analysis at the University of Lomé. I am currently a motivated and dynamic PhD student in immunology at the Cheikh Anta Diop University. I am working on immunology of oncogenic hepatitis including Hepatitis B and C. I appreciate working in a multidisciplinary, enthusiastic and respectful working environment.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Tégmaba Gnodja](#)

ResearchGate – [Gnodja TÉGMABA](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Cytometry, cell culture, immunogenic

What is your name?

Faith Oluwamakinde



What is your current position:

Postgraduate Student

Which institute and country do you work in?

Medical Immunology, University of Pretoria, South Africa

What is your home country?

South Africa

What are your research interests?

Immuno-oncology, Immunotherapy, B-cell function

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a future Medical Immunologist who is passionate about medical research in the fields of oncology & Immunotherapy. I am currently a Postgraduate student studying in the field of Medical Immunology where we are focusing on both diagnostic and molecular research on different topics. My goal is to pursue a career in Cancer related topics like Immunotherapy where genetics and immunological therapies and infectious diseases come together. I am passionate about helping people in ways and solutions that are challenging for future generations. Research has shown me many ways in which treatments and aids can be different from conventional

therapies. Being able to make a difference in people's lives with each of the solutions is a lifelong goal. I enjoy volunteering for a variety of organisations, including my university, and engaging with patients who have survived cancer, relatives of those who have passed away due to cancer, or even advising and mentoring current patients. My skills include the use of specialized equipment to measure and document results, adherence to procedures and quality standards with a focus on accuracy, multitasking, and the ability to collaborate with others. I am patient-focused, am highly organized, and am proficient in both verbal and written communication.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Faith T. Oluwamakinde](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Immunity, Antibodies, Cell function

What is your name?

Abolaji Olagunju



What is your current position:

PhD Student

Which institute and country do you work in?

Department of Immunology, Institute of Biomedical Sciences, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil

What is your home country?

Nigeria

What are your research interests?

Immuno-oncology, Vaccine, Cell death

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I have earned my Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Biochemistry from Ladoke Akintola University and the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, respectively. I am a Doctorate student at the Department of Immunology, Institute of Biomedical Sciences, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil. My current research is focused on the evaluation of recombinant live vectors such as bacteria (*Listeria monocytogenes*) and viruses (adenovirus) as potential candidates for vaccination vectors to induce in vivo antigen-specific CD8+ T cells and elicit an anti-tumor immune response. This study is currently being done in parallel with the cell death pathways by evaluating the involvement of key necroptosis and pyroptosis regulatory (receptor-interacting protein kinase 3 (RIPK3) and Caspase 1) and effector (mixed lineage kinase domain-like protein pseudokinase (MLKL) and gasdermin D) molecules.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Abolaji Olagunju](#)

Immunology Keywords:

T cells, B cells and Antigen-Presenting cells

What is your name?

Onyeka Chukwudozie



What is your current position:

PhD Candidate

Which institute and country do you work in?

University of California, San Diego, USA

What is your home country?

Nigeria

What are your research interests?

Virology, Immunology and structural biology (Cryo-EM)

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

As a native of Nigeria's Igbo Tribe, I earned my bachelor's degree in Cell Biology and Genetics, specializing in molecular biology, from the University of Lagos, Nigeria. I am currently pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of California, San Diego, working in Erica Ollmann Saphire's Lab at the La Jolla Institute for Immunology. My research involves the fields of immunology, virology, and structural biology to develop long-lasting neutralizing antibodies that are cross-reactive against multiple lineages of Lassa virus. My work focuses on characterizing the human B cell response to LASV vaccination using novel, conformation-specific antigens, which could lead to the establishment of effective Lassa virus vaccines. I am dedicated to advancing our knowledge of viral pathogens and developing effective therapeutics and vaccines to combat them. One of my notable achievements is the use of Cryo-EM to solve the structure of Ebola virus bound to a human antibody. This discovery delineated the mechanism by which a glycan cap-based antibody neutralizes EBOV by disrupting proteolytic cleavage of the glycan shield and mucin domain, thereby inhibiting viral attachment to the NPC1 host receptor. Ultimately, I aim to contribute to the global fight against viral pandemics and improve the health outcomes of vulnerable populations worldwide.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Onyeka S. Chukwudozie](#)

ResearchGate – [Onyeka Chukwudozie](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Antibody therapeutics, structural immunology, Ebola and Lassa

What is your name?

Brian Munansangu



What is your current position:

PhD Candidate

Which institute and country do you work in?

Molecular Biology and Human Genetics, Stellenbosch University,
South Africa

What is your home country?

Zambia

What are your research interests?

Tuberculosis, Diabetes, Cancer

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a PhD Candidate in the Immunology Research Group at Stellenbosch University in the Division of Molecular Biology and Human Genetics, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences. My research focuses on the immunometabolic profiles of innate and adaptive host cells, with a particular emphasis on myeloid-derived suppressor cells (MDSC). In addition, we are interested in the immune mechanisms of the host that mediate pathogen protection and escape in the lungs—the site of pulmonary TB disease. My early training was in the field of dentistry at the University of Zambia. However, I've always had a passion for immunology, so I switched careers to pursue my passion. Since 2014, my main interest has been research, and I've worked on topics addressing ailments such as diabetes, Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), and currently host immunity to Mycobacterium tuberculosis (M.tb) disease. In my leisure time, I enjoy playing chess, reading novels on diverse topics

such as philosophy, technology and the future, health and nutrition, the arts and culture, and jogging to stay in shape.

What are your online profiles?.

ResearchGate – [Brian Munansangu](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Immunometabolism, MDSC, Glycolysis

What is your name?

Ibrahim El Mitri



What is your current position:

Resident Physician

Which institute and country do you work in?

Department of Immunology, Hassan II Hospital, Fez, Morocco

What is your home country?

Morocco

What are your research interests?

Immunodeficiencies, Food Allergy, Autoimmunity

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a resident biologist in my second year in the Department of Immunology. I am interested in immunodeficiencies, food allergies and autoimmunity in the pediatric population. In Morocco, there is little research in these topics and statistics are lacking, so I am drawn to these areas, especially immunodeficiencies. We are noticing a high number of consanguinity prevalence in children with immunodeficiency diseases. Autoimmune diseases have also increased in recent years, such as Celiac disease and Crohn's disease with many

factors implicated including; changing food habits, heredity and environment.

What are your online profiles?.

LinkedIn – [Ibrahim El Mitri](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Immunology, Allergy, Autoimmunity

What is your name?

Mberkadji Ngana Salem



What is your current position:

Trainee Scientific Officer

Which institute and country do you work in?

Medical Research Council, The Gambia Unit at LSHTM

What is your home country?

Chad

What are your research interests?

Vaccine, Immunology, Tuberculosis

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a young scientist/researcher who loves Immunology and Medical research. I graduated with BSc in Medical Biology and MSc in Immunology and infectious diseases at Cheikh Anta Diop University (Dakar/Senegal). My master research project was about “IgG responses against MSP antigen of merozoites of Plasmodium Falciparum with ELISA method”. I am currently trainee with Tuberculosis/Immunology team supervised by Dr Leopold Tientcheu at MRCG at LSHTM (The Gambia), where I developed an interest in Tuberculosis/Immunology. My current

project is about "Impact of Monocytes Differentiation on Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Complex". I wish to do a PhD in this field.

What are your online profiles?.

LinkedIn – [Mberkadji Ngana](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Monocytes Differentiation, Tuberculosis, Host Directed Therapy

What is your name?

Hylemariam Mihiretie Mengist



What is your current position:

Assistant Professor

Which institute and country do you work in?

PhD fellow in biochemistry and molecular biology at University of Science and Technology of China

Assistant Professor at Department of Medical Lab Science, Debre Markos University, Ethiopia

What is your home country?

Ethiopia

What are your research interests?

Vaccine, Drug, diagnostics

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am passionate in immunology, biochemistry and molecular biology research. My research interests span over pathogenesis, host-pathogen interaction, drug resistance, immune evasion, vaccine and drug design and diagnostics. I intend to apply immunological, molecular biology, biochemical

and biophysical tools to decipher the comprehensive pathogenesis, diagnosis and therapeutics of viral , bacterial, parasitic, fungal and genetic diseases.

What are your online profiles?.

LinkedIn – [Hylemariam Mihiretie Mengist](#)

Google Scholar – [Hylemariam Mihiretie Mengist](#)

ResearchGate – [Hylemariam Mihiretie Mengist](#)

Immunology Keywords:

T cells, immunotherapy, immunodiagnostics

What is your name?

Callixte Cyuzuzo



What is your current position:

Assistant Lecturer

Which institute and country do you work in?

Department of Biomedical Laboratory Science, Kibogora Polytechnic University

What is your home country?

Rwanda

What are your research interests?

Immunology to infection, Immuno-oncology, Immuno-transplantation

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I serve as an Assistant Lecturer at the Faculty of Health Sciences, Department of Biomedical Laboratory Science, Kibogora Polytechnic University where I teach Advanced Immunology and clinical Immunology and Virology. I hold a BSc

in Biotechnology from University of Rwanda, MSc in Immunology from Postgraduate School, Universitas Airlangga, Indonesia and I am currently an active master's student in Public Health with concentration in Epidemiology at Universitas Diponegoro, Semarang, Indonesia. Sustaining our existence is brittle and hampered by diseases and aging, yet seemingly held together by the aspects, principles and applications of immunology. From that standpoint, I am very much fascinated in various medical fields including but not limited to immunology to infection with much focus on parasitic and viral infections, immuno-oncology, transplantation immunology, immunonutrition, immunoageing, autoimmune diseases, stem cells and tissue engineering, immunodiagnosis and other various aspects of biomedical sciences. My thesis research focused on comparison and characterization of IgG immune responses to Plasmodium berghei Schizont Rich Antigen (PbSAg) and Plasmodium berghei Ring Trophozoite Schizont Gametocyte Antigen (PbRTSGAg) with a purpose of determining malaria vaccine candidates. Furthermore, I am much interested in both in vivo and in vitro researches with keenness of communicating scientific knowledge to the world through publications.

What are your online profiles?.

LinkedIn – [Cyuzuzo Callixte](#)

Google Scholar – [Cyuzuzo Callixte](#)

Twitter – [@CallixteCyuzuzo](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Innate immune cells, vaccine and Immunotherapy

What is your name?

Henok Andualem



What is your current position:

Lecturer

Which institute and country do you work in?

Immunology Unit, Medical Laboratory Science, Debre Tabor University

What is your home country?

Ethiopia

What are your research interests?

Vaccine, cancer immunotherapy, and antibody-based therapy trials

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I received my BSc degree in Medical Laboratory science from Wollo university. I continued my education in medical Immunology at University of Gondar, Ethiopia with research area focusing on characterization of NK cells among HIV patients. During this path, I developed interest in the immune response to vaccine. Then, I have extended my area of research into by flowcytometry the analysis of innate cells including NK, monocytes, and DC, and B cells in response to HBV vaccine aiming to understand changes in sub-optimal response among HIV adults. Both studies are under the supervision of Dr, Rawleigh Howe, Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI). I am highly passionate on new vaccine, cancer immunotherapy, and antibody-based therapy trials.

What are your online profiles?.

LinkedIn – [Henok Andualem](#)

ReserachGate – [Henok Andualem](#)

Twitter – [@henokyaa](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Innate immune cells, vaccine and Immunotherapy

What is your name?

Faisal Nuhu



What is your current position:

PhD Student

Which institute and country do you work in?

Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases-University of Manitoba

What is your home country?

Ghana

What are your research interests?

Immune response to infectious diseases

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am currently a PhD student in the department of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at University of Manitoba. My research focuses on the mechanisms of cytokine-associated HIV susceptibility in female genital tract: defining the roles of IL-2 and type I interferon.

What are your online profiles?.

LinkedIn – [Faisal Nuhu](#)

Immunology Keywords:

HIV, Cytokines, Inflammation

What is your name?

Frédéric Christian Diaz



What is your current position:

Master Student

Which institute and country do you work in?

University Cheikh Anta DIOP of DAKAR

What is your home country?

Sénégal

What are your research interests?

Immuno-allergology; Immuno-parasitology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

From a young age, I showed a keen interest in the medical field. Also, after obtaining my baccalaureate, I opted for pharmaceutical studies. After my success in the Senegalese Hospitals Internship Competition and obtaining my State Diploma of Doctor of Pharmacy, Biological Sciences and especially Immunology seduced me. I wanted to go further in acquiring knowledge in immunology. I enrolled in the Master in Immunology and Infection at the University Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar. I have validated the 3 semesters of the master and I am currently preparing my end of master thesis. After obtaining the master's degree in Immunology, I plan to prepare a Doctorate PhD. My professional plan is to pursue a career as a teacher-researcher.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Frédéric DIAZ](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Atopic dermatitis ; Atopic march; Allergy

What is your name?

Feleke Mekonnen



What is your current position:

Assistant Professor

Which institute and country do you work in?

Medical laboratory Sciences, Bahir dar University

What is your home country?

Ethiopia

What are your research interests?

COVID-19, TB/HIV and Arboviruses

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I graduated with Master of Science in Medical Microbiology from University of Gondar, Ethiopia. I have been working in the Bahir dar University and University of Gondar, Department of Medical Microbiology as an instructor and researcher. I was a participant of Immunopaedia course in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia. My previous research and work experience relies mostly on infectious and non-infectious diseases such as HIV, TB, Cancer, Diabetes. I have an experience of more than 18 years as medical laboratory technologist at different settings ranging from peripheral health facilities to the regional health research laboratory Center in Amhara region, Ethiopia. I have also worked at USAID funded project MSH/HEAL-TB (Help Ethiopia Address the Low TB performance) for more than 4 and half years, which was dedicated to improve case detection and treatment outcome of TB in Ethiopia. My ultimate goal is to work with research based groups in Infectious and non-infectious diseases, new diagnostic modalities, immunology,

new vaccine as well as drug development and digging out new scientific ideas for better clinical and programmatic management of major public health problems.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Feleke Mekonnen](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Adaptive immune response, Phagocytosis, Cell mediated immunity

What is your name?

Gloria Mensah



What is your current position:

Research Fellow

Which institute and country do you work in?

Bacteriology, Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, Ghana

What is your home country?

Ghana

What are your research interests?

Host Immune response to TB, Immunological biomarkers for TB, Immunodiagnostics for paediatric TB

Tell us about yourself and your research interests :

I am a Research Fellow at the Department of Bacteriology, Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research and a part time lecturer at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Ghana where I teach veterinary Microbiology. I was

previously a postdoc with Afrique One-ASPIRE, a one Health Research consortia under the DELTAS program of the African Academy of sciences. I have a PhD in Medical Research-International Health from the Center for International Health of the Ludwig Maximillian's University, Munich-Germany. I am currently a Fellow of the African Science leadership Program (ASLP) of the University of Pretoria. My research interests include Host-Pathogen interaction in Tuberculosis and other bacterial zoonosis as well as vaccine, biomarkers and immunodiagnostic tools for TB. I am currently conducting a study that seeks to provide immunodiagnostic options for children suspected of having TB using blood and or Urine because many children cannot cough up the sputum required for the regular TB test. My career milestones include being part of the team that coordinated the first ever Tuberculin Skin Test Survey in Ghana involving 25,000 school children that led to an estimation of the risk of TB infection in 2010.

What are your online profiles?

Immunology Keywords:

Immunological Biomarkers, Immunodiagnostics for TB, immune correlates

What is your name?

Linda Djune Yemeli



What is your current position:

PhD Candidate and Research Assistant

Which institute and country do you work in?

Department of Biochemistry, University of Yaoundé 1 and Centre for Research on Filariasis and other Tropical diseases, Cameroon

What is your home country?

Cameroon

What are your research interests?

Immunobiology, Diagnosis, Tropical Diseases

Tell us about yourself and your research interests :

My long-term research interest involves the development of a comprehensive understanding of how genetic diversity and immunobiology can contribute to the fight against infectious diseases, especially neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). I, therefore, chose to do a BSc in Biochemistry at the University of Yaoundé I in Cameroon. During my BSc training, I learned Cell biology, Molecular Biology, Chemistry, and Immunology. As part of my graduate studies, I conducted, under the supervision of Dr. Palmer Netongo, a study on the deletion of the Histidine Rich Protein 2 and its implication for malaria rapid diagnostic tests. For my PhD thesis, I am diving deeper into microbiology and immunology, by studying Loa loa antigens that cross-react with lymphatic filariasis rapid tests. For this study, I am mentored by recognized leaders in the field of Neglected Tropical Diseases (Pr. Joseph Kamgno, Pr. Philip Budge and Dr. Hugues Nana Djeunga). At the completion of the PhD thesis, I plan to follow a post-doctoral program to improve myself in immunology and scientific research. Finally, I will set up a research pool in immuno-biology at the Center for Research on Filariasis and other tropical diseases, so that using immunology I could make my contribution in the fight against NTDs.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#); ResearchGate: Linda Djune Yemeli

Immunology Keywords:

Immunobiology, immunodiagnostic, immunogenetic

What is your name?

Wilbert Mbuya



What is your current position:

Research Scientist

Which institute and country do you work in?

Laboratory Sciences, National Institute for Medical Research – Mbeya Medical Research Centre, Tanzania

What is your home country?

Tanzania

What are your research interests?

T cells, Virology, Vaccines

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

My research interest is in the pathobiology of microbes and the immune response to different infections. I pursued Infection biology at Uppsala University, Sweden through the Swedish Institute Study Scholarship. For my master's thesis research at the Karolinska Institute, the focus was on oral HPV prevalence and its association to tonsillar cancer. Currently, as a doctoral candidate at the Ludwig Maximilian University, Germany and at the Tanzanian National Institute for Medical Research, I work on understanding the effect of HIV infection on HPV pathogenesis and systemic HPV-oncoprotein specific T-cell Immunity in HPV infected women. Furthermore, I am interested in vaccine development for various pathogens and keen to communicate scientific knowledge to the public via popular writing .

What are your online profiles?

ResearchGate

Immunology Keywords:

T cells, HIV, HPV

What is your name?

Hassan Roble



What is your current position:

Medical Scientist

Which institute and country do you work in?

Somali National University/Somali Sudanese Specialized Hospital, Somalia

What is your home country?

Somalia

What are your research interests?

Infectious diseases, autoimmune diseases, malaria/HIV/TB co-infection

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I graduated with a BSc in medical laboratory science (microbiology) in 2014 and MSc in Immunology in 2018. My previous research focuses were on autoimmune disease (Rheumatoid arthritis) and viral hepatitis (HBV and HCV viral co-infection). My current research work involves the detection of antibody levels in immunized individuals with COVID-19 vaccine, with future interest on diagnostic molecular immunology and oncology, immunity to infectious disease, developing preventive vaccine and immunotherapy, and neglected

tropical diseases.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Antibodies, HIV, TB

What is your name?

Wasihun Hailemichael



What is your current position:

Lecturer of Immunology

Which institute and country do you work in?

Immunology and Molecular Biology Unit, Debre Tabor University, Ethiopia

What is your home country?

Ethiopia

What are your research interests?

T cell exhaustion, Cancer Immunotherapy, Molecular Immunology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am currently working at Debre Tabor University as a lecturer and researcher. I have BSc in Medical laboratory science from Jimma University Ethiopia and MSc in Immunology from the University of Gondar. In my institution, I am responsible for teaching undergraduate students and I am also engaged in several research projects that aim to improve the livelihood of people. After the emergence of COVID-19 pandemic, I was one of the front-liners who participated in prevention and

advocacy. My research interests are Cancer Immunology and Immunotherapy, T cells and infectious diseases, Immune response to vaccines. I love Immunology and I want to grow my career in this fascinating field of medicine.

What are your online profiles?

[Twitter](#); [Research Gate](#); [LinkedIn](#)

Immunology Keywords:

T cells exhaustion, Aging, Immunotherapy

What is your name?

Amana Bokagne



What is your current position

PhD student

Which institute and country do you work in?

Department of Microbiology and Parasitology, University of Buea, Cameroon

What is your home country?

Cameroon

What are your research interests?

Molecular microbiology, Molecular Immunology, Gene technology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I hold a BSc in Microbiology from the University of Bamenda and an MSc degree in Microbiology from the University of Buea-Cameroon. I am currently a PhD student and a graduate research assistant at the Molecular Parasitology Laboratory of the University of Buea. My research focus on investigating the

adaptive immune response to SARSCoV-2 among Cameroonians and to screen for neutralising antibodies. I am a passionate of immunology more precisely molecular immunology. My master thesis focused on screening for the immunomodulatory properties of Lactic acid bacteria isolated from a Cameroonian traditionally fermented milk in vivo. I believe, biological immunomodulators are the keys to develop potential safe drugs to complement the present chemotherapy. Identifying potential modulators of the immune response will prove vital in treating many disease conditions such as cancer.

What are your online profiles?

[ResearchGate](#)

Immunology Keywords: Cytokines, T cells, innate immunity

What is your name?

Rita Ziem Ekekpi



What is your current position

Biomedical Scientist

Which institute and country do you work in?

Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine,
Ghana

What is your home country?

Ghana

What are your research interests?

Immunology, infectious diseases, vaccinology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I have experience working in both research and medical diagnostics labs in resource-limited settings. My vast experience can be helpful to research teams in whose disease areas may require designing and planning of studies, especially the recruitment of patients, initial lab analysis, biological sample taking, logistics and operationalizing study protocols in resource-limited settings. Additionally, I have interests in pursuing a career in research as an immunologist which include immunology of infectious diseases, immunotherapy and vaccine clinical development and trials.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#); [ResearchGate](#)

Immunology Keywords: Cytokines, T cells, innate immunity

What is your name?

Alemayehu Abate Mengestu

What is your current position

Immunology Coordinator

Which institute and country do you work in?

Immunology & Amhara Public Health Institute, Ethiopia

What is your home country?

Ethiopia

What are your research interests?

Immunology response of Infectious diseases, Allergy responses, immunological reactions

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I work in a research and public health institute in Ethiopia. I have studied infectious and tropical diseases in masters level. My research interests are 1. Role of chemokines in the pathogenesis of infections 2. Effects of immunometabolism on infectious diseases outcome 3. Development of a preventive vaccine and immunotherapy against infections.

What are your online profiles?

ResearchGate: Alemayehu Abate

Immunology Keywords: Adhesion Molecule, Allergen, Alloinnunity

What is your name?

Ludoviko Zirimenya



What is your current position

Physician Scientist

Which institute and country do you work in?

MRC/UVRI & LSHTM Uganda Research unit, Uganda

What is your home country?

Uganda

What are your research interests?

Infectious diseases, Neglected tropical diseases and Palliative medicine

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

Physician and research scientist with research experience in palliative medicine under Hospice Africa Uganda. In addition, I have participated in a systematic review that investigated the association between urogenital schistosomiasis and HIV

infection. My current work involves assessment of population differences in responses to vaccines with a focus on the immunomodulatory effects of chronic and repeated exposure to parasitic infections.

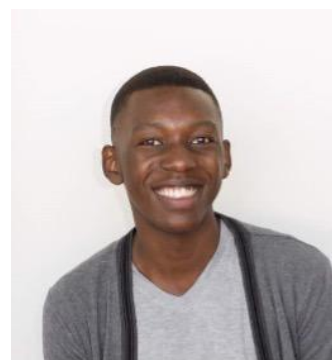
What are your online profiles?

[ResearchGate](#)

Immunology Keywords: Antigen, Antibody and T – Cells

What is your name?

Tatenda Murangi



What is your current position

Masters Student

Which institute and country do you work in?

Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine (IIDM), University of Cape Town, South Africa

What is your home country?

Zimbabwe

What are your research interests?

Allergy, Immunoregulation and tolerance, Auto-immunity, Immunotherapy

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

Growing up with a lot of allergic reactions I always wondered how my body reacted differently from that of others. My first contact with the numerous facets of immunology during my undergraduate years cemented this curiosity. My current work

is focused on the first reported mammalian carbohydrate causing alpha-gal allergy. This has opened me to assessing the origins and the mechanisms involved in this phenomenon. Another example of when the immune system behaves unexpectedly is in autoimmunity, which is also another one of my fascinations. Given the ability of the immune system to alleviate damage when its potential is correctly harnessed. I would love to be involved in work that involves immunotherapeutic strategies in the future.

In my spare time I enjoy creative writing and working on graphic design projects.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#), [ResearchGate](#)

Immunology Keywords: Alpha-gal, Immunotherapeutic, Autoimmunity

What is your name?

Bright Adorbley



What is your current position

Graduate student

Which institute and country do you work in?

Université d'Oran 1 Ahmed Ben Bella, Algeria.

What is your home country?

Ghana

What are your research interests?

Biochemistry, Immunology and Infectious diseases

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am the most fun guy in the lab. I hold a BS Biochemistry and currently an MS Biochemistry student at the University of Oran, Algeria. My current area of research focuses on the immunology of infections diseases and vaccine development.

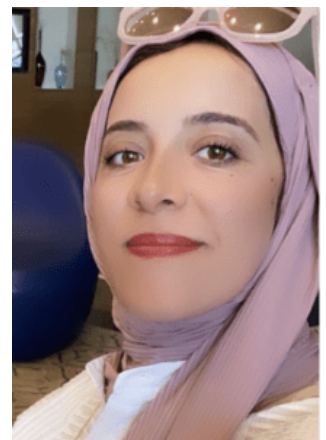
What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) (@BraBossu)

Immunology Keywords: Adaptive immunity, Vaccinology & Immunotherapy.

What is your name?

Khaoula Attia



What is your current position

Pharm.D and Medical Resident in Immunology

Which institute and country do you work in?

Institut Pasteur of Algeria, Algiers, Algeria

What is your home country?

Algeria

What are your research interests?

Auto-immune diseases, Allergic diseases and Immunotherapy

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a very ambitious Pharm.D and medical resident in Immunology working at Pasteur Institute of Algeria. During my Pharmacy graduating program, I attended lectures in Fundamental and Clinical Immunology as part of my training. It

was back then that I developed a strong interest towards the field of Immunology. I knew that this is what I wanted to specialize in after I graduate.

During my training as a medical resident in Immunology for 4 years, I became aware of the complexity and broadness of this field, and the necessity to further my specialization in fundamental and clinical research, in order to, hopefully as a passionate pharmacist, extrapolate findings on a therapeutic level and identify new therapeutic targets. I have huge interest in autoimmune diseases, I am now in the Autoimmunity lab for over a year and a half and I am working on Autoimmune Hepatitis and the role of anti F-actin auto-antibodies in the diagnosis of this disease. I also have huge interest in Allergic Diseases and Immunotherapy.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#)

Immunology Keywords: Autoimmunity, Allergy & Immunotherapy

What is your name?

Rashad Shawgi Jaweesh



What is your current position

Assistant Professor of Medical Immunology and Microbiology

Which institute and country do you work in?

Libyan International Medical University – Benghazi/Libya

What is your home country?

Sudan

What are your research interests?

Clinical Immunology – Molecular Diagnosis – infectious diseases

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a medical immunologist and microbiologist, Ph.D. “molecular virology” 2018, M.Sc. “immunology in Tropical Medicine” 2015, and M.Sc. “medical microbiology” 2012. I have a position as Teaching staff at the faculty of basic medical science – Libyan International Medical University (LIMU). Founder of the clinical laboratory science program at LIMU. Founder and head of the flow cytometry department at AL-AKEED diagnostic Laboratories.

My previous research focuses were on infectious disease, allergies, and medical education with a future interest on molecular and diagnostic immunology including allergies and immunologic responses in infectious diseases and cancers.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#), [ResearchGate](#) & [Twitter](#)

Immunology Keywords: Molecular and Immunodiagnostics – Tropical Diseases – Allergies

What is your name?

Doudou Georges Massar Niang

**What is your current position**

Medical resident in Clinical Biology and PhD Candidate in Immunology

Which institute and country do you work in?

Medical Residency: Hôpital Général Idrissa Pouye (Dakar, Senegal) & Doctoral Studies: University Cheikh Anta Diop

(UCAD, Dakar, Senegal)

What is your home country?

Senegal

What are your research interests?

Gynaeco-mammary cancers, Immuno-genetics

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I'm pharmacist and I hold a MSc degree in Immunology. I am currently studying Genetic (MSc Programme) and I'm also a PhD student in Immunology at University Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD). My research mainly focus on breast and cervical cancers. I'm investigating the immuno-genetic determinants of our epidemiological specificities in Senegal (patients are younger and diagnosed in advanced stage with poor rate of survival despite therapeutic intervention), with aim to find new biomarkers.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#)

Immunology Keywords: Cancer, genetic, biomarker

What is your name?

Lorraine Tsitsi Pfavayi



What is your current position

DPhil Student

Which institute and country do you work in?

Nuffield Department of Medicine, University of Oxford and
Institute of Immunology and Infection Research, University of
Edinburgh, United Kingdom

What is your home country?

Zimbabwe

What are your research interests?

Allergology, Immunology and Infectious diseases

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I received my B.Sc. (Biochemistry) and M.Sc. (Biotechnology) from the University of Zimbabwe. I developed an interest in immunological aspects of infectious and allergic diseases while working as an intern at a specialist clinic in Zimbabwe (Asthma, Allergy and Immunology Clinic). This led me to enrol for a DPhil in Clinical Medicine, focusing on allergology. My DPhil work focuses on characterising allergic reactivity to fungi in a Zimbabwean population and this work is driven by the need to collect immuno-epidemiological data to understand the nature of fungal allergy in Zimbabwe.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#), [ResearchGate](#) & [Twitter](#)

Immunology Keywords: Allergy, Fungi, Immuno-epidemiology

What is your name?

Hatem Abouguendia



What is your current position

Masters Student at Leading International Vaccinology Education (LIVE) Joint Masters Programme

Which institute and country do you work in?

Université de Claude Bernard de Lyon, Université de Saint-Etienne (France), Universitat de Barcelona, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain) and Universiteit Antwerpen (Belgium).

What is your home country?

Egypt

What are your research interests?

Vaccines, tumor immunotherapy

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

After working as a research assistant in a lab working on nano-based formulations of cancer-targeted therapy, I discovered my passion in immunology. After graduating, I joined the Medical Research Institute at Alexandria University, Egypt as a junior researcher in a project targeting some immunological micro-environment molecules to treat breast cancer. Now I study vaccinology as a part of the European Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters Programme LIVE.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#)

Immunology Keywords: Vaccines, Cancer immunotherapy, immunopharmacology

What is your name?

Amira Taguida



What is your current position

Scientist

What is your home country?

Algeria

What are your research interests?

Immunology, Oncology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am scientist, I hold MSc Oncology specialisation and BSc degrees in Molecular and cellular Immunology from University of Mentouri Brothers Constantine 1, Algeria. My research was mainly focused on Breast Cancer, where I used various histological, cytological and immunohistochemical techniques to study this complication. My current interests include further research in cancer biology, cancer immunotherapy, vaccine development, cellular immunology and stem cell biology.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#)

Immunology Keywords: Cancer, immunotherapy, stem cells

What is your name?

Vanessa Irumva



What are your qualifications?

MSc in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology

Which institute and country do you work in?

Pan African University Institute for basic Science Technology and Innovation; /Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture Technology, Kenya

What is your home country?

Burundi

What are your research interests?

Neglected Tropical diseases, Genomics , Bioinformatics ,Molecular Biology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I hold a Bsc in Biological sciences from the University of Burundi and a Msc degree in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology from Pan African University, Kenya. I am passionate about Neglected Tropical diseases (NTDs) also called “ Diseases of poverty” which affect mostly people in remote and rural areas in Sub -saharan Africa .My research was about evaluating 2 tandem repeats antigens TbgI2 and TbgI17 if they can be helpful in Human African trypanosomiasis diagnosis .The antigens cloned in pET 52b were expressed in E.coli and then purified using Immobilized Metal Affinity Chromatography. Thereafter , the recombinantly produced antigens were coupled to magnetic beads and then evaluated using a Multiplex platform (Bio-Plex 200).

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#) & Twitter- [@vanessa_irumva](#)

Immunology Keywords: Antigens, NTDs, Multiplex

What is your name?

Vanessa Mwebaza Muwanga



What is your current position?

PhD Candidate

Which institute and country do you work in?

South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (SATVI) at the University of Cape Town in South Africa

What is your home country?

Uganda

What are your research interests?

The discovery and evaluation of TB bio-markers, the development of immunotherapies for infectious diseases and the development of better and more accurate diagnostics for TB.

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a Biomedical Scientist that developed a great interest in Immunology during my second year as an undergraduate. This led me to pursue my Master's degree in Immunology which I completed in 2018. The pathogen I would love to tackle is Mycobacterium tuberculosis. I am interested in developing TB diagnostics by identifying TB bio-markers and understanding more about the immune mechanisms that are present during TB and diabetes co-infection. I would also love to contribute to work done on PD-1 and explore the potential of using anti-PD-1 therapy to deal with TB and HIV co-infection. The exact role of PD-1 in TB progression is still controversial and I would like to be shed more light in that area.

What are your online profiles?

[ResearchGate](#); [LinkedIn](#) & Twitter- [@muwitheninja4Xt](#)

Immunology Keywords: Tuberculosis, Biomarkers, Immunotherapies, Transcriptomics, Host immune response

What is your name?

Emmanuel Tumininu Obishakin



What is your current position?

Post-Doctoral Researcher/ Teaching Assistant

Which institute and country do you work in?

Ghent University, Songdo, South Korea

What is your home country?

Nigeria

What are your research interests?

Immunology, Molecular diagnosis, Vaccinology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a Nigerian Veterinarian and research scientist with MSc. training in molecular biology from the Katholieke University, Leuven, Belgium and PhD training in cellular and molecular immunology from Vrije University Brussel, Belgium. My trainings involved experiences with immunology and molecular biology of infectious diseases. My work on the molecular immunology of protozoan parasites prepared me to contribute majorly to research on innate and adaptive immunity of protozoan parasites. I studied the impact of parasitic diseases on the host's immune response with a focus on the B-cell populations and their antibody production. In addition, I worked extensively on the molecular epidemiology of very important infectious diseases and I have carried out both qualitative and quantitative PCR and sequencing of Nigerian isolates. I have co-supervised several masters theses both in Europe and in Nigeria and a PhD work in Nigeria.

My interest and current focus is the molecular diagnosis, immunology and vaccinology of infectious diseases. I am also interested in generating recombinant single domain antibodies (Nanobodies) to target infectious agents either serving as diagnostic or neutralizing antibodies.

What are your online profiles?

ResearchGate – [Emmanuel Obishakin](#)

NCBI – [Obishakin](#)

Immunology Keywords: B-cells, Single domain antibody, Vaccinology

What is your name?

Rebecca Chukwuanukwu



What is your current position?

Lecturer and Researcher in Immunology

Which institute and country do you work in?

Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria

What is your home country?

Nigeria

What are your research interests?

Infectious diseases Immunology, Malaria/HIV/TB co-infection.

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I have always been intrigued by the immune system ever since I learnt about its ability to affect the way living beings respond and protect themselves from invasion of harmful organisms. This interest led me to pursue postgraduate studies in Immunology, first in my country. This proved really

difficult at a point due to the dearth of manpower in this area. I was forced to abandon Immunology to pursue a Masters in another field. Delays made me feel frustrated so by 2008, I started applying to foreign Universities, hoping for Scholarship to pursue my studies. This eventually worked out by 2009 and I moved to the University of Nottingham in United Kingdom to pursue a Masters degree in Immunology and Allergy. There I developed an interest in Immunology of tuberculosis. Prior to this my research and interest was in Malaria and HIV. My PhD thesis eventually was on immune response to TB with some aspects assessing differences when there is co-infect with the endemic malaria or HIV.

I continue to research in these area and seek collaborative effort and funding constantly. I also teach Immunology, always aiming to make my lectures unforgettable!

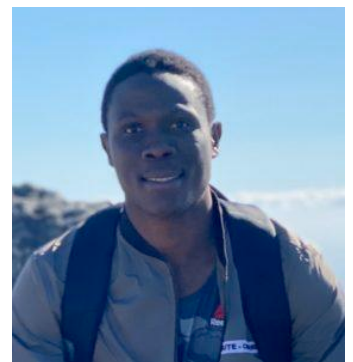
What are your online profiles?

[Researchgate](#) , [Linkedin](#)

Immunology Keywords: Tuberculosis, malaria, co-infection.

What is your name?

Nwongbouwoh Muefong Caleb



What is your current position?

PhD Candidate

Which institute and country do you work in?

MRC Unit The Gambia at LSHTM, The Gambia/ Ludwig Maximilians University, Germany

What is your home country?

Cameroon

What are your research interests?

Global health, Chronic Inflammatory disorders, Immuno-modulation

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a young scientist/researcher who loves and respects all that aims at achieving peace and truth. My academic path has been motivated by a deep desire to contribute to the resolution of any major public health issue; through sound scientific research and education. As a postgraduate, I actively contributed to 3 research projects on:

1. Properties of raffia fruit pulp as potential bio-functional food– an MSc in Biochemistry; University of Yaounde 1 (Cameroon).
2. Role of neutrophils within fat-associated lymphoid clusters (ultimately on abdominal metabolic deregulation in obesity).
3. Using CRISPR-Cas9 technology for investigating DNA repair mechanisms that contribute to mutations (ultimately for cancer immunotherapy).

The last two were during my commonwealth scholarship-funded MSc by Research in Biomedical Sciences (Benezech and Batada labs, respectively) from the University of Edinburgh (UK); where I developed a profound interest in immunology/inflammation.

My current PhD research aims at revealing the contribution of neutrophils to the long-term lung damage incurred by actively infected TB patients. I am working with the TB research group supervised by Dr Jayne Sutherland within the MRCG at LSHTM (The Gambia) in co-supervision with Dr Christof Geldmacher from the division of infectious diseases and tropical medicine at LMU (Munich, Germany).

What are your online profiles?

[Researchgate](#) , [Linkedin](#)

Immunology Keywords: Neutrophils, Inflammation, Tissue damage

What is your name?

Eunice Wavinya Kiamba



What is your current position?

PhD Candidate

Which institute and country do you work in?

MRC Unit the Gambia (The Gambia) and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM, United Kingdom)

What is your home country?

Kenya

What are your research interests?

Immunology, Vaccinology, Molecular Biology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I had the privilege of attending the 8th IDA Symposium in Infectious Diseases in Africa. This experience strongly stirred up my interest in immunology and I am now a PhD Candidate at the LSHTM, UK. My project is focused on characterization of early innate immune responses following a first and subsequent HPV vaccine (Gardasil9) doses, how these are modified by age and their influence on long term serological protection. I am also interested in HLA typing to understand the effect that HLA types have on long term serological protection from HPV vaccine. This study is based at the MRC Unit in The Gambia and at the LSHTM under the Vaccines and Immunity Theme and HLA typing will be done at

LSHTM.

I hold an MSc in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology/ Pan African University, Kenya). My project focused on evaluation of PHIST antigens as potential antimalarial vaccine targets (undertaken at KEMRI-WT). I also hold a Postgraduate Diploma in Health research Methods and BSc in Biochemistry (Pwani University, Kenya).

My long term career goal is to be able to apply immunology and molecular biology skills in vaccinology studies to tackle diseases of relevance in Sub Saharan Africa.

What are your online profiles?

[Researchgate](#) , [Linkedin](#), [Twitter](#)

Immunology Keywords: Innate responses, memory B cells, Antibodies

What is your name?

Stanslaus Kiilu Musyoki



What is your current position?

Lecturer & Chairman of Medical Laboratory Sciences Department

Which institute and country do you work in?

Kisii University, Kenya

What is your home country?

Kenya

What are your research interests?

Immunology of pregnancy, Viral infections

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am Ph.D. holder in Medical Immunology (2016) from Maseno University in Kenya. I also have a Masters degree in Immunology (Moi University, Kenya) and a Bachelor degree in Medical Laboratory Sciences (Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya). To empower myself I have also done many short courses/trainings and workshops including: – Infectious Diseases in Africa, “Introduction to R” for data management and analysis, how viruses hijack host immunity leading to cancer, Advances in the Immunobiology of Parasites, Pathogens and Pathogenesis Training-KEMRI, Electronic library resources training-DAAD, Good Clinical Laboratory Practice Training, Safe phlebotomy practices training, HIV/AIDS Management Training-NASCOP and others.

I currently work as a lecturer and chairman of Medical Laboratory Sciences Department at Kisii University, Kenya. I have a lot of research interest in tackling tropical and viral diseases biased to HIV and HPV. I spearheaded the formation of a Research cluster in the school of health sciences at Kisii University and we focus our research on HIV, cancer, malaria and Tuberculosis among other infectious diseases.

What are your online profiles?

[Researchgate](#) , [Linkedin](#)

Immunology Keywords: Lymphocytes, T cells and B cells

What is your name?

Priscilla Ngotho



What is your current position?

Postdoctoral research assistant

Which institute and country do you work in?

Wellcome Centre for Molecular Parasitology, University of Glasgow

What is your home country?

Kenya (UK resident)

What are your research interests?

Cellular and molecular interactions between the mammalian host and Plasmodium parasites

Immune responses to Plasmodium transmission stages (gametocytes)

Host RBC surface remodelling by malaria parasites

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

As malaria elimination becomes the focus of research in the field, there is a push to develop novel approaches to control transmission from human to mosquito.

In combination with the RTS,S vaccine, transmission blocking vaccines (TBV) will be crucial in attaining malaria elimination. It is therefore imperative to understand mechanisms of transmission reducing immunity (TRI), my current area of research.

I am interested in host-parasite interactions and how this impacts acquired TRI towards identifying candidates for vaccine development. I work on the lethal human parasite *Plasmodium falciparum* as well as the model rodent malaria parasite *Plasmodium berghei*, with a focus on the blood stages (infected RBCs – iRBCs) which are responsible for malaria pathogenesis and transmission to mosquitoes. I am currently studying how the sexual stages of *P. falciparum* remodel the host RBC and the effect of this on immunity and clearance of the parasite infected cell. For this project I am (i) measuring expression of surface antigens in order to identify vaccine candidates and (ii) assessing lipid composition of the iRBC membrane during the sexual life cycle to understand mechanisms by which the parasite remodels the host cell. In parallel I am looking at acquisition of transmission reducing immunity in *P. falciparum* and in the mouse malaria model

parasite *P. berghei*. For this project I am looking at naturally acquired or vaccine induced antibodies to sexual stage iRBC the mechanisms of action of these antibodies on parasite clearance.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [ResearchGate](#)

Immunology Keywords: Transmission-blocking, plasmodium, host-parasite interaction

What is your name?

Yaw Bediako



What is your current position?

Post-Doctoral Fellow

Which institute and country do you work in?

Francis Crick Institute, UK and WACCBIP, Ghana

What is your home country?

Ghana

What are your research interests?

Malaria immunology, Immune dysfunction

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a Ghanaian immunologist with a broad interest in investigating immune function among African populations in order to better address immunopathology associated with infectious and non-infectious diseases among these populations. My post-doctoral research projects (most recently at the Francis Crick Institute) have focused on understanding

the immunological mechanisms by which naturally acquired immunity to Malaria is acquired and maintained. I am passionate about developing sustainable research infrastructure and human capacity on the continent- especially leveraging African expertise in the diaspora to strengthen local academic institutions.

What are your online profiles?

[LinkedIn](#) , [Twitter](#)

Immunology Keywords: Immunoregulation, T cells, Malaria

What is your name?

Aka Kouadio Ayebe Edwige



What is your current position?

Postdoctoral Researcher

Which institute and country do you work in?

Institute Pasteur of Cote d'Ivoire. Postdoctoral Researcher in the Microorganism Management Unit at the Biological Resource Center

What is your home country?

Cote d'Ivoire

What are your research interests?

Immunostimulatory substances present in plants

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a research associate at the Pasteur Institute of Cote d'Ivoire. I obtained a PhD in Biochemistry Pharmacology of

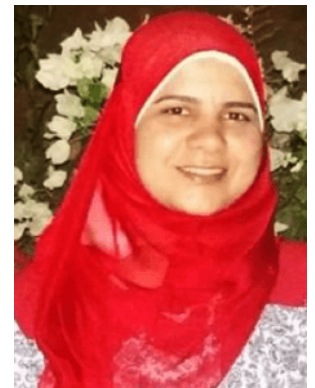
Natural Substances at Felix Houphouet Boigny University in Ivory Coast. During my thesis I worked on the antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and immunostimulant activity of cola nitida a sterculiaceae. This study confirmed the presence of all these activities in the ethanolic extracts of cola nitida.

I am in the Department of the Biological Resources Center. I am the assistant of the microbiological resource management unit where I manage the platform of Maldi tof. In this department we make the reception, treatment, conditioning and the provision of the microorganisms for the research fast tests and several other activities.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Edwige AKA](#)

Immunology Keywords: Biochemistry, Pharmacology, immunostimulatory



What is your name?

Nada Abdel Aziz

What is your current position?

ICGEB Arturo Falaschi PhD Fellow, Faculty of Health Science, University of Cape Town. I am also Teaching Assistant at Biotechnology/Biomolecular Chemistry Program, Faculty of Science, Cairo University.

Which institute and country do you work in?

ICGEB, University of Cape Town, South Africa

What is your home country?

Egypt

What are your research interests?

Immunology, Biotechnology, and Infectious Diseases

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

My Main research area is Immuno-Biotechnology; understanding the mechanism(s), the signalling pathway(s), and the cell kinetics of the immune system that underlie the immune regulation and protection against infectious diseases especially Neglected Tropical Diseases that blight the lives of a billion people worldwide and threaten the health of millions more.

I do like everything about scientific research; doing experiments, being in the lab, excitement, passion, and enthusiasm to get new results and find new discoveries. Every day there is new findings/discoveries and tools that open the doors for more research and more discoveries to be done.

I do hope that my future contributions to the field would have a positive impact on people's life. Indeed my favourite quote is "Always remember that you are doing research neither for recognition, acknowledgements nor rewards but to be, may be one day, a reason for relieving patient's pain".

What are your online profiles?

Research Gate: [Nada Abdel Aziz](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Lymphocytes, Cytokines, and signalling pathways

What is your name?

Dana Manuela Savulescu



What is your current position?

Research Scientist

Which institute and country do you work in?

National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) – Centre for Vaccines and Immunology (CVI), Johannesburg, South Africa

What is your home country?

Israel

What are your research interests?

Reproductive Immunology, Immune tolerance in pregnancy, HLA antibodies

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

My PhD studies focused on molecular and cellular biology of the reproductive axis. Upon completion of my studies, I decided to study immunological aspects of my research, namely, the role of the immune system in female reproductive biology.

My main research interest is the immune tolerance developed by mother to the foetus in healthy pregnancy, as well as the mechanisms underlying deficiencies in this tolerance, which potentially occur in infertility and pregnancy-related complications such as pre-eclampsia and premature birth. Since joining CVI, I have been studying various aspects of the immune tolerance in pregnancy, including the prevalence and specificity of antibodies against Human Leukocyte Antigens (HLA antibodies) in pregnant women

and new-born babies, and the molecular mechanisms involved in the role of endometrial macrophages in immune tolerance. Additionally, I have been involved in projects exploring other aspects of the immune system, including the role of HLA antibodies in protection against acquisition of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection, the potency of the indoleamine 2,3- dioxygenase (IDO) enzymatic activity as a biomarker for diagnosis and monitoring of tuberculosis disease, and the design of a novel biochemical and flow cytometry-based technique for detection of specific T lymphocytes in diagnosis of human disease.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Dana Manuela Savulescu](#)

ResearchGate – [Dana Savulescu](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Tolerance, Pregnancy, HLA antibodies



What is your name?

Naffesa Abdul Munim Al Sheikh Alloub

What is your current position?

Researcher/Lab specialist

Which institute and country do you work in?

University of Khartoum, Institute of Endemic Diseases, Khartoum, Sudan

What is your home country?

Sudan

What are your research interests?

Leishmaniasis, Autoimmunity, HIV

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

My name is Naffesa A. Munim Al sheikh. I studied Medical Lab sciences/Histopathology and Cytology major/Faculty of Medical Lab sciences /University of Khartoum. My research in fulfillment of my honors degree: "Pattern of Lupus Nephritis in the Military Hospital: A histological and Immunofluorescence study"

I did my Msc in Immunology at the Institute of Endemic Diseases/University of Khartoum by research. My Msc research title: "Role of Treg cells in Pathogenesis of Post kala azar dermal Leishmaniasis"

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Nana Al Sheikh](#)

Immunology Keywords: PKDL, Lupus Nephritis, T regulatory cells

What is your name?

Sanaa Sabour Alaoui



What is your current position?

Assistant Professor of Immunology

Which institute and country do you work in?

Laboratory of Biotechnology and Development of Natural

Resources, University Sultan Moulay Slimane, Polydisciplinary Faculty of Béni Mellal, Morocco.

What is your home country?

Morocco

What are your research interests?

Immunology, Oncology, Phytotherapy

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

My PhD studies were carried out at the Chouaib Doukkakli University of Science, jointly with the PARIS 7 University and the "Skin Research Center ", Saint Louis Hospital, Paris, France. The aim of this research was to study the role of TNF superfamily ligands (TWEAK, APRIL, BAFF) in inflammatory diseases, mainly cancers. Currently, I am a professor at the Polydisciplinary Faculty of Beni Mellal, a member of the laboratory of biotechnology and development of natural resources. My research project is based primarily on the understanding of mechanisms related to allergy and inflammatory diseases. The second part of our research is to study the biological effect of certain plants in the region.

What are your online profiles?

Linkedin – [Sabour Alaoui Sanaa](#)

Immunology Keywords:

Inflammation, Allergy, Cancer

What is your name?

Ian Oyaro



What is your current position?

PhD fellow registered at the Open university, UK

Which institute and country do you work in?

KEMRI Wellcome Trust, Kenya

What is your home country?

Kenya

What are your research interests?

HIV immunology, Vaccine candidates development

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a veterinary surgeon with a Masters in Microbiology. I have previously worked on sequencing and proteomic based techniques in a quest to improve the diagnosis of acute non-traumatic coma at the Kenyan coast. Additionally, I have been involved in protocol optimization studies for disease proteomics.

I am currently interested in evaluating the role of early HIV-specific T and B cell interactions in determining downstream neutralizing and non-neutralizing antibody function in chronic HIV. The determination of early immunological correlates that influence the development of broadly neutralizing and non-neutralizing antibodies in HIV may offer coherent approaches and elucidate pathways towards an effective HIV vaccine.

What are your online profiles?

Linkedin – [Ian Oyaro](#)

Researchgate – [Ian Oyaro](#)

Immunology Keywords:

HIV infection, Cellular and humoral immunity, vaccines

What is your name?

Mouna Ben Azaiz



What is your current position?

Assistant Professor of Immunology

Which institute and country do you work in?

University of Tunis El Manar, Faculty of Medicine Tunis, Tunisia (working in Military Hospital of Tunis)

What is your home country?

Tunisia

What are your research interests?

Inflammation, Sepsis, Bioethics

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

Hannibal is a Tunisian like me. He never gave up, like me! "I will either find a way or make one".

I was a surgeon for one year where I discovered that immunology is everywhere, also in surgery. I convinced a surgeon to study inflammatory cytokines during cardiac surgery. This led me to becoming an Immunologist who is also interested in bioethics and academic ethics.

I have an academic diploma of Immuno-allergology from the University of Tunis El Manar, Faculty of Medicine Tunis, Tunisia, theme: "sepsis and atopy". I am a PhD student in Immunology at the Carthage University Faculty of Sciences of Bizerte with my thesis theme being "Dynamic of inflammation in sepsis". This is the first thesis about immunosuppression during this pathology in Tunisia. I am also a member of the

Military Committee of Methodology and Medical writing, where I plan to promote Immunopaedia.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Mouna Ben Azaiz](#)

Immunology Keywords: army, amazing, adventure

What is your name?

Vicky Gent



What is your current position?

Graduate Assistant

Which institute and country do you work in?

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya

What is your home country?

Kenya

What are your research interests?

Immunomodulators, Vaccine development, Neuroimmunology.

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I did my undergraduate studies in Biomedical Sciences at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, I also pursued a Masters' in Immunology. My research project focused on the effects *Schistoma mansoni* infection has on the immunogenicity of the Human papillomavirus using a baboon model, this was done at the Institute of Primate research in Nairobi, Kenya.

Currently I am a graduate assistant at the Department of Zoology at Jomo Kenyatta University, assisting with the undergraduate immunology and biostatistics courses.

I am very interested in learning about potential immunomodulators that may improve global health issues. My overall hope is to be involved in projects that tackle the world's health issues as well as continue studying immunology to PhD level.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Vicky Gent](#)

ResearchGate – [Vicky Gent](#)

Immunology Keywords: Helminth infection, immunogenicity, vaccines

What is your name?

Thandeka Moyo



What is your current position?

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Which institute and country do you work in?

National Institute for Communicable Diseases, Johannesburg, South Africa

What is your home country?

Zimbabwe

What are your research interests?

HIV immunology, HIV vaccines, broadly neutralizing antibody responses

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I studied towards a PhD in Clinical Science and Immunology at the University of Cape Town where I looked at the mechanisms used by various HIV strains to gain resistance to broadly neutralizing antibody responses. Broadly neutralizing antibodies are able to prevent the entry of HIV into cells and therefore HIV vaccine research heavily focuses on these antibodies. However, some strains become resistant to these antibodies and this may potentially lower the efficacy of an antibody-based vaccine. I was able to decipher the mechanism behind the resistance of an unusually neutralization-resistant virus from Cameroon and crystallized its Envelope structure. I also determined the role of key glycans in resistance to antibodies. For my postdoctoral fellowship, I will further delve into how neutralizing antibodies bind to their epitopes; focusing on structural biology approaches.

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn – [Thandeka Moyo](#)

ResearchGate – [Thandeka Moyo](#)

Immunology Keywords: HIV, vaccines, antibodies

What is your name?

Kenneth Omollo



What is your current position?

PhD Student

Which institute and country do you work in?

Department of Medical Microbiology, University of Nairobi,
Kenya

What is your home country?

Kenya

What are your research interests?

HIV Susceptibility, Mucosal Immunology, Cellular Biology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a PhD student in Dr. Keith Fowke's laboratory at the University of Nairobi/Manitoba Collaborative Program. My current research project is investigating the impact of hormonal contraceptives on HIV susceptibility and mucosal immunity at the genital tract of female sex workers. Away from the lab, I love hiking and cooking.

What are your online profiles?

Researchgate- [Kenneth Omollo](#)

LinkedIn – [Kenneth Omollo](#)

Immunology Keywords: HIV, Mucosal Immunology, Inflammation

What is your name?

Sawsan Feki



What is your current position?

Associate Professor, Immunology, PhD Student

Which institute and country do you work in?

Laboratory of immunology, Habib Bourguiba UH of Sfax, Tunisia

What is your home country?

Tunisia

What are your research interests?

Inflammatory disorders of central nervous system (especially multiple sclerosis), Allergy, Inflammatory bowel disease and colo-rectal cancer

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am a Clinical Immunologist (MD) from Tunisia working as Associate Professor in the Immunology Department of Habib Bourguiba University Hospital and the faculty of medicine of Sfax. In our Laboratory, we are specialized in Autoimmunity, Allergy, Monoclonal Gammopathy and Cancer biological diagnosis.

I am also PhD student in the same Laboratory. Since I am very interested in inflammatory disorders of central nervous system, my scientific thesis project is focusing on Multiple Sclerosis (MS) pathogenesis and markers, especially cytokines profiling. Indeed, we are the first laboratory in Tunisia performing biological diagnosis of MS since 2014. As a medical doctor, my first aim is to improve the investigation for clinical diagnosis, prognosis and monitoring of this disabling disease. Inflammatory Bowel disease is another autoimmune disorder in which I am interested (genetic and proteomic research studies). Furthermore, I have the expertise in immuno-allergology, I am performing molecular allergology diagnosis and functional allergology test (Flow Cytometric Basophil Activation Test) for specialized investigation of patients with type 1 hypersensitivity.

In October 2014, I was elected as a member of the executive office of "The Tunisian Society of Immunology (TSI)". I have been actively involved in the organization of courses (North African Course in Immunology 2016) and conferences in Immunology for Tunisian (Conference of the Tunisian Society of Immunology) and African students (FAIS conference 2017).

What are your online profiles?

LinkedIn– [Sawsan Feki](#)

Society Tunisian Immunology – [STI](#)

Immunology Keywords: Autoimmunity, Allergy, Cancer

What is your name?

Margaret Oluwatoyin Japhet



What is your current position?

Lecturer

Which institute and country do you work in?

Department of Microbiology, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Osun state

What is your home country?

Nigeria

What are your research interests?

Virology, immunology and Molecular Epidemiology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I received my B.Sc degree in Microbiology and M.Sc Virology degree from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. I received my Ph.D in Microbiology (Virology Option) from Ekiti State University, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria, backed up with a testimonial from Robert Koch Institute, Berlin, Germany, where the molecular aspect of the work was carried out. I am currently a Lecturer at the Department of Microbiology, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. My area of Research interest is on Immunology and Molecular aspect of viral infections.

What are your online profiles?

ResearchGate – [Margaret Japhet](#)

LinkedIn – [Margaret Japhet](#)

Academic.edu – [Margaret Japhet](#)

What is your name?

Anthony Afum-Adjei Awuah

**What is your current position?**

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Which institute and country do you work in?

Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR), Kumasi, Ghana

What is your home country?

Ghana

What are your research interests?

Immune responses and modulation to TB, Vaccinology and vaccine trials, Clinical trials

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am currently a Postdoctoral research fellow in the EOD working group at KCCR in Kumasi Ghana under the mentorship of Prof Ellis Owusu-Dabo. I recently completed a WHO/TDR clinical research and development fellowship at GSK Vaccines s.r.l in vaccinology and clinical trials. My main research focuses on Tuberculosis Immunology with particular interest in vaccine immunology. My group studies immune responses, immune polarization and immunomodulation during TB (pediatric and

adult), MDR-TB and its coinfection with HIV with special emphasis on application to immunodiagnosics and vaccine candidature. I am also involved in studies in type2 diabetes, Schistosomiasis and other diseases that falls within the focus of EOD research group at KCCR. I hold a PhD in Immunology from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) where I previously read Biochemistry as an undergraduate student. I am currently a board member of the convention for Biomedical Research, Ghana.

What are your online profiles?

ResearchGate – [Anthony Afum-Adjei Awuah](#)

Immunology Keywords: T-cells, micro-RNAs, vaccines

What is your name?

Mahaman Moustaha Lamine



What is your current position?

PhD Student

Which institute and country do you work in?

University Cheikh Anta Diop Dakar, Senegal

What is your home country?

Niger

What are your research interests?

Malaria Research, Molecular parasitology, Epidemiology

Tell us about yourself and your research interests:

I am 2nd Year PhD Student at University Cheikh Anta Diop Dakar

(Senegal). I am a motivated Immunologist and Biologist, with internship experience at the center of medical and health research of Niger (CERMES), interested in working anti-malaria immunity and malaria drugs resistance.

What are your online profiles?

ResearchGate – [Mahaman Moustapha Lamine](#)

Immunology Keywords: Malaria immunity, Allergology