

Therapeutics for Ebola Virus Disease

Guideline Development Group

BIOGRAPHIES
DECEMBER 2021





Professor Aasim Ahmad

Professor Ahmad has a longstanding interest in research ethics, especially in disasters and epidemics, which began through being a member of the Ethics Review Board of Médecins Sans Frontières. He has contributed to a number of journals, many WHO publications and was the lead author of *Ethical Guidelines for Collection, Usage, Storage, and Export of Human Biological Materials (HBM)* (National Bioethics Committee, Pakistan, 2016). He acted as a facilitator at a WHO workshop entitled “Ethics review of research on Lassa and other infectious disease outbreaks” and is a member of the WHO Working Group on Ethics and COVID-19 and the Board of the International Association of Bioethics (IAB).



Ms Cindy Albertson

A committed humanitarian health care professional, Cindy Albertson has experience in medical response programming for EVD, COVID-19 and diphtheria. Cindy's expertise encompasses clinical, analytical and logistical skills to address dynamic health issues. In meeting organizational strategic objectives, Cindy utilizes a programmatic approach to identify areas of need and seeks solutions through collaboration with stakeholders and donors. Cindy is passionate about development and implementation of culturally appropriate programming in resource-limited environments that is capacity building and ensures positive impacts for the beneficiaries.



Dr Séverine Caluwaerts

Séverine Caluwaerts is an obstetrician-gynaecologist from Belgium who has worked with Médecins Sans Frontières since 2008 in different contexts (Sierra Leone, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Niger, Central African Republic). Since 2011 she has been a gynaecology referent. Her special interests include pregnancy and infectious diseases, and cervical cancer screening and treatment in low-resource settings. She also continues to work as a clinician at the Institute of Tropical Medicine (ITM) in Antwerp, Belgium, in the HIV/STI clinic. She acquired a Diploma in Tropical Medicine from ITM, Antwerp, and a Masters in Public Health from Liverpool University, UK.



Dr A Modet Camara

Dr A Modet Camara is a graduate of Gamal Abdel Nasser University in Conakry, Guinea. He undertook his infectious disease internship at Donka Hospital in Conakry. Dr Camara was lead physician in the EVD treatment centre in Guéckédou. He has designed and supported EVD vaccine and therapeutic studies. He is the lead physician for EVD and other haemorrhagic fevers, including Lassa fever and Marburg virus disease.



Professor Ian Crozier

Ian Crozier is an infectious diseases clinician-scientist at the Frederick National Laboratory, USA, providing chief medical officer support to NIAID's Biosafety Level 4 Integrated Research Facility (IRF) at Fort Detrick. His current position enables bidirectional agility between the animal models of high-threat infectious diseases and the human outbreak bedside, most recently in clinical, research and training efforts around EVD outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo (2018–2020) and in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Côte d'Ivoire (2021). Relevant previous work focused on characterizing and understanding the sequelae of EVD in West African survivors. He completed infectious diseases and medical training at Vanderbilt University.



Dr Hilde De Clerck

Dr De Clerck is a family physician and public health professional, working for Médecins Sans Frontières since 2006 in the roles of clinician, medical coordinator (project/emergency) and, since 2018, as advisor for emerging infectious diseases, including viral haemorrhagic fevers (mostly EVD and MVD). Dr De Clerck started working in the domain of EVD/viral haemorrhagic fevers in 2007 and has participated in most EVD outbreak investigations and control interventions since (including the big West Africa and the Kivu outbreaks), as clinician, acting field epidemiologist and medical coordinator. She helped in implementing the PALM trial, a RCT, comparing ZMapp, MAb114 and REGN-EB3, in one of the trial sites (EVD outbreak North Kivu 2018–2020).



Professor Susanna Dunachie

Professor Susanna Dunachie is an NIHR Global Research Professor at the University of Oxford, undertaking research with international collaborators to understand the human immune response to infectious diseases including melioidosis and SARS-CoV-2. Professor Dunachie is a Joint Chief Investigator of the PITCH consortium evaluating the immune response to SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccines, and part of the national VIBRANT and OCTAVE studies. Professor Dunachie was awarded a Hamied Foundation/Academy of Medical Sciences Visiting Professorship to India and is an Honorary Consultant in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology at Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, where she is Travel Health Lead and runs the university's travel clinic.



Dr William A Fischer

William Fischer is a pulmonary and critical care physician at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine with expertise in severe emerging viral infections. Dr Fischer has extensive field experience providing medical care for patients with EVD, Lassa fever and COVID-19 in resource-limited settings, with numerous deployments as a WHO critical care physician. He leads an active research programme focused on the long-term complications of EVD; prevalence, pathogenesis and persistence of Lassa fever; and therapeutics for EVD, Lassa fever and COVID-19.



Dr Robert Fowler

Robert Fowler is a critical care physician and Professor of Medicine at the University of Toronto and Chief of the Trauma-Critical Care Program at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and Chair of the Canadian Critical Care Trials Group. His clinical and academic focus includes access and outcomes of care for critically ill patients and infection-related critical illness. He has assisted or worked with WHO during SARS, pandemic and avian influenza, Middle East respiratory syndrome, Ebola outbreaks in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and during COVID-19.



Dr Bushra Jamil

Dr Jamil is an infectious diseases physician. As a consultant and advisor, she has helped the Pakistan Government in policy development, outbreak investigations, COVID-19 vaccination strategies, public awareness and training of health care professionals. Since the onset of COVID-19, she has contributed towards data-driven decisions and currently leads the process of developing guidelines and formulating policies as a member of the National Command Operation Centre (NCOC), Pakistan. Dr Jamil has developed academic programmes, managed clinical services and led various research projects and clinical trials. She has pioneered continuing medical education-accredited infectious diseases tele-mentoring sessions in Pakistan and, through her efforts, Pakistan has recently received a C19RM Global Fund grant.



Dr Patricia Kabuni

Dr Kabuni is currently anaesthesiologist-resuscitator supervisor at the COVID-19 treatment centre (Kinshasa University Clinics) and national trainer for COVID-19 resuscitation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. She has worked, through ALIMA, in this capacity in the fight against EVD and is an expert in the management of the disease. Dr Kabuni was involved in the innovation of biosecure emergency rooms (2018–2019) and contributed to the development of the first practitioner protocol on EVD (WHO, March 2019).



Charline Kahambu Ngorombi

As an experienced health care worker for 22 years in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's health system and as frontline staff working to care for EVD and COVID-19 patients in North Kivu, Ms Kahambu has acquired vital knowledge and skills to inform her work as a member of the GDG.



Dr Maurice Kakule

Dr Maurice Kakule is managing physician at the Mangodumu Reference Health Centre in Mangina and physician at the Ebola Treatment Centre in Beni. He is Honorary President of the Association of Ebola Survivors from the 10th epidemic in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where he is WHO Focal Point for the follow-up of Ebola survivors.



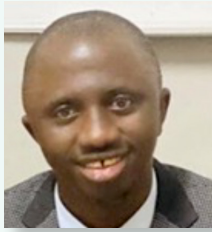
Dr Richard Kojan

Richard Kojan has been a practising emergency medicine clinician, mainly intensive care and polyvalent critical care, in LMICs for over 15 years. He is a contributor to several clinical works, particularly on emerging infectious diseases, EVD, Lassa fever, frequently with sepsis complication. He helped develop the portable biosecure emergency care unit (CUBE) to optimize standard of care for patients, which also provides opportunities for clinical trials in low-resource settings. He is a specialist ICU physician and anaesthesiologist, currently working in collaboration with a number of teaching hospitals and international research societies (Africa, Europe, North America) and UN organizations, to improve knowledge on COVID-19 and define its characterization. Dr Kojan is President of the Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA).



Dr Marie-Claire Kolié

Dr Marie-Claire Kolié is a general practitioner and graduate of Gamal University in Conakry, Guinea. She worked during the EVD epidemic as an Ebola treatment centre doctor for MSF/Belgium in Guinea and, through ALIMA, was seconded to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In 2019 she handled case management at the Butembo Ebola treatment centre, and from March 2020 to May 2021 was team leader for case management in Kinshasa for the WHO response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Dr Sulaiman Lakoh

Dr Sulaiman Lakoh is an infectious disease physician in Sierra Leone with more than 10 years' work experience in the fields of internal medicine, infectious diseases and public health. Sulaiman had his undergraduate education from the University of Sierra Leone and holds a Masters in Public Health from the University of Central Nicaragua and a Fellowship from both the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Sierra Leone and the West African College of Physicians. He is currently a lecturer at the University of Sierra Leone and an infectious disease consultant at the Ministry of Health of Sierra Leone.



Dr Hans-Jörg Lang

Dr Hans-Jörg Lang conducted his medical studies in Germany and completed training in paediatric intensive care medicine in the UK. For several years he worked with development and humanitarian organizations in sub-Saharan Africa and Afghanistan (e.g. MSF, ALIMA, GIZ/CIM, DED). In this context he contributed to training programmes and research projects. He participated in Ebola outbreak responses in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (2019/2020) and Guinea (2021). In recent years he has been involved in activities supported by WHO (Ebola training programmes, oxygen access scale-up project).



Dr J Soka Moses

Dr Moses is the site physician at the Partnership for Research on Vaccines and infectious diseases in Liberia (PREVAIL), a research partnership between the Liberia Ministry of Health and the US National Institutes of Health. He is a co-lead of EVD case management at the National Public Health Institute of Liberia supporting EVD national case management services. He worked as a frontline clinician in the 2014–2016 West African EVD outbreak, in Liberia and, thereafter, ran a programme to provide clinical care to EVD survivors in Liberia and mitigate convalescent transmission of the Ebola virus. As a clinician/early career researcher, he conducts research on emerging epidemic-prone viral diseases and health systems.



Dr Isekusu Mpinda Fiston

Graduating from the University of Kinshasa in 2015, Dr Isekusu Mpinda Fiston is a specialist of internal medicine and infectious tropical diseases. Also trained in good clinical practice/clinical trials and investigations, he participated in the PALM randomized clinical trial in 2018 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He gained experience in the management and administration of therapeutics against Ebola viruses during the Ebola epidemic in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.



Philippe Mukumbayi Mulumba

For the last 4 years, Philippe Mukumbayi has worked in the EVD clinical management team at the Institut National de Recherche Biomédicale, Kinshasa. In this role, he actively participated in the clinical response to EVD outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Guinea. His responsibilities included training clinical management staff from government and other stakeholders on the preparation and administration of specific treatment for EVD, management, and supply of EVD therapeutics. His research on EVD focuses on the optimization of EVD treatment (see August 2021 *Frontiers in Immunology* paper: *Insights on current FDA-approved monoclonal antibodies against Ebola virus infection*, doi:10.3389/fimmu.2021.721328).



Professor Srinivas Murthy

Professor Srinivas Murthy is Associate Professor at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. He is a paediatric infectious diseases and paediatric critical care physician and clinical epidemiologist. He has served as an advisor to WHO, Public Health Agency of Canada, and other public health agencies around the world since 2014. He holds research grant support from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Wellcome Trust and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and his research focus is on optimizing the clinical management of emerging and pandemic-prone infections in settings around the world.



Mr Sorie Samura

Sorie Samura is a graduate in Medical Laboratory Science and leads the national referral coordinator unit at the National Emergency Medical Services (NEMS), Sierra Leone. He has helped design, implement and lead interventions to enhance access to timely and quality health care to all in Sierra Leone. In 2016–2017 he coordinated access to health care for Ebola survivors in Freetown. During the 2014/2015 Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone, he worked clinically at Connaught Hospital Ebola isolation unit, where he contracted the virus whilst treating other patients but was lucky to survive. The experience of being a health care worker treating Ebola patients and being an Ebola patient himself, has given him the opportunity to understand the clinical manifestation and sequelae after surviving the disease.