

## Panelist Bios



**Sassy Molyneux - Chair**

**Professor in Global Health, Oxford University, UK, previously based at the KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme in Kilifi, Kenya.**

Sassy Molyneux is a behavioural scientist, with a background in human geography. Her current main research areas span health policy and systems research, including system financing, governance and responsiveness to patients and the broader public; and research ethics, including the everyday ethics of conducting studies in resource poor settings, and processes and practices of informed consent, benefit-sharing, community engagement and data-sharing in diverse contexts. Cross cutting interests include supporting organizational capacity and positive change, understanding and challenging gendered power relations and underlying structural drivers of those relations, intersectional analyses, and translating research findings into policy and practice.



**Josefridah Nyavula Ngowa - Speaker**

**Emergency and Critical Care Clinician**

Josefridah is a professional expert in Emergency and Critical Care in Kenya. She holds a HND in Emergency and Critical care from the College of Health Sciences, Kijabe. Her background is in Clinical Medicine and Community Health, trained at the Kampala International University, Uganda. She has 11 years' working clinical experience in various Kenyan hospitals of different levels of care, rural and urban.

Currently, serving at the Kilifi County hospital as the Critical Care Coordinator, tasked with establishing the Critical Care Unit, defining protocols to establish continuum of critical care across different levels of hospital and training of front-line workers and interns in emergency care set-ups. She is part of the Covid-19 response team where she coordinates the activities of the hospital's COVID-19 treatment center. In line with the National Covid-19 response, she has been assigned to generate and communicate county data across different reporting levels in Kenya, including sharing county's response experience across different national platforms and webinars. She actively participates in the Kenya Medical Association organized webinars on Covid-19 response experience.

Previously, for more than 3 years, she was engaged in managing Non-communicable diseases mainly Diabetes and Asthma. Consequently, shared her clinical experiences presenting at the 2016, 4th Middle East International Diabetes Conference in Dubai. She has been a mentor within the AMREF mentorship program on Diabetes and asthma management in 2017 in Kenya. In program work, she has been involved in piloting an M-health program with Afya Research Africa M-health clinic in project management.

Based at the Kilifi County hospital, she interacts and collaborates with KEMRI-Wellcome Trust project teams. She is also part of the professional organization; the Kenya Union of Clinical Officers as branch official.



**Mwanamvua Boga - Speaker**

**Nurse Manager and a Lead Trainer on Communication Skills and Emotional Competence**

Mwanamvua Boga serves as a nurse manager and a lead trainer on communication skills and emotional competence for health providers at the Kenya Medical Research Institute - Wellcome Trust Research Programme (KEMRI-WTRP) Kilifi, Kenya. Mwanamvua is a Registered Nurse (RN) with a higher diploma in critical care nursing from the Kenya Medical Training College, Nairobi and a Master's in Clinical Trials from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. She is also a global award winner of "Heroines of Health" 2017, sponsored by Women in Global Health.

Mwanamvua has 19 years hands on experience in acute pediatric nursing expertise and clinical research practice, working at an extremely busy high dependency pediatric research unit at the Kilifi County Hospital. Her work includes care of critically ill children, nursing management, administrative responsibilities and capacity building.

Over the last 13years, she has extensively been involved in training health providers and research staff on communication skills and emotional management using reflective practice and experience-based learning methods. The training aims at strengthening health providers' awareness of what facilitates and hinders good communication with patients and colleagues; to strengthen providers skills to communicate professionally with respect and to manage own and patients' emotions. As a lead trainer, she has trained over 300 participants, including running workshops for health providers working in the County Hospitals in Kilifi, Mombasa, Pwani University, the Medical Research Council (MRC) in The Gambia. She has also implemented training to Sub-county health managers, and new-born care nurse managers from 12 County hospitals in Kenya aiming at strengthening relational leadership among health managers.

Mwanamvua has presented the communication skills training work at four international conferences, Communication, Medicine, and Ethics Conference (COMET)2012, European Association for Communication in Healthcare (EACH) 2012 and Oslo Communication in Healthcare Education and Research (OCHER) 2015, Health Systems Research (HSR) Liverpool UK 2018, Diploma in Tropical Nursing Programme, Liverpool UK (2019), Global Women's Research Society(GLOW) 2020 and several national nursing forums in Kenya.



**Sarita Pyatha – Speaker**

**Research Nurse**

My name is Sarita Pyatha. I was born and raised in Kathmandu, Nepal. Ever since my childhood days, I have been much interested in and have attitude to serve people. At early age of 16 I start my nursing journey by enrolling in nursing school to pursue my dream to become a nurse. Since then, I am have been engaged in this field. I have worked in as an Intensive Care Unit nurse for 2 years and then joined Oxford University Clinical Research Unit- Nepal (OUCRU-NP) form 2016 and working as a clinical research nurse.

In these 5 years, I have been associated in various randomized clinical studies, enteric fever surveillance studies and intensive care unit trial. Currently, I am working in intensive care unit trial where I get to interact with different team of medical personnel, patient and patient’s caregivers being associated with medical conditions which I enjoy the most. I also supervise nurses and Community Medicine Assistances (CMAs) in different other trials as a supervisor.



**Fasseneh Zeela Zaizay – Speaker**

**Liberia Country Program Manager**

Zeela serves as the Liberian Country Program Manager of REDRESS, a research collaboration between the Liberian Ministry of Health, 6 partner institutions and couple of individual researchers including the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and the Queen Margaret University, UK. The collaboration is conducting researches on neglected tropical diseases, health systems strengthening and COVID-19. Its flagship research is the Reducing the Burden of Severe Stigmatizing Skin Diseases (REDRESS). Zeela overseas the design, implementation and evaluation of REDRESS’ works in Liberia. Among his engagements, he provided leadership over the conduct of a qualitative research named “Optimising COVID-19 adaptations for ethical, equitable and quality delivery of essential health services and more resilient health systems”. The study has identified key learnings from Liberia’s Ebola experiences that are informing his nation’s admired response to the current COVID-19 pandemic. He is currently coordinating the implementation of the web-based research named “Health system stressors and coping mechanisms during COVID 19: a case study from Liberia”.

Zeela has worked (2005 – 2012) as a full-time lecturer and Clinical Outreach Coordinator at Cuttington University’s Nursing College. In his role, he co-designed the University’s nursing clinical outreach program.

Zeela served as Liberian Country Director of the American charity MAP International (2012 – 2015) and Technical Assistant to the Liberian Ministry of Health (2015 – 2019). In these roles, he contributed toward strengthening the Liberian health system pre and post Ebola. He supported the integration of neglected tropical diseases (NTDS) into the health system, and the conduct of researches on health systems strengthening and NTDS.

He contributed to Liberia’s response to ending Ebola Virus Outbreak/Disease (EVD) as well as building the country’s post-Ebola resilient health system based on learnings from the EVD. During the outbreak, he selflessly worked in multiple capacities: he delivered care as a frontline health worker, installed water systems in communities and treatment facilities, donated medical supplies including protective equipment and provided psychosocial counselling and supplies to survivals. Post EVD, he supported the government in implementing its WASH-in-School platform and supported the reopening of 78 schools

across the country. As part of his contributions, he co-created a post-Ebola innovation, the 2016 - 2019 Liberian Strategic Plan for the Integrated Management of NTDS. His significant contributions as a first responder earned several national and international recognitions from institutions including Wall Street Journal, Wired Magazine and the Government of Liberia. His recognitions include a national certificate of award as "Outstanding Health Worker of the Year 2013/2014" from Africa Watch Newspaper and an international award of "Unsung hero of the year 2015 by Non Profit Pro (<https://www.nonprofitpro.com/article/2015-nonprofit-professionals-year-awards-unsung-heroes/>).

He is a co-founder of Actions Transforming Lives, a registered Liberian charity supporting the country's NTDS, education, WASH, and community development sectors.

Zeela studied nursing, public health, emergency rescue management and healthcare and management in Liberia, China and Switzerland. He has 15 years of experience, working within the Liberian healthcare delivery system.



**Ane Haaland - Speaker**

**Social Scientist and Trainer**

Haaland is an international trainer and researcher with communication and emotional competence skills for health personnel as main themes in recent years.

In collaboration with doctors and nurses in nine countries she has developed and implemented a training model which uses reflective learning over time to inspire deep and sustainable learning. Becoming aware of how they communicate, and the effects of their communication on others result in participants taking responsibility for communicating well (rather than "blaming the patient, or colleague"). Other main outcomes are increased job satisfaction and reduced burnout and conflict.

**A summary of other main professional skills and areas of work include:**

1. **Social science research**, using qualitative methods (conducting own research, and teaching qualitative methods to students). Multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral research. Research on communicating about tropical diseases, in schools and to low literate audiences.
2. **Action research with users** to develop models (tools, methods, processes, strategies and interventions) to discover, investigate and solve felt problems, mainly on health aspects.
3. **Research on perception of visuals** – especially related to development and comprehension of instructions for use of medicines, particularly malaria. Focus: Low literate audiences.
4. **Using training methods to facilitate learning:** Experiential and participatory methods, reflective learning based on guided observation; Learning process; Problem based learning (PBL), lectures. Strengthening awareness and emotional intelligence among professionals.
5. **Evaluation methods:** Evaluating projects on health, education and environmental issues.
6. **Writing training manuals**, based on extensive field research (see publication list)
7. **Working with the media:** Training journalists; researchers on writing for the media.
8. **Photography.** A number of international exhibitions (Nepal, USA, Japan, Denmark and Norway). Illustrated a number of books, and a series of research monographs.

**Research and intervention areas:**

- **Diseases** (Tropical: malaria, onchocerciasis, schistosomiasis, and Common: Diarrhoea, cough/pneumonia, malnutrition): Strategic communication and education aspects

- **Interpersonal communication:** Skills training to strengthen patient-provider relationship and patient centred care (PCC), measurement of effect. Behaviour change communication; health communication and management of emotions; emotional intelligence, resilience.
- **Effects of training methods,** on motivation and learning among health providers, students.
- **Development and pretesting** of educational materials for a variety of diseases and purposes
- **Rational use of medicines,** with perspectives on traditional medicines.

**Main employers** long term include UNICEF, WHO/TDR, University of Amsterdam/Makerere University, Kampala, University of Oslo, Atlantis Medical College, NORAD, NGOs and daily newspapers.

**Short term in 30+ countries include** Universities of: Carolina, Johns Hopkins; London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicines; World Bank, UNFPA, UNDP; Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute; DANIDA, GTZ, several national and international NGOs.

**Educational background:** MA, Social Sciences, 1981, University of Chicago, USA. Focus: Communication for social change. A number of other studies, internationally and nationally.

**Publications:** Related to all professional fields. **Latest** (2020): Haaland A, with Boga M, 2020. Communicating with awareness and emotional competence: introducing the iCARE-Haaland model for health professionals across cultures.



**Dr Isra Hassan (MBChb, FRCA, MRCP) - Speaker  
Consultant Anaesthetist**

Isra is a Consultant Anaesthetist at the University Hospital of Wales and the University College of London Hospital currently working on the front line of COVID-19 in intensive care.

She completed her anaesthetic training in the Wales deanery and was the elected senior trainee representative for the Welsh School of Anaesthesia, Royal College of Anaesthetists Welsh Advisory Board and Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Wales. Prior to specialising, she undertook her undergraduate medical training at the University of Birmingham.

She is extremely passionate about innovating and delivering a service that can help improve the well-being of health professionals in the work force. Running sessions for peers and medical students at a regional, national and international conferences. This work has been presented to the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, the president of the Royal College of Anaesthetists, the GMC and to Welsh government Cabinet secretary