**Public consultation of experts to join the Guideline Development Group (GDG) for**

**Defeating Meningitis by 2030 Roadmap: Meningitis diagnosis, treatment and care guidelines**

**27 April 2023**

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| **ALSAADI, Taoufik** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s):** | American center for psychiatry and neurology, UAE & Neurology Department at the American Center of Psychiatry & Neurology (ACPN) |
| **Academic degrees:** | MD, FAAN |
|  | Abu Dhabi, UAE |
| **Biography:** Dr. Taoufik Alsaadi is Chief Medical Officer and Chair of Neurology Department at ACPN. He also serves as an Adjunct Professor of Neurology at Khalifa University, Abu Dhabi. He trained in Epilepsy and Clinical Neurophysiology at the University of California San Francisco and was a research fellow in epilepsy there. He is board-certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, the American Board of Clinical Neurophysiology, and the American Board of Neurology in Clinical Epilepsy. He is registered in Abu Dhabi (DOH) and Dubai (DHA) as Consultant Neurologist; and is Aviation Certified Neurologist by the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA).  Before joining ACPN, Dr. Alsaadi chaired the Neurology Department at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City for eleven years until 2016. He was Associate Professor of Neurology and Director of the Adult Epilepsy Program and the Clinical Research Program at the University of California Davis, USA for over three years until 2004 when he moved to Abu Dhabi. His work and research focused on conducting drug study trials for new antiepileptic drugs for patients with epilepsy, quality of life in patients with epileptic and non-epileptic disorders, migraine headaches, multiple sclerosis, neuropsychiatric co-morbidities. | |

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| **AMOS, Action** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | International Bureau Epilepsy, University of Edinburgh |
| **Academic degrees:** | PhD Fellow University of Edinburgh,  MSc in Mental Health in Children and Young People – University of Edinburgh,  MBA in Leadership and Sustainability from UK,  BA in Development Studies from Ireland,  Postgraduate Diploma in Disability and Rehabilitation Management. |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Blantyre, Malawi |
| **Biography:** Action Amos is a person with epilepsy and the International Bureau of Epilepsy Vice President- Africa with 28 affiliates in Africa. He is an Advisor of Pan African Network for Persons with Psychosocial Disabilities (PANPPD). He is the Founding Chairperson of the National Epilepsy Association. Action is member of the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) Psychoeducation Task Force of the Psychiatry Commission. He is also WHO Topic Expert Group (TEG) Member for the mental health gap (mhGAP) – Epilepsy Module and also International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement – Epilepsy Standard Outcomes Working Group Member. At Kenya Medical Institute of Research – Advisor - Epilepsy Pathway Innovation in Africa Project  Action has served in various Boards as Chairperson and member both locally and internationally. Currently Action is a Board Director for African Disability Alliance (ADA). He has contributed globally on issues of Mainstreaming and Inclusion of persons with disabilities. Action has proven experience in the area of human rights, policy analysis, research and technical application. Currently, Action is a UN Spotlight Initiative as a Civil Society National Reference Group member in Malawi. | |

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| **ANEJA, Satinder** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Former Director -Professor & Head ,Department of Pediatrics, Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi India |
| **Academic degrees:** | MBBS, MD |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | New Delhi, India |
| **Biography**: Prof Satinder Aneja is a Pediatric Neurologist and former   Director- Professor &  Head of the Department of Pediatrics at Lady Hardinge Medical College India.  She has extensive experience in dealing with children with epilepsy,  and common infectious diseases.   She has authored several papers on Pediatric neurology and infection-related topics which are pressing concerns in India. She was a Co-investigator of Multicentre Hospital-based surveillance of H.influezae  meningitis in India. She led the group which made Indian consensus guidelines on viral encephalitis, and status epilepticus in children. She was a member of the team that made the evidence profiles for WHO mental health GAP Emergency Triage and Treatment (ETAT) guidelines for the management of acute seizures and status epilepticus in children and adults. | |

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| **BROUWER, Matthijs** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Department of Neurology, University of Amsterdam |
| **Academic degrees:** | MD, PhD |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Amsterdam, the Netherlands |
| **Biography:** The focus of Dr. Brouwer’s research is on neurological infectious diseases, including bacterial meningitis, viral meningitis, chronic meningitis and neuroborreliosis. To this aim he has set up a nation-wide genetic association study on community-acquired bacterial meningitis (MeninGene study) and a study on suspected meningitis and encephalitis patients (PACEM study).  During his PhD Dr. Brouwer studied host genetic factors influencing bacterial meningitis in the nationwide cohort study on culture proven bacterial meningitis. By March 2017, 2300 patients have been included in this ongoing study. With this study we showed that adjunctive dexamethasone has successfully been implemented in the Netherlands, leading to a nationwide reduction of mortality and morbidity of bacterial meningitis. Furthermore, we identified common genetic variants in complement component 3 and 5 that influence susceptibility and outcome of bacterial meningitis. In several translational research projects we used clinical and genetic data to study pathophysiology of bacterial meningitis and identify new adjunctive treatments. | |

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| **CHARFI TRIKI, Chahnez** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Hedi chaker hospital  Sfax medical school, University of Sfax |
| **Academic degrees:** | Professor |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Sfax, Tunisia |
| **Biography: C**hahnez Charfi Triki is professor of neurology, head of the pediatric neurology department in Sfax-Tunisia. She is director of research at the Faculty of Medicine of Sfax and the regional directorate of Sfax and epilepsy ambassador ILAE-IBE 2023.  Since settling in his hometown, Pr Chahnez Charfi Triki has worked to improve the conditions of children with neurological diseases, both medically and socially. This is how she is the founder of 7 scientific and social associations specializing in the research and management of neurological diseases in children. She has participated in several national programs on disability and neurogenetic diseases as well as school learning disabilities and is coordinator of H2020 project (Seed). She is the founder and coordinator of a professional master's degree in epilepsy and two master class in childhood neurological diseases and clinical trials.  Pr Chahnez Charfi Triki is an active member of several international associations. She was chair of IBE-EMR, is past chair of ILAE-EMR, member of several commissions and task force and co-chair of adapt and implementation committee, member of the executive board of the ICNA and responsible for the advocacy committee and the education program for Africa, member of the African education committee of the movements disorders society and expert and member of several WHO working groups. She is a member of STAG-MNS. | |

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| **COHEN, Adam** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention |
| **Academic degrees:** | MD MPH |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Atlanta, Georgia, USA |
| **Biography:** Dr. Adam L. Cohen is a pediatrician and epidemiologist and the Chief of CDC’s Division of Bacterial Disease’s Respiratory Diseases Branch, where he leads the agency’s work on surveillance, detection, investigation, response, and policy to prevent and control bacterial respiratory diseases such as meningitis, pneumonia, and neonatal sepsis in the United States and globally. At CDC, Dr. Cohen has worked in the areas of vaccines, child survival, antimicrobial resistance, patient safety, and global health security. He has led and served on national and international committees with the World Health Organization and the United Nations and has authored >160 journal articles and book chapters. He has worked in more than 40 countries and lived and worked at CDC in South Africa and the World Health Organization in Switzerland.  Dr. Cohen started his CDC career as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer in the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion. Dr. Cohen is a pediatrician and received his medical degree from West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia, and completed his residency in pediatrics, fellowship in general academic pediatrics and Master of Public Health degree at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. He is board certified in pediatrics, is a Captain in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service and holds an academic appointment at Emory University. | |

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| **COLDIRON, Matt** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Médecins Sans Frontières Epicentre |
| **Academic degrees:** | MD, MPH, BA |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | New York City, NY, USA |
| **Biography:** Matthew Coldiron is an Investigator at Epicentre, an epidemiology and research satellite created by Médecins Sans Frontières, an international medical humanitarian organization. After completing an AB at Princeton, he received MD and MPH degrees from Emory University, and completed residency training in Internal Medicine at NYU-Bellevue Hospital in New York. He has worked extensively in humanitarian contexts in sub-Saharan Africa since 2010, providing care, designing and leading observational studies and clinical trials. His areas of expertise include meningococcal meningitis and malaria in the African Sahel, the treatment of snakebite in resource-limited settings and emerging infections in sub-Saharan Africa. | |

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| **ELICER, Isabel** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Hospital Dr. Sótero del Río, Santiago; Clínica Las Condes, Santiago |
| **Academic degrees:** | MD |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Santiago, Chile |
| **Biography:** Dr. Isabel Elicer is an Adult Neurology and Neuroinfectious diseases specialist based in Santiago, Chile. Dr. Elicer graduated from medical school at Universidad de Concepción, in Concepción, Chile. She then completed neurology residency at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago. After starting clinical work at the public and private healthcare system, with special dedication in Neurohospitalism, she pursued a one-year neuro-infectious diseases Research Fellowship training at Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York.  Her clinical and research interests include neurological complications of HIV and neuroinfectious  diseases. During the last years she has develop interest in global neurology and education in Neurology.  Following these interests, she has dedicated voluntary time doing educational, research and clinical work in Zambia, in 2019 and 2023 as part of a neurology post-graduate training program in the country directed by Dr. Deanna Saylor.  Dr. Elicer is the current director of Work Group Section in Neuroinfectious diseases of the national Society of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry (SONEPSYN) endorsed by the World Federation of Neurology (WFN). | |

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| **GROCE, Nora** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Disability Research Centre, University College London, UK |
| **Academic degrees:** | PhD |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | London, UK |
| **Biography:** Professor Groce is a medical anthropologist, working in the area of global health and international development with particular emphasis on cross-cultural systems of health care and health as a human rights issue. Her research interests include issues of disability in international health and development, violence as a global public health problem, equity in access to health care in ethnic, minority and rural communities and the integration of western and traditional health care systems.  Professor Groce regularly serves as an advisor to United Nations (UN) agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, UNFPA and a number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and disabled people’s organizations (DPOs). She has published widely on both research and policy initiatives and has serves as editor and reviewer for a number of leading journals.  Prior to coming to UCL, Professor Groce was a Research Scientist at Harvard University (1986-1990) and Associate Professor in Global Health at Yale University and Director of the Yale/World Health Organization Collaborating Centre (1991-2008). | |

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| **HASSAN, Mariam** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre , Lahore , Pakistan |
| **Academic degrees:** | MBBS, MSc (clinical trials), PGD Bioethics |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Lahore, Pakistan |
| **Biography:** Mariam Hassan is clinical researcher currently working as a research administrator and a bioethicist at a not-for-profit cancer treatment and research facility in Pakistan. She holds a first professional degree in medicine and an MSc in clinical trials completed from the Edinburgh Medical School, College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine at The University of Edinburgh, UK. She also completed a post graduate diploma in bioethics from the Centre of Biomedical Ethics and Culture (CBEC), Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT) , Pakistan, which is a leading bioethics institute in the country and the first WHO collaborative centre for Bioethics in the Eastern Mediterranean Region. She has since been an invited teaching faculty at that institute and has been involved in regular educational activities related to research ethics teaching for the post graduate programmes being offered by CBEC, SIUT. She has also done a fellowship in research ethics and regulatory science organized by the Good Clinical Practice Alliance – Europe (GCPA) and the Strategic Initiative for Developing Capacity in Ethical Review (SIDCER) in cooperation with the Global Health Institute, University of Antwerp (GHI-UA), and the Middleton Foundation for Ethical Studies (MFES).  Her professional career spans 18 years during which she held leadership roles including leading her current institute's clinical research unit and has been responsible for oversight of the scientific and ethical review of research as well as responsible research conduct, development of research collaborations, management of clinical trials, research related education, capacity development and policy making. She has worked in various consulting and collaborative capacities with national and international academic and development sectors including the , national ethics review committee of Pakistan (co-opted member for COVID-19 research review) ,World Health Organization (co-investigator and country coordinator for the COVID-19 SOLIDARITY treatment trials) , WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (WHO-TDR) & The Global Health Network (TGHN) as member of working groups for various heath research capacity development initiatives , Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (member steering committee for the innovation and equity forum , IEF) and the University of Stanford, USA as member data safety and monitoring board , DSMB. Her interests include capacity development for high quality contextually relevant health research in low resource settings and exploring the role of syndemic\* frameworks in control of non-communicable diseases especially cancer  *\* Syndemic is a term used to describe a framework to understand disease and health conditions that cluster within specific populations, and are exacerbated by underlying socio-economic, environmental and political conditions* | |

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| **HEYDERMAN, Robert** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | University College London, UK |
| **Academic degrees:** | BSc, MBBS, PhD, FRCP, DTM&H, FMedSci |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | London, UK |
| **Biography:** Rob Heyderman is a clinician scientist with skills and experience that bridge clinical practice, disease prevention and the fundamental understanding of the mechanisms of infectious disease. He directed the highly successful Malawi-Liverpool-Wellcome Programme (MLW) for over 8 years, transforming the Programme into a centre of excellence led by Malawian & international scientists, pursuing internationally-leading science, research training & improving the health of people in sub-Saharan Africa. Since moving to University College London (UCL) in 2015, he has established a Mucosal Pathogens Research Group (MPRU) which focuses on optimising the development and implementation of vaccines to prevent severe viral and bacterial infections that cause pneumonia, meningitis and sepsis in the UK and Africa. His population-based studies of vaccine-preventable disease in Africa have led to national vaccine implementation, vaccine evaluation and large-scale studies of modified vaccine schedules. Working with WHO AFRO, he is leading the evaluation of COVID19 vaccines in vulnerable adults in a collaboration between Malawi and Zimbabwe. He is a member of the task force for WHO Road Map for Defeating Meningitis. He chairs the Global Meningitis Genome Partnership. He is a member of the bacterial meningitis & meningococcal disease NICE guideline committee. He has been a member and has chaired several Data Safety & Monitoring Committees providing oversight of therapeutic and vaccine trials from Phase I through to Phase III in the UK and globally. He is a NIHR Senior Investigator and a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences, UK. | |

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| **KAKOOZA, Angelina** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Department of Paediatrics and Child Health at Makerere University, Uganda |
| **Academic degrees:** | Kampala. Uganda |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | MBChB, MMed, PhD |
| **Biography:** Dr.Kakooza–Mwesige is an Associate Professor and Child Neurologist who has worked in sub-Saharan Africa for most of her entire professional career. She has extensive experience in the diagnosis of disorders affecting the child’s nervous system in low resource settings, and has conducted several hospital and community based studies on neurodevelopmental disorders (focusing on epilepsy, autism spectrum disorders and cerebral palsy) in peri-urban and rural Uganda. She served as a Co-PI on a multisite study determining the epidemiology of epilepsy in sub Saharan Africa’ funded by Welcome Trust UK in which the team looked at the prevalence, risk factors, clinical features and the treatment gap. With collaborators from Duke University, North Carolina, USA as Co-PI they conducted a randomly selected community-based national study to establish the prevalence and geographical variation of epilepsy in Uganda. She is a Co-PI on a collaborative epidemiological and intervention study on Cerebral palsy in Ugandan children with researchers at Karolinska Institute, Sweden, South Africa and the United States. She is also Co-PI on a multi-country pilot study exploring the use of a mobile health application tool to assess multiple behavioral risk markers of Autism Spectrum Disorder among children in Uganda. She is a PI on a national study on epilepsy comorbidity and stigma among the Ugandan population funded by the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, USA. She is also a consultant and master trainer in the interventions for disability in early childhood (IDEC) project in Uganda operated by UNICEF and collaborative Partners-H & M, Sweden. | |

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| **KHALIL, Hanan** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Qatar University, College of Health Sciences, Qatar |
| **Academic degrees:** | BSc, MSc, PhD |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Doha, Qatar |
| **Biography:**  Dr. Hanan Khalil is an associate professor of neurological rehabilitation at Qatar University, department of physical therapy and rehabilitation sciences, college of health sciences. Dr. Khalil is a researcher in the area of rehabilitation and exercise and related outcome measures in people with Long Term Neurological Conditions (LTNCs). Further research interest includes cross-cultural adaptation and validation of outcome measures in Arabic language as well as motor learning and the impact of exercise on improving non-motor symptoms in these populations such as sleep, cognition and mood. More recently, Dr. Khalil is also involved in the area of mental health, specifically in the area of trauma-informed care for traumatized individuals.  As part of her PhD degree at Cardiff University-UK and for the past 10 years, Dr. Khalil has been actively involved in these areas of research. She successfully obtained funding (as a principal investigator) and led several clinical studies (both observational and interventional) in people with neurological diseases and mental health issues. Dr. Khalil was a member of the International Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders society (MDS) task force for the Middle East and currently is a member of the MDS working group for the Middle East. Through this, Dr. Khalil led two multi-site projects for translating and validating standardised outcome measures in PD in Arabic language. She also led several MDS educational courses in the area of rehabilitation for people with neurological diseases for the allied health professions.  As a recognition of her research and scholarly activities, Dr. Khalil won the L’Oréal UNESCO for Women In Science Levant fellowship in 2018 and further she was selected for the TechWomen Emerging Leader Program award as well as for the International Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders’ Society (MDS) LEAP program for young leaders of 2019. | |

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| **MARSO, Andy** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Person with lived experience; American Academy of Family Physicians |
| **Academic degrees:** | BA, Masters (journalism) |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Kansas, USA |
| **Biography:** Andy Marso was a senior at the University of Kansas in 2004 when he contracted meningococcal disease and nearly died. He was hospitalized for four months, undergoing painful debridement of his arms and legs and amputations of most of his fingers and toes. He has since recovered to become an award-winning author and journalist, publishing a memoir about his illness and recovery entitled, “Worth the Pain: How Meningitis Nearly Killed Me, Then Changed My Life for the Better.” A staunch advocate for meningitis vaccination, Marso has provided personal testimony about his experience at three state legislatures and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. He works as an editor for a journal published by the American Academy of Family Physicians and lives in Minnesota with his wife, Rachael, and son, Alex. | |

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| **MILNER, Kate** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | University of Melbourne, Department of Paediatrics, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne |
| **Academic degrees:** | MBBS MPH FRACP PhD |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Melbourne, Australia |
| **Biography:** Dr Milner's is a practicing developmental paediatrician in the Department of Neurodevelopment & Disability, Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne. She also works as a post-doctoral Clinician Scientist Fellow in the Neurodisability & Rehabilitation Research Group, Murdoch Children’s Research Institute.  Her academic work has a strong emphasis on improving equitable developmental opportunities for all children, including children with disabilities in low- and middle-income countries. Her doctoral research (University of Melbourne, 2020) focused on understanding and improving neurodevelopmental outcomes for high-risk neonates in Fiji, a middle-income country in the South Pacific. Dr Milner also worked as a consultant to the World Health Organization during the Zika epidemic (2016-17) as part of a team developing resources to respond to needs of children and families affected by congenital Zika virus syndrome. Between 2016-19 Dr Milner worked at the Maternal, Adolescent, Reproductive and Child Health Centre at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) where she coordinated a multi-country process and impact evaluation of early child development projects across 23 countries within the Grand Challenges Canada funded Saving Brains Portfolio. Current research activities include implementation research to strengthen early childhood intervention and caregiver support for children with disabilities in diverse low- and middle-income settings and a multi-country study of developmental monitoring, early identification and school readiness for young children in Bangladesh, Nepal and Tanzania. Dr Milner has also recently led a multidisciplinary systematic review exploring the application of systems thinking in promoting early child development at scale. | |

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| **NEWTON, Charles** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s):** | Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kilifi, Kenya; University of Oxford, UK |
| **Academic degrees:** | MBChB (UCT), MA (Oxford), MRCP (London), MD (UCT), FRCPCH |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Kilifi, Kenya |
| Charles Newton was born in Kenya, qualified in Cape Town, South Africa, with postgraduate training in Paediatrics in Manchester and London, United Kingdom. As a lecturer at University of Oxford, he returned to Kilifi Kenya in 1989, to help set up a unit to study severe malaria in African children. Thereafter he spent 2 years as a Post-doctoral fellow at Johns Hopkins, USA; studying mechanisms of brain damage in central nervous system infections. He completed his training in Paediatric Neurology at Great Ormond Street Hospital, and Queens Square in London, UK. In 1998 he was awarded a Wellcome Trust Senior Clinical Fellowship at University College London, to return to Kilifi, to study CNS infections in children. He conducts research on CNS infections in children; epidemiological studies of epilepsy and neurological impairment; tetanus, jaundice and sepsis in neonates. In 2011 he took up a professorship in Psychiatry at the University of Oxford to concentrate of Neurodevelopmental Disorders, Epilepsy and mental illness disorders (particularly Psychosis and Depression) in Africa. | |

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| **OKUBADEJO, Njideka** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | African Academy of Neurology, Nigeria |
| **Academic degrees:** | MBChB, FMCP |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Lagos, Nigeria |
| **Biography:** Njideka U. Okubadejo is a Professor of Neurology and Consultant Neurologist at the College of Medicine, University of Lagos, Nigeria. She trained at the National Postgraduate Medical College of Nigeria (1992–1998), with additional observership at Howard University, Washington DC (1997/98), and a Visiting Clinical Fellowship in Movement Disorders sponsored by the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota in 2004/2005.  She is the first female neurologist and first female tenured Professor of Neurology in Nigeria. She is an American Academy of Neurology Donald M. Palatucci Advocacy Leadership Forum (PALF) member (class of 2009), and the 2015 awardee of the Society of Neuroscientists in Africa (SONA)/International Brain Research Organization (IBRO) Women in Neuroscience Award (West African Subregion).  Prof. Okubadejo has worked extensively with the International Parkinson and Movement Disorders Society (MDS) to promote movement disorders education and quality of care in Africa, and serves as faculty and course director for trainings across sub Saharan Africa. She is the current chair of the Neurology Subspecialty of the Faculty of Internal Medicine, National Postgraduate College of Nigeria, and member of the Scientific Committee, African Academy of Neurology. | |

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| **ONGOLO ZOGO, Pierre** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Health policy and systems analyst, Director, Centre for Development of Best Practices in Health, Yaounde Cameroon Associate Professor, Head of Division of Residency Program, Faculty of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, University of Yaounde 1 Consultant Radiologist, Medical Director, Yaounde Central Hospital |
| **Academic degrees:** | MD, MSc, PhD |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Yaounde, Caneroon |
| **Biography:** Pierre is the founding director since 2008 of the Centre for Development of Best Practices in Health (CDBPH) that hosts Cochrane Cameroon and promotes evidence-informed health decision-making in Africa. Pierre has been an advocate of evidence informed health decision making for the last 18 years contributing to several initiatives such as the WHO-led EVIPNet and the EU funded SURE project and the Canada-IDRC led PEERSS Partnership for Evidence and Equity in Responsive Social Systems. Pierre’s research activities comprise health policy and systems research related to governance, financing, immunization, knowledge translation, non communicable diseases, mHealth and quality improvement. Pierre graduated as MD from Université de Nancy-France, as clinical radiologist and MSc in Biomedical engineering from Université Claude Bernard Lyon-France and completed his PhD in Health Policy at Makerere University Kampala, Uganda. | |

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| **PODA, Armel** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Institut Supérieur des Sciences de la Santé (School of medecine), University Nazi Boni  Department of infectious Diseases, Souro Sanou teaching Hospital  Associate researcher, Centre Muraz |
| **Academic degrees:** | Professor of Infectious diseases, MD, MPH, MSc |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso |
| **Biography**: Prof Armel PODA MD, MPH, Msc, is Professor of Infectious Diseases at the University Nazi Boni and Head of the Department of Infectious Diseases at Souro Sanou Teaching Hospital in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso. He is the head of clinical research unit in the “Emerging and Re-emerging Pathogens Laboratory, in French Laboratoire des pathogènes émergents et rémergents” (LaPather). Since 2019, he is the Vice President of the National AMR Commission in the one health coordination and the president of the sub-commission of the use of antimicrobials. He is tehe vice-president of Infectious Diseases Society of Burkina Faso. His long-term research goal is in the field of Infectious Diseases particularly in HIV, meningitis, tuberculosis, epidemics, COVID-19, antimicrobials stewardship and surveillance of antibiotic resistance circulation in low-income countries. Prof PODA was conducted with Agence de Médecine Préventive (AMP) an observational study “Evaluation of the impact of PCV13 vaccine on meningitis and pneumonia in the Hauts Bassins region: 2014-2017, Burkina Faso, BoboPrep”. He is also a national expert on meningitis control in his country. He is involved in the drafting of national guidelines for the management of meningitis, case-by-case meningitis surveillance guidelines, and the national guideline of antimicrobials stewardship. It provides training for medical students and continuing education for health workers in meningitis and other infectious diseases. Since, 2017, he as implemented with Montpellier University, the inter-university course on antimicrobial resistance and use of antibiotics (<http://www.diu-antibio.org>) which provides training every year for more than 50 healthcare professionals candidates from 12 French speaking countries of Africa. | |

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| **PRASAD, Kameshwar** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | All India Institute of Medical Sciences |
| **Academic degrees:** | MBBS, MD, DM, M MSc |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | New Delhi, India |
| **Biography:** Prof. (Dr.) Kameshwar Prasad is the former Chairperson of Neurology and Director, Clinical Epidemiology at All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India. He is a fellow of Royal College of Physicians (Edin) and Fellow of National Academy of Medical Sciences (India). He has research interests in the field of Stroke and Neuro-infections. He has contributed right from inception to the stroke component of Indian National Programme to control non-communicable diseases and serves as Board Member of Scientific Advisory Board of the Indian Council of Medical Research - National Centre for Disease Informatics and Research, where he also chairs the Research Area Panel on Stroke. His work in stroke and neuro-infections, mainly clinical trials and meta-analysis, has had significant impact on clinical practice globally.  Additionally, Dr. Prasad has championed the philosophy and practice of evidence-based healthcare at national and international levels. The International Society of Evidence-Based Healthcare (ISEHC) has been his brainchild and it has successfully organized annual conferences in New Delhi (India), Taormina (Italy), Taiwan, Sydney (Australia), and Kish Island (Iran). Dr. Prasad has taught in EBM conferences across the world and used principles of evidence-based healthcare to help the poor and disadvantaged. | |

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| **REGES, Paula** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Oswaldo Cruz Foundation/Fiocruz, Brazil |
| **Academic degrees:** | MD |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Rio de Janeiro, Brazil |
| **Biography:** Dr Reges completed a medical Residency in Infectious Diseases, MSc Infectious Diseases and currently consultant at the Evandro Chagas National Institute of Infectious Diseases (INI/Fiocruz) and advisor at the Global Health Center (CRIS / Fiocruz, Ministry of Health). Relevant experience in Global Health Diplomacy, focusing on strengthening Global South and strategies in public health / infectious diseases emergencies in LMIC settings. Expertise in intensive care focused in neuroinfections. Since 2020 is the National Coordinator of WHO Solidarity Trial in Brazil. | |

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| **SEJVAR, James** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | US CDC |
| **Academic degrees:** | MD |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Atlanta, Georgia USA |
| **Biography:** Dr Sejvar is a neuroepidemiologist in the Division of High-Consequence Pathogens and Pathology, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and an Assistant Professor of Medicine, Department of Neurology, Emory University School of Medicine.  Dr. Sejvar obtained his medical degree from Dartmouth Medical School in Hanover, New Hampshire, USA. He received his training in neurology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, USA, completing his residency there. He then did a fellowship in applied field epidemiology through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)’s Epidemic Intelligence Service. Following completion of the program, he remained at CDC, where he leads the Neuroepidemiology Unit at CDC’s Divisions of High-Consequence Pathogens and Pathology. | |

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| **SINGHI, Pratibha** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s):** | Head -Department of Pediatric Neurology at Amrita Hospital Faridabad. |
| **Academic degrees:** | MBBS, MD, |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Faridabad, India |
| **Biography:** Prof Singhi has been listed among the top 2% scientists in a study published by the Stanford University USA. She completed several international research projects - WHO, INDO UK, INDO-EU and INDO-Swedish, published about 500 scientific papers and book chapters, authored a book on “Seizures and Epilepsy in Children” and edited 4 books including the ICNA book on “CNS Infections”. Editorial board member, guest editor and reviewer for several journals, she received numerous Research Awards: Frankford Award of ICNA for Life Time Scientific Achievement and Contribution to ICNA, KC Choudhary Award of the IJP for Life Time Achievement, Oration of the Association of Child Neurology 2016, for Life-Time Achievement in Pediatric Neurology, Oration of the Growth, Development and Behavioral Pediatrics chapter of IAP, First S. Janaki Memorial Oration by the National Academy of Medical Sciences, for outstanding contribution to Pediatric and Adolescent Neurology, First PK Mishra Oration on “Cerebral Palsy and its management-recent Concepts”, Asian Research Award at the 6th Infantile Seizure Society Meeting Tokyo, 2003. “Medical Scientist Award”, James Flett Gold Medal (First Prize) of the IAP, and Several ‘best paper’ awards including the BMJ South Asia Awards 2015. She has Fellowships of National Academy of Medical Sciences and the Indian Academy of Pediatrics.  She was awarded several Fellowships - Rotary International Foundation Graduate Fellowship USA, WHO Fellowship, Fellowships of the British Pediatric Association and Royal College of Pediatrics and Child Health London, Nehru Chair visiting Professorship. She received Several gold medals including President of India Medal. She has been an expert with UNICEF, World Bank, etc.  She was invited speaker/chairperson in over 450 international and national conferences,  and Visiting Professor to several prestigious universities including Johns’ Hopkins University, Baltimore, Boston Children Hospital, Indiana University and Detroit Wayne State University USA, Hospital for Sick Kids Toronto, Karolinska Institute – Stockholm.  Prof Singhi is a founder member of the Child Neurology and Childhood Disability groups in India. She was the President of the Association of Child Neurology and Vice President Indian Academy of Cerebral Palsy, India. She is the National Delegate Asian Oceanian Child Neurology Association. She was the Secretary and is currently the President of the International Child Neurology Association (ICNA). | |

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| **SOLOMON, Tom** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | University of Liverpool, UK |
| **Academic degrees:** | CBE BA BM BCh DCH DTMH PhD FRCP FMedSci |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Liverpool, UK |
| **Biography:** Professor Tom Solomon CBE is Director of The Pandemic Institute, Vice President (International) of the UK Academy of Medical Sciences, a Censor at the Royal College of Physicians of London, and Chair of Neurological Science at the University of Liverpool and the Walton Centre NHS Foundation Trust, where he is also a consultant neurologist.  As founding director of the UK’s National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Protection Research Unit in Emerging Infections, since 2014, he was at the forefront of the response to Ebola, Zika and Covid-19. He is an advisor to the UK and US governments and World Health Organisation. He appears regularly on BBC television and radio and writes for the Guardian and other papers. He hosts the [Scouse Science Podcast](https://www.facebook.com/ScouseSciencePoddy/?ref=py_c), and tweets @RunningMadProf. | |

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| **TAN, Kevin** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Duke–NUS Medical School, Singapore |
| **Academic degrees:** | BMedSci, BMBS, MRCP (UK), MS-HPEd |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Singapore |
| **Biography:** Dr Kevin Tan is a Senior Consultant Neurologist at the National Neuroscience Institute (NNI) and Associate Professor at Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore and Duke-NUS Medical School. He completed his Fellowship in Neuroinfectious Disease and Neuroimmunology at Johns Hopkins University (2008) and Master of Science in Health Professions Education at MGH Institute of Health Professions (2016).  He is currently the Programme Director of Neuroimmunology-Neuroinflammation (NI-2) Programme (NNI), Education Director (NNI) and Vice Chair (Education), Neuroscience Academic Clinical Programme, SingHealth Duke-NUS Academic Medical Centre.  His main clinical and research interests are in CNS inflammatory diseases, immune-mediated neurological syndromes, neurological infections and HIV neurology. His medical education interests are in team-based learning, innovations in teaching and assessment, clinical reasoning, interprofessional education and professional identity formation. | |

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| **TEFERI, Mekonnen** | |
| **Institutional affiliation(s)**: | Armauer Hansen Research Institute, Ethiopia |
| **Academic degrees:** | MPharm, DVM |
| **City and country of primary residence:** | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia |
| **Biography:** Mekonnen Teferi is a senior clinical researcher at the Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. I have a broad experience in clinical research on infectious diseases and clinical trials. I had a chance to lead and co-investigate several clinical research projects at a different capacity. I primarily contributed in understanding the magnitude of enteric diseases including typhoid fever and cholera towards vaccine development and introduction in large African consortium studies. Moreover, I play a key role in the establishment of a bioequivalence team for clinical studies and strengthening PK works in my institute. I have been part of few international multi-country clinical trials such as STREAM & SOLIDARITY studies as well as in large pharmacovigilance studies. I therefore have the expertise, training, and leadership experience to further contribute and strengthen the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of infectious diseases through strengthening clinical research. | |

Please submit your comments by sending an email to Dr Nicoline Schiess, [schiessn@who.int](mailto:schiessn@who.int)

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