
Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Ageing

WHO Guideline development group on rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease
Geneva, Switzerland

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Please send any comments to the following email: mncah@who.int not later than 6 June 2021.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Ali, Sulafa Khalid Mohamed

Institutional affiliation(s): University of Khartoum, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Paediatrics and Child Health & Sudan Heart Centre

Academic degrees: Fellowship of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health – UK
Fellowship of Pediatric Cardiology, Accreditation of British Society of Echocardiography, MBBS

City and country of primary residence: Khartoum - Sudan

Biography:

Professor at University of Khartoum, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Paediatrics and Child Health and Consultant Paediatric Cardiologist at Sudan Heart Centre and Jafaar Ibn Ouf Children's Hospital (Since 2004 up to date).

Established a program in Sudan in 2004 and a Fellowship Training Program for Paediatric Cardiology at Sudan Medical Specialization Board in 2009.

Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) Control: He established a multi-sector control program in 2012 in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and nongovernmental organizations.

Member of RHD committees in the following organizations: Sudan Heart Society (chair), WHO-EMRO Expert Committee, Pan African Society of Cardiology and World Heart Federation.

90 published papers and abstracts: Research themes: congenital and rheumatic heart disease, establishing control programs. Publications on acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, Books/Chapters <https://docs.google.com/document/d/18w0704fwotpfRjV-P6prYphXg6kTdOgh/edit>. Sulafa Ali: A pioneer of paediatric cardiology in Sudan. The Lancet 2014; 383: 687, 22.

Surname, first name(s) and initial Anderson, Simon G

Institutional affiliation(s): The George Alleyne Chronic Disease Research Centre, University of the West Indies (UWI); The University of Manchester and Manchester University Foundation NHS Trust

Academic degrees: BSc (Hons) (UWI); PhD (UWI); MPhil Cambridge); MSc (Oxford); MBBCh (Cardiff)

City and country of primary residence: Bridgetown, Barbados

Biography:

As a clinician-scientist and leader in using rapidly changing patient and population data resources for research, Professor Anderson has contributed to the field of data science for health both locally and internationally. He aims to investigate and highlight insights gained from data for health and healthcare, particularly in cardiovascular disease (CVD). He has supported guideline development on management of hypertension before elective surgery in the UK. A graduate of the University of the West Indies (Biochemistry), the Universities of Cambridge (Epidemiology), Oxford (Human Biology) and Cardiff (Medicine), he had an integrated sub-specialty training supported by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) in academic cardiovascular medicine. He leads the population health research at the UWI with a lens that considers the upstream determinants alongside risk factors for the treatment and prevention of cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes, among people of Caribbean and African origin. Professor Anderson is Professor of Population Health Sciences and Cardiovascular Medicine (UWI) and Director at the George Alleyne Chronic Disease Research Centre in Barbados. Since 2019, he is also Co-Director at the Glasgow Caribbean Centre for Development Research, bringing together two universities (the University of Glasgow and UWI) in a novel partnership for development research in the Caribbean.

Surname, first name(s) and initial Basu, Srikanta

Institutional affiliation (s) : Department of Paediatrics, Lady Hardinge Medical College and associated Kalawati Saran Children's Hospital, Delhi

Academic degrees: MBBS, MD

City and country of primary residence: New Delhi, India

Biography:

Professor Basu is a Professor of Pediatrics, working at the Lady Hardinge Medical College and associated Kalawati Saran Children's hospital, Delhi. His area of interest is Pediatric Cardiology. He is running the Cardiology clinic for the last few years.

Publications: Overall, He has 65 publications in Indexed journals and 25 book chapters to his credit. A few publications on Pediatric cardiology; Contributed chapters on Pediatric cardiology in the text book Pediatrics published by National Academy (IAP). Section Editor of Cardiology section in the text book Pediatrics published by National Academy (IAP).

Presently he is the Chair of Cardiology sub chapter of Indian Academy of Pediatrics.

He is Member of Working groups on the management of Pediatric heart diseases (congenital) and on the management and Drug therapy, published in Indian Pediatrics.

Surname, first name(s) and initial Beaton, Andrea Z

Institutional affiliation(s) Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati Ohio, USA (2018-current), Children's National Medical Center, Washington DC, USA (2009-2018)

Academic degrees: MD

City and country of primary residence: Louisville, Kentucky, USA

Biography:

Dr Beaton is a paediatric cardiologist with expertise in rheumatic heart disease. She is currently an attending physician at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and an Associate Professor of Paediatrics at the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine. She is the immediate past Chair of the American Heart Association Rheumatic Fever, Endocarditis and Kawasaki Disease Committee and serves as a member of the International Committee and the Epidemiology and Statistic Committee. She is also a member of the World Heart Federation Non-Communicable Disease Working Group for Rheumatic Heart Disease. Dr Beaton has over 50 peer reviewed publications in rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, including three American Heart Association Scientific Statements. Dr Beaton is currently co-leading the development of RHD guideline with the Interamerican Society of Cardiology. Dr Beaton is funded by the American Heart Association and the Thrasher Paediatric Research Fund as well as multiple charitable foundations, for ongoing RHD research in Uganda and Brazil.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Bennett, Julie

Institutional affiliation(s): University of Otago, Wellington

Academic degrees: BSc, DPH, MPH, PhD

City and country of primary residence: Wellington, New Zealand

Biography

Dr Julie Bennett is a Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Public Health at the University of Otago. Her research activities currently have a strong focus on group A streptococcal infections, acute rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease. Julie is currently the lead researcher of a Trans-Tasman collaboration (SKIP RHD) trialling subcutaneous

infusion of benzathine penicillin G (BPG) for prevention of rheumatic heart disease. This project expects to develop a less painful delivery system for longer lasting BPG, which may lead to improved adherence and less disease progression. Julie also leads the “Isolate study” which aims to establish if group A streptococcal isolates detected prior to rheumatic fever differ from those collected on hospital admission. Findings from this study will provide critical knowledge about the pathophysiology of acute rheumatic fever as well as guiding vaccine development efforts. Julie project manages the “Endgame” study, which aims to develop an optimal strategy for ending rheumatic fever in New Zealand, with an economic-epidemiological model that will estimate the incremental cost-effectiveness of a full range of plausible interventions across the causal pathway. Julie also manages the “START” study that aims to develop and validate biomarkers that may form the basis for a rheumatic fever blood test, and will add to knowledge on what types of immune-modulating treatments should be trialled in rheumatic fever cases.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Boladuadua, Sainimere L.

Institutional affiliation(s): University of Auckland, New Zealand. Cure Kids NZ.

Academic degrees: Bachelor of Medicine & Bachelor of Surgery (Otago University, NZ)
Diploma of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (Fiji School of Medicine, Fiji)
Master of Public Health (Otago University, NZ)

City and country of primary residence: Auckland, New Zealand.

Biography:

Dr Boladuadua is originally from Fiji and is a public health doctor. She has medical undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications from New Zealand and has worked in the fields of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Public Health both in Fiji and New Zealand. She specifically has programmatic experience in rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease prevention and control both in New Zealand and Fiji, having worked as a Senior Advisor in the Rheumatic Fever Prevention Programme at the New Zealand Ministry of Health, and as a Public Health Advisor then as Programme Lead of the Fiji Rheumatic Heart Disease Control and Prevention Programme under the Fiji Ministry of Health and Cure Kids NZ. In her latter role she was part of the writing group of the Fiji Guidelines for Acute Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatic Heart Disease Diagnosis, Management and Prevention (2018) and led its dissemination and training of health professionals in Fiji with the new guidelines.

Surname, first name(s) and initial Bukhman, Gene

Institutional affiliation(s) Harvard Medical School, Brigham and Women’s Hospital

Academic degrees MD, PhD

City and country of primary residence Boston, United States

Biography:

Gene Bukhman, MD, PhD, is a cardiologist and medical anthropologist who heads the Program in Global Noncommunicable Disease (NCDs) and Social Change at Harvard Medical School, where he is also an Assistant Professor of Medicine. He is an Associate Physician at Brigham and Women’s Hospital. His research focuses on integration of interventions to address NCDs of extreme poverty. He has pioneered simplified echocardiographic techniques to diagnose and manage advanced rheumatic heart disease, as well as the PEN-Plus strategy of chronic care delivery for severe NCDs at intermediate care facilities. Dr Bukhman is the author of more than 80 scholarly publications, including the 2011 Partners In Health Guide to Chronic Care Integration for Endemic NCDs. Dr. Bukhman was the senior technical advisor

on NCDs to the Ministry of Health of Rwanda between 2010 and 2015, and has worked with Health Ministry NCD divisions in many low- and lower-middle income countries. In 2015, Dr. Bukhman was chosen to be a member of the Financing Working Group of the WHO's Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs. He was the lead author of the 2020 Lancet Commission on Reframing NCDs and Injuries for the Poorest Billion. He is currently co-chair of the NCDI Poverty Network.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: ElGhamrawy, Alaaeldin Mohamed

Institutional affiliation(s): Member of the national committee of RHD, MoH Egypt; Former director of the national RF/RHD prevention and control Program, MoH Egypt

Academic degrees: Post graduate degrees in Cardiology and Quality Management,

City and country of primary residence: Mahalla Al Kubra, Egypt

Biography:

Dr ElGhamrawy is a Consultant Cardiology, Vice president of the valvular division at the Egyptian Society of Cardiology. He is the former director of the national RF/RHD prevention and control program, MoH Egypt. He is the Egyptian national Leader of the INVICTUS Study and 3 times the winner of the best doctor award (Egyptian medical syndicate).

In 2005, he established a national control program for RHD, which includes training programs for health care professionals throughout the country, including physicians, internist, paediatrician and community worker. Since the establishment of the program, studies have shown notable decrease on the incidence of heart operations due to RHD. In 2015, he won the WHO award for research in health promotion for his work establishing Egypt's RHD programme.

After receiving WHO awards, he established 30 centers for RHD (one center for each governorate) from 2018 to 2020, he was a Member of the Board of Director of the Higher Institute of Heath (Alexandria University). He is currently a member of the Regional expert Network of RHD (EMRO).

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Fahmy, Charl F.

Institutional affiliation(s): Emeritus Professor and Vice Dean of HIPH, Alexandria University, Egypt in the prior four years

Academic degrees: MBBCh, MPH, DPH, DCA

City and country of primary residence: Alexandria, Egypt

Biography:

Professor Fahmy is a Professor of Public Health, Occupational Medicine specialized in Cardiology with great interest in prevention and control of Rheumatic Heart Disease to save the human productive resources to create healthy communities with emphasis on health promotion and achievements towards SGDs. Participating and leading convoys for RHD prevention in many Egyptian Governorates and administration of RHD clinic at the HIPH as well as teaching courses in this area to undergraduate medical students. He is supervising and discussing many Doctoral and Master Theses related to RHD management and prevention. He is linked with many collaborative activities with the National program for RHD prevention in Alexandria, Egypt

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Hameed, Afshan AH

Institutional affiliation(s): University of California, Irvine, USA

Academic degrees: MD, FACC, FACOG

City and country of primary residence: Irvine, California, USA

Biography:

Dr Hameed's career has been unconventional, starting out as a cardiology fellow who "truly enjoyed" managing cardiac problems in pregnancy. She serves on the California Pregnancy Associated Mortality Review Committee since 2009. She chaired the Cardiovascular Disease Taskforce that led to the development of the Toolkit in Pregnancy and Postpartum released by California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative in 2017. She had the opportunity to serve on the Executive Committee for the ACOG Presidential Task Force for "Women's Heart Disease" that led to the Practice Bulletin in 2019. She serves on the Expert Panel for The National Pregnancy Resuscitation Program: Development of a Simulation-based Maternal Cardiac Arrest Program for Credentialing Specialists and First Responders. She is currently serving on the writing committee for Heart Rhythm Society's "Arrhythmias in Pregnancy Guidelines". She has served on the Advisory committee for International Congress of Cardiac Problems in Pregnancy since 2010, that helps structure the most attended international conference on the subject. She currently co-chairs the Patient Safety Bundle on Cardiovascular Disease in Pregnant and Postpartum Women by the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM). She recently has co-edited released book entitled "Cardio Obstetrics" to advance care for pregnant cardiac patients. She is part of the Cardio Obstetrics work group convened by the American College of Cardiology, and plan to bring SMFM and ACOG representation into it to further our education in this developing area of interest. She believes in bridging gaps between disciplines to optimize maternal outcomes particularly for cardiac disease in pregnancy. She passionately seeks to improve healthcare quality by eliminating preventable causes of maternal morbidity and mortality.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Kane, Abdoul

Institutional affiliation(s): Dakar University-Senegal, Dalal Jamm Hospital

Academic degrees: Professor of Cardiology, Head of academic department of Cardiology, Dakar University

City and country of primary residence: Dakar, Senegal

Biography:

Professor Kane is Associated Professor from 1998 to 2002, Professor of Cardiology since 2002, Head of the department of Cardiology, General Hospital of Grand Yoff (Senegal) from 2002 to 2015, Head of the department of Cardiology, Dalal Jamm Hospital (Senegal) since 2016, Chair of Cardiology Department, Dakar University since 2019, Chief editor of the panafrikan journal : Tropical Cardiology, President of the Senegalese cardiac society, Member of scientific societies and working groups in Africa and Europe. He is the author of more than 200 papers, mainly on rheumatic heart disease, hypertension, cardiovascular risk factors and ischemic heart disease. He is the author of 9 books. Topics: Health care system and Cardiology. He conducted specifically 2 studies in the community on valvular heart disease and participated in a multicentre study in Africa : -Echocardiographic screening for rheumatic heart diseases : age matter. International Journal of Cardiology 2013, 168: 888-91.-Prevalence of rheumatic heart disease in Senegalese school children: a clinical and echocardiographic screening. Heart Asia 2015;7:40-45.-The VALVAFRIC study: A registry of rheumatic heart

disease in Western and Central Africa. Archives of cardiovascular diseases 2016, 109: 321—329. He also implemented prevention strategies in the community, in rural and urban areas.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Machila, Elizabeth M K

Institutional affiliation(s): Children's Hospital, University, Teaching Hospital, Lusaka

Academic degrees: Registered Nurse/Midwife Diploma

City and country of primary residence: Lusaka , Zambia

Biography:

Elizabeth M K Machila is a Nurse/Midwife. She studied to be a nurse and midwife in Lusaka and Ndola respectively. She is based in Lusaka where she has been involved with Beat Rheumatic Heart Disease Zambia as a coordinator, mentor and volunteer health worker. With Beat RHD Zambia, they did Randomised school screening for sore throat and Rheumatic heart disease and followed up those affected for a period of time. She was also involved with Championing sexual reproductive health in adolescents and women living with RHD. She has been involved in RHD work for about six years in Lusaka where she works with RHD affected patients to stay in care to maintain good health and quality of life. Also encouraging parents to seek medical treatment for children who have a sore throat. In 2018, she was selected for the TriHealth Frontline Health Workers Story telling Training program where she travelled to North Carolina in USA. In the same year she travelled to Geneva as a health worker advocate to the 71st World Health Assembly where RHD resolution was passed. In 2019, she travelled to South Africa to participate in a global RHD Think Tank at the Inaugural PROTEA Conference and Workshop. Currently she is the Study Nurse for the Zambia site in the multi-centre INVICTUS Study project.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: MacLennan, Carolyn

Institutional affiliation(s): Alice Springs Hospital, Northern Territory Australia, Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Australian Medical Association, Menzies Centre of Research Excellence Indigenous Children's Lung Health Advisory Board

Academic degrees: Master of Public Health (International Health), Monash University, 2002; Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (FRACP), (Paediatrics), 2001; Graduate Diploma in International Health, Monash University 2000; Diploma of Child Health, Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons of Glasgow, 1994; Bachelor of Medicine & Bachelor of Surgery, University of Glasgow, July 1989; Bachelor of Science (Immunology Honours), University of Glasgow, July 1986

City and country of primary residence: Glasgow, Scotland, UK

Biography:

Dr MacLennan is a Paediatrician predominantly working with Indigenous Australians providing clinical care to newborns, children and adolescents in Northern Territory, Australia. She provides care at hospital level and in remote Indigenous communities and has worked with both tropical (Top End) and Central Australian populations who have a high burden of RF/RHD. On a daily basis, as part of a multi-disciplinary team, she diagnoses and manages children and young people with these conditions. In 2006-2007, Dr MacLennan reviewed the Northern Territory RHD Control Program. Dr MacLennan has extensive experience in maternal, newborn and child health for over 20 years and has worked in many low- and middle-income countries. Her work has included policy and strategy development at national and regional level, development of standards and clinical guidelines, hospital assessments, quality of care and monitoring and evaluation. She has provided technical advice for WHO in

a range of global newborn and child health guidelines including hospital care for children, IMCI, postnatal care of newborns and infant and young child feeding and most recently developed the WHO 2020 Standards for improving the quality of care for small and sick newborns.

Surname, first name and initial: Mahmoud, Refqi I.

Institutional affiliation: Ministry of Health, Jordan

Academic degrees: Arab Board of Community Medicine

City and country of primary residence: Amman, Jordan

Biography: for completion

- The Arab Board of Community Medicine,
 - Two-year Comprehensive Postgraduate Certificate of Achievement in Applied Field Epidemiology (FETP)- in Collaboration with Centers for Disease Control and Preventions (CDC) -
 - Postgraduate Diploma in community medicine, in collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO).
 - Bachelor of medicine and surgery
-

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Mocumbi, Ana Olga

Institutional affiliation(s): Instituto Nacional de Saúde, Mozambique, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique, University of Washington, USA

Academic degrees: MD (1992), PhD (2008)

City and country of primary residence: Mozambique

Biography:

Professor Mocumbi is an Associate Professor of Cardiology at Universidade Eduardo Mondlane and Head of the Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Division National Public Health Institute (Instituto Nacional de Saúde), Mozambique. Her career focuses on neglected cardiovascular diseases and aims at improving surveillance, care provision and research into poverty-related NCD (particularly of its determinants), spanning from clinical research to education and health management. She is actively involved in undergraduate and post-graduate training. Professor Mocumbi is currently Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Rheumatic Heart Disease Prevention and Control at the World Heart Federation, the Pan African Society of Cardiology Taskforce for Reproductive Health Services for Women with Cardiovascular Diseases, and The Lancet Global Commission on Non-Communicable Diseases and Injuries of the Poorest Billion.

Professor Mocumbi has been member of the World Heart Federation Scientific Advisory Boards and Working Groups since 2008, mainly contributing in the areas of advocacy, prevention and management of Rheumatic Heart Disease. She acted as a member of the World Heart Federation's Scientific Policy and Advocacy Committee (SPAC), serving on the Clinical Cardiology Working Group, is currently co-Chairing the Prevention, Control and Medical Management RHD Taskforce, and full member of the Neglected Cardiovascular Diseases Expert Group.

Surname, first name(s) and initial Nascimento, Bruno Ramos

Institutional affiliation(s): Departamento de Clínica Médica, Faculdade de Medicina da Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais and Centro de Telessaúde, Hospital das Clínicas da Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil

Academic degrees: MD, MSc, PhD, FACC

City and country of primary residence: Belo Horizonte – MG, Brazil

Biography:

Bachelor's in Medicine at Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil (2004), with residency in Internal Medicine at the Hospital of the Military Police of Minas Gerais (2007), in Cardiology at the Hospital das Clínicas - UFMG (2009) and Interventional Cardiology at Hospital Felício Rocho (2011). MSc (2011) and Ph.D. (2012) in Clinical Sciences at UFMG School of Medicine. Currently Associate Professor at the Internal Medicine Department, UFMG School of Medicine, working as Clinical and Interventional Cardiologist in the Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery Department, HC-UFMG, also with experience in Cardiac Intensive Care. Researcher focussing on the areas: meta-analysis, coronary artery disease, coronary interventions, mitral valvuloplasty, auxiliary diagnostic methods in Interventional Cardiology, endothelial function, Chagas' disease and Rheumatic Heart Disease. Currently Director of PROVAR (*Programa de Rastreamento da Valvopatia Reumática*), first large scale Rheumatic Heart Disease Screening Program in Brazil.

Surname, first name(s) and initial : Nwe, Nwe (Nwe Nwe)

Institutional affiliation(s) Professor and Head, Department of Cardiology, Yangon General Hospital, Yangon, Myanmar

Academic degrees : M.B.,B.S, M.Med.Sc (Internal Medicine), MSc. Cardiology (UK), Dr. Med. Sc (Cardiology)

City and country of primary residence: Yangon, Myanmar

Biography:

Professor Nwe Nwe graduated from University of Medicine, Yangon, Myanmar in 1990. She finished the Master course in Medicine at University of Medicine, Myanmar in 1997. She obtained the degree of MSc in Cardiology from Imperial College, National Heart and Lung Institute, London in 2001 and doctorate in Cardiology from University of Medicine, Myanmar in 2005. She became a member and fellow of Royal college of Physicians, UK in 1999 and 2008. She was elected as a Fellow of Asian Federation of Cardiology in 2010 & a Fellow of American College of Cardiology in 2014. She completed her fellowship training in Electrophysiology and pacing at National Heart Center, Singapore, from 2005 to 2006. She also achieved her training for percutaneous trans catheter mitral valvotomy from Vietnam Heart Institute, Hanoi, Vietnam in 2009 by WHO fellowship program. Her special interest is Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology and Cardiac Electronic Device Implantation. She also performs percutaneous trans catheter mitral valvotomy in patients with Rheumatic Mitral Valvular heart disease.

She is currently Professor and Head at the Department of Cardiology, and Chairman of local doctorate training, Yangon General Hospital, University of Medicine (1), Yangon, Myanmar. She is also involved as a program manager in the Cardiovascular disease prevention project co-operated by the Ministry of Health and Sports and WHO, Myanmar since 2009.

Surname first name(s) and initial: Regmi Prakash Raj (Dr P R Regmi)

Institutional affiliation(s): Current-Nepal Heart Foundation, Past-National Academy of Medical Sciences (NAMS), Kathmandu, Nepal)

Academic degrees: MD (General medicine), MD (Cardiology)

City and country of primary residence: Lalitpur, Nepal

Biography:

Professor Dr P R Regmi, Master in Cardiology (1987) has served for 32 years in hospitals under the Ministry of Health, Nepal, as a senior consultant and head of the department of cardiology. He has been devoting most of his time in the prevention and control of RF/RHD in Nepal. He has served as the executive director of Nepal RHD control program with various collaborating partners like government of Nepal, World Heart Federation, Rotary International, Medtronic Foundation, Australian Aid and Edwards Lifesciences Foundation. He has authored several books, training manuals and research articles on RHD. He has served as the chief editor of Nepalese Heart Journal, an official publication of Cardiac Society of Nepal. He has published Nepal heart foundation (NHF) recommendations/guidelines for issues related to RF/RHD. He is the co-author of the recently published (2020) American Heart Association Scientific statement on diagnosis and management of RHD. He has contributed to the second edition of the Tools for implementing RHD control programs handbook, published by RHD Action (2018). He is actively involved in heart screening of children under NHF as the team leader and has completed screening of 200,000 children. He is the initiator and executive director of END RHD campaign Nepal and the RHD research fund at NHF.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Sandino Sayonara de los A

Institutional affiliation(s): Roberto Calderon Hospital, Instituto Medico Ganna

Academic degrees: Internal Medicine Specialist, Rheumatology and Master of Science

City and country of primary residence: Managua, Nicaragua.

Biography: Medical Doctor, Internal Medicine at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua. Rheumatology training at the National Institute of Medical Sciences and Nutrition in Mexico City. Master of Sciences at the National Autonomous University of Mexico City. Participate in Research activities. Papers in Journal of Rheumatology, Journal Autoimmunity, Arthritis Rheumatism and Journal Clinical of Rheumatology. Currently works in Rheumatology Clinic in Roberto Calderon Hospital at the Internal Medicine Department. I work in the care of patients with rheumatic fever, erythematosus systemic lupus, rheumatoid arthritis. Teaches postgraduate students in the Clinical Research and Rheumatology area, at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua. Five years ago, he participated in the development of Standards for Rheumatoid Arthritis, Rheumatic Fever and Erythematosus Systemic Lupus at the National level in Nicaragua. Currently, he is a member of the National Committee of Internal Medicine of Nicaragua, Internal Medicine Association, Nicaraguan Association of Rheumatology, and the American College of Rheumatology.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Sargsyan Sergey

Institutional affiliation “Arabkir” Medical Centre – Institute of Child and Adolescent Health, Yerevan State Medical University

Academic Degree: MD, PhD

City and country of primary residence: Yerevan, Armenia

Biography:

Dr Sergey Sargsyan graduated from Yerevan Medical University with Diploma of Excellence. After pediatric residency he studied and defended the thesis on epidemiology of Familial

Mediterranean fever in Armenia. Currently he is an Associate Professor of Chair of Pediatrics of University.

As a clinician he works at “Arabkir” Medical Centre – Institute of Child and Adolescent Health, the largest pediatric clinic of Armenia. Particularly he provides consultancies for the patients with respiratory and infectious disease and children with Familial Mediterranean fever. Since 2003 he also runs the unit Institute of Child and Adolescent Health which works on developing technical and policy documents, research, training, regional projects.

In the 90s and in the early 2000s he ran the national programs for respiratory infections in children and IMCI; currently he is a Pediatric Adviser to the Ministry of Health.

Since the mid-90s Dr Sargsyan has closely collaborated with WHO, UNICEF at national and international levels; he has been working in Georgia, Russia, Turkmenistan, Mongolia, China etc. He was a member of the Technical Steering Committee of WHO HQ CAH department and other advisory groups, has participated in developing and reviewing WHO policies and technical papers. As an invited speaker he has delivered reports and lectures at many international forums, conferences and congresses.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Ségalin Jean-Marc

Institutional affiliation: RHD Center, Directorate of Health of French Polynesia

Academic Degree: MD

Biography:

Dr Jean-Marc Ségalin is the head of the ARF/RHD center of French Polynesia (FrP) since November 2019.

He has been working in French Polynesia since 2009. He first leaded the Office of Prevention Programs in Infectious diseases within the Directory of Health (DOH) of FrP. He particularly worked in the field of Lymphatic Filariasis and Immunization with the support of WHO. He also dealt with other topics in infectious diseases in FrP, collaborating in tuberculosis (TB) control program, working part time on ARF/RHD control strategies and participating to the response to several outbreaks including dengue fever, zika, chikungunya, and recently Sars-Cov-2.

As ARF/RHD is definitely a huge public health problem in French Polynesia, he decided to move in a newly created unit dedicated to the control of ARF/RHD with the support of FrP Health Directorate and Frp MOH.

He holds a Doctorate in Medicine (GP) and is graduated in Tropical Diseases and Emergency Medicine.

Before setting in French Polynesia, he worked in Tanzania as GP (military service at the French consulate) and in Mayotte. He then worked as emergency doctor during 10 years in France. He also worked as a consultant in immunization, STD prevention and travel medicine.

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Karen Sliwa

Institutional affiliation: Director: Cape Heart Institute & Hatter Institute, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town, South Africa. Professor: Division of Cardiology, Department of Medicine, Groote Schuur Hospital, Cape Town, South Africa

Academic Degree: MD, PhD

Biography:

Karen Sliwa is widely recognised as a world expert in cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), with a special interest in reducing mortality in women with cardiac disease in maternity. She has contributed to better understanding on the pathophysiology, treatment options and awareness of peripartum cardiomyopathy (PPCM), a global disease particularly prevalent in African

populations.

She led and still leads several inter-Africa and global research projects, which have had a major impact for creating knowledge about CVDs common in Africa and other Middle-to-Lower income regions, leading to changes in policy. Her considerable experience in setting up simple, cost-effective registries and web-based data entry platforms have had a major impact on planning several innovative research projects and has facilitated the training of physicians from several African countries, including Mozambique, Nigeria, Cameroon, Uganda and Tanzania. Her translational research from bench-bed-to-population studies have led to a much better understanding of CVDs such as rheumatic heart disease and heart failure due to various causes and subsequently to improved patient care.

She holds numerous awards such as the German Cardiac Society Paul Morawitz Award for Exceptional Cardiovascular Research (2013), a Honorary Doctorate University Diderot-Sorbonne, Paris, France (2017), European Cardiac Society Geoffrey Rose Award for Population Sciences (2019) and the South African Medical Research Council Gold award (2021). She has authored more than 350 publications, trained more than 30 post graduate students. Her papers are highly cited (77 670 citations; h-index of 87, i10-index 248; accessed April 2021).

Professor Sliwa leads several high-profile special interest groups including a dedicated EORP Working Group on PPCM of the Heart Failure Association of European Society of Cardiology and the World Heart Federation Expert Group on Neglected Cardiovascular Diseases. Over her distinguished career she has served in many notable roles, including chair of the South African Heart Failure Association (HeFSSA), President of the South African Heart Association (2014-2016), President of the World Heart Federation (2019-2020) and currently Vice president Southern Region Pan African Society of Cardiology (2016-2021).

Surname, first name(s) and initial: Starets, Olena

Institutional affiliation(s): Vice-Rector of Odessa National Medical University (2013 – 2017), Head of Paediatric Department (2011 – present)

Academic degrees: Professor

City and country of primary residence: Odessa, Ukraine

Biography:

Professor Starets graduated from Odessa State Medical University in June 1991 and had specialized as a pediatrician. In 1991 – 1995, she had clinical internship

in Paediatric Department of Odessa State Medical University. She had special trainings:

“Care and Management of CF” TACIS LIEN: London, Great Britain, 1995.

“Prevention of HIV Infection” TACIS LIEN: Amsterdam, Netherlands, 1998.

“Care and Management of Patients with HIV Infection” TACIS LIEN: Thessaloniki, Greece, 1999.

“Prevention Mother-to-Child Transmission” AIHA: Denver, Colorado, USA, 2002.

“Infant feeding and HIV” training of trainers for WHO course in 2003

“Community based approach to HIV care” Galileo College, Israel, 2007 She is an international trainer for UNICEF training programmes on “Prevention Mother-to-Child HIV Transmission”. Conducted 19 training courses during (2000- present); member of the National adaptation group for Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) (2009 – present); developer of WHO IMCI HIV complementary course on HIV for the European region (2009 – present); national trainer for UNICEF training programme on “Care and Support of HIV-infected Children” (2002 – present); international trainer for WHO training programme on “HIV and Infant Feeding Counselling” (2003 – present).

She was a member of WHO guideline development groups:

1. Guidelines on HIV and infant feeding 2010: principles and recommendations for infant feeding in the context of HIV and a summary of evidence
2. Guideline: updates on HIV and infant feeding: the duration of breastfeeding, and support from health services to improve feeding practices among mothers living with HIV
3. Rapid advice: revised WHO principles and recommendations on infant feeding in the context of HIV-November 2009

She is the author of 106 publications – monographs, articles, abstracts, guidelines.

She has clinical practice as Consultant Pediatrician at the Pediatric University Hospital.

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Biography:

Dr Stefanogiannis is a public health physician working as Deputy Director of Public Health at the New Zealand Ministry of Health.

While rheumatic fever is rare in most developed countries, New Zealand has a comparably high incidence, with highest rates among Māori and Pacific children. Since 2013, he has been part of the team delivering a programme aiming to reduce rheumatic fever in New Zealand and since 2015, has been providing clinical leadership for the programme. The programme is a comprehensive programme which includes initiatives that addressed both the primordial and primary causes of rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease. These initiatives include improving both housing (to reduce the transmission of Group A strep infections) and access to sore throat management services. The programme also focuses on improving awareness of the disease and its causes. From 2019, there has been also a focus on improving the management of rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease.

His other interests and work programme include improving immunization in New Zealand, pandemic planning and sexual health. He has also been involved in New Zealand's management of the COVID-19 pandemic.
