

SPEAKER PROFILE

KEYNOTES



Prof. Dr. Karen Canfell, D.Phil., FAHMS

Director, Daffodil Centre, Sydney, Australia

Professor, Faculty of Medicine and Health, University of Sydney, Australia

Co-Chair, COVID-19 and Cancer Global Modelling Consortium

Karen Canfell is the inaugural Director of the Daffodil Centre, a flagship centre of the University of Sydney and a joint venture with Cancer Council New South Wales, Australia. She is also Professor and NHMRC Leadership Fellow at the University of Sydney. Her research involves evaluation and translation of new strategies for cancer control, and she has led multiple impact and economic evaluations for government agencies in Australia and internationally. Her work underpins the transformation of the National Cervical Screening Program in Australia which in 2017 moved to HPV DNA testing to replace Pap smears. She is active in global health and leads key aspects of the WHO impact and investment case for cervical cancer elimination. Her team's work is cited in the WHO strategic plan for elimination and findings from key publications were presented at the Executive Board (EB) of the WHO with the EB's subsequent support of the resolution for elimination. In 2020-21, her team supported WHO in the development of detailed clinical management guidelines for cervical screening in low-income countries. Since 2020 she initiated, and co-leads the COVID-19 and Cancer Global Modelling Consortium (CCGMC) with key partners such as the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and the International Cancer Screening Network to support decision-making across cancer control.



Prof. Dr. Ruanne Barnabas, MD, D.Phil.

Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA

Associate Professor in Global Health and Medicine, Department of Global Health, University of Washington, Seattle, USA

Affiliate, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, USA

Ruanne Barnabas is a medical doctor and received her research doctorate in medicine and clinical epidemiology from the University of Oxford, where she was a Rhodes Scholar and completed residency in South Africa and her fellowship in Infectious Diseases at the University of Washington where she joined the faculty and was promoted to Professor of Global Health and Medicine prior to joining MGH in January 2022. She is particularly interested in novel approaches that increase access to services and has led clinical trials with companion health economic modeling to assess the potential impact of interventions. She is the Protocol Chair of the KEN SHE Study to assess the impact of single-dose human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination in Kenya. In addition to leading clinical trials and companion health economic modeling as an independently funded investigator, she also serves as an advisor to the World Health Organization and UNAIDS on cervical cancer elimination and treatment and prevention of HIV. She was honored as a Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America in 2020.



Prof. Dr. Joakim Dillner, MD, PhD

Head of Unit, Center for Cervical Cancer Prevention (CCCP), Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden

Director of Research & Development (FoU-Chef), Karolinska University Laboratory, Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden

Joakim Dillner is a professor in infectious disease epidemiology. He has been involved in tumor virology research since 1982. Since 1989, he and his group have conducted Human Papillomavirus (HPV) research in the areas of molecular biology, immunology and vaccinology, clinical virology and epidemiology. Major ongoing projects of his include Swedescreen, the first started randomised trial of HPV-screening (since 1997), biobank- and registry-based follow-up studies of HPV vaccination (since 1999), the International Papillomavirus Reference Center, the National Quality Registry of Cervical Cancer Prevention and the Nordic Information for Action eScience Center of Excellence. Since 2018 he is the acting head of the eHealth core facility at the Karolinska Institute. His research focuses on cancer prevention and tumor virology, such as trials on the use of HPV testing in the gynecological cell sampling program and Nordic follow-up studies on HPV vaccination, with the aim to develop more effective cancer prevention programs.

SESSION 1



Dr. Maribel Almonte Pacheco, PhD

Head, Early Detection and Prevention Group, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), Lyon, France

Dr Almonte is the Deputy Head of the Early Detection, Prevention and Infections Branch (EPR) at the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). She studied Statistics and Biostatistics and then specialized in Epidemiology and obtained her PhD in 2004 at the University College of London. She has a strong experience and expertise in carrying out observational and intervention studies both etiological and in screening in Latin America and the UK. She is currently leading the implementation of the ESTAMPA study, a multicentric study of screening and triage techniques using HPV testing as primary test in several countries in Latin America, of which she is the Principal Investigator. Her expertise both in field work and performing statistical analyses of screening data is shown in several peer-reviewed publications. Her earlier work, while based in the National Cancer Institute of Peru, included participation in the design and analysis of a study to evaluate the feasibility of treating cervical cancer lesions in a daily clinic. During this period, she also collaborated in the Peruvian IARC case-control study that contributed with evidence to establish the causal relationship between HPV infection and cervical cancer. After this period, while doing her PhD in Epidemiology in the UK, she designed, set up and carried out a comparative study of several screening tests in the Amazon region of Peru, within a large screening intervention that targeted 36,000 women in the area, the TATI study. As a Research Fellow at LSHTM, she worked in the epidemiology and statistical team of the ARTISTIC

trial, one of the European trials to evaluate the use of HPV testing as an alternative to cytology in primary cervical screening. She has also contributed to several monographs and books on the same topic, with the intention of promoting cervical cancer prevention both through screening and vaccination against HPV. Some of this work has been in collaboration with researchers in Latin America, and so several publications are in Spanish. Over the last years, she has held collaborations with different researchers in Latin America with the aim of promoting prevention of cancer and to help to disseminate research conducted in the region.



Dr. Edward Tieru Dassah, MBChB, MPH, PhD, FWACS

Senior Lecturer, Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health, School of Public Health, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana

Obstetrician/Gynaecologist, Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, Kumasi, Ghana

Edward Dassah is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Public Health, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and an Obstetrician/Gynaecologist at Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, Kumasi. He obtained his MBChB and MPH (Population and Reproductive Health) from KNUST and PhD (Epidemiology) from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London. He is also a Fellow of the West African College of Surgeons. He has been at the forefront of cervical cancer prevention in Ghana especially in primary health care settings. He managed cervical cancer prevention projects which have trained health providers and screened women across the country. His research has focused on family planning and improving perinatal outcomes including the use of ultrasound and antenatal syphilis screening. His current research interests include Reproductive and Women's Health.



Prof. Dr. Amaya Bustinduy, MD, MPH, PhD, FRCPCH

Professor, Department of Clinical Research & Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK

Amaya Bustinduy trained in paediatrics and infectious diseases in the US and started working on helminthic infections, mainly schistosomiasis, and their impact on child health in Coastal Kenya in 2009. She is foremost a field clinical epidemiologist and has investigated a broad range of disease manifestations in children and adolescents related to neglected tropical parasitic diseases (NTD) such schistosomiasis and its connection to cervical cancer. She holds a UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship to explore the integration of self-sampling for the diagnosis of female genital schistosomiasis with screening for other reproductive tract infections (HPV/ cervical cancer, STIs and HIV).

SESSION 2



Dr. Nicolas Wentzensen, MD, MSc, PhD

Deputy Branch Chief, Clinical Genetics Branch Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, USA

Head, Clinical Epidemiology Unit (CEU) Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics, National Cancer Institute, USA

Nicolas Wentzensen received an M.D. and a Ph.D. in Applied Tumor Biology, both from the University of Heidelberg. He has served on several panels of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and as an expert for the National Academy of Medicine. He has played central roles in recent updates of cervical cancer screening and management guidelines since 2012, including the Practice Improvement of Cervical Screening and Management effort sponsored by the American Cancer Society, ASCCP, and the American Society for Clinical Pathology, as well as the ASCCP cervical cancer management guidelines efforts in 2013 and 2019. He provided scientific leadership to the first U.S. colposcopy standards developed by ASCCP. He is now leading a multi-institutional effort on Enduring Guidelines that will regularly update cervical cancer screening and management guidelines. His research is focused on clinical epidemiology of gynecological cancers, particularly human papillomavirus biology, molecular profiling of cancers, absolute risk assessment and assay evaluation.



Prof. Dr. Karen Yeates, MPH, MD

Professor, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada

Research Director, Pamoja Tunaweza Research Centre, Moshi, Tanzania

Co-founder and co-director of the Queen's University School of Medicine Office of Global Health, Kingston, Canada

Karen Yeates is currently a professor of Medicine and Clinician-Scientist in the Department of Medicine at Queen's University Faculty of Health Sciences. In 2012 she co-founded and co-directed the Office of Global Health within the School of Medicine at Queen's University. She currently directs a program of global health implementation science research in low-resource settings with her main research program based in Tanzania. She has worked with health system partners in Tanzania on programs to improve detection and management of hypertension as well as preeclampsia through 'task sharing' of smartphone-supported programs to provide decision support to nurses and community health workers. She has also developed a smartphone-based program for improving quality of cervical cancer screening in Tanzania that is partnered with the national cervical cancer prevention program and is undergoing transition to full scale. The program assists with training of nurses and improving quality of visual inspection of the cervix and provision of same day ablative treatment of precancerous lesions. The program is expanding to evaluate smartphone-based tools for improving linkages to care in the cervical cancer prevention pathway.

SESSION 3



Prof. Dr. Michael H. Chung, MD, PhD, MPH

Associate Director, Emory Global Health Institute, Atlanta, USA

Professor, Departments of Global Health & Epidemiology, Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, Emory University, Atlanta USA

Affiliate Professor, Department of Global Health, University of Washington, Seattle, USA

Affiliate, Aga Khan Hospital, Nairobi, Kenya

Michael Chung completed his Medical Degree at University of Chicago in Chicago, Illinois, and received his PhD from Ghent University in Ghent, Belgium. He completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at Harvard Medical School, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, Massachusetts and his fellowship in infectious diseases at University of Washington in Seattle. He also has a Master of Public Health from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in Boston, Massachusetts. He was based overseas for nearly 20 years implementing global health programs in Africa and Southeast Asia before joining the faculty at Emory University. He spent a number of years living in Nairobi, Kenya where he co-founded the Coptic Hope Center for Infectious Diseases and worked at the University of Nairobi and Kenyatta National Hospital, as well as Hanoi, Vietnam where he taught at Bach Mai Hospital and Hanoi Medical University. He has led many randomized clinical trials in resource-limited settings and his current research is focused on examining cervical cancer screening and treatment among HIV-positive women, HIV chronic pulmonary disease, and cardiovascular disease associated with COVID-19 infection.



Dr. Adeline Boatin, MD, MPH

Co-Director, Vincent Global Health, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, USA

Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School, USA

Adeline Boatin is an obstetrics and gynaecology specialist at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in Boston. She is also currently an Assistant Professor in Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology at Harvard Medical School and an affiliate of the faculty for the Center for Global Health at MGH and the Program for Global Surgery and Social Change at Harvard Medical School. She obtained her medical degree at Columbia University. She completed an MPH with a focus on International health at the Harvard School of Public Health and then completed a four-year residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Harvard Integrated Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program. She is an NIH-funded clinical researcher with a focus on reducing global reproductive health inequities, particularly around the provision of safe and quality obstetric and gynecologic surgery in low resource settings. Her current research is based in Mbarara, Uganda.