

## About Annette Sohn, MD

### Biography

Dr Annette Sohn is the Director of TREAT Asia, a regional programme of amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research, in Bangkok, Thailand. TREAT Asia conducts a range of adult and paediatric HIV-related activities across 14 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including research, community treatment literacy, advocacy for drug access, laboratory quality assurance, and training in clinical medicine.

She received her degrees from Wellesley College and the School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles, and completed her paediatrics residency and paediatric infectious diseases fellowship training at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Prior to joining amfAR, she was an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and on faculty at UCSF in the Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases; she is currently assistant clinical professor in the Department of Pediatrics.

Dr Sohn has extensive experience in treating and studying HIV/AIDS among children and adolescents in southeast Asia. She is the co-principal investigator of US NIH-funded HIV studies on global treatment outcomes (International Epidemiologic Databases to Evaluate AIDS – IeDEA; Asia-Pacific region) and on human papillomavirus in adolescents in Thailand and Vietnam. In addition to directing TREAT Asia's overall programme portfolio, she sits on multiple international advisory groups on paediatric and adolescent HIV.



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## About Celia Christie-Samuels, MBBS, DM Peds, MPH

### Biography

Dr Celia DC Christie-Samuels is Professor of Paediatrics in the Faculty of Medical Sciences at The University of the West Indies (UWI), Jamaica, and Consultant Paediatrician (Infectious Diseases, Epidemiology and Public Health) at the University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI) Kingston, Jamaica, since 1999. In addition, she is the Director at the Vaccines Infectious Diseases Center UWI/UHWI and also Director of Kingston's and then Jamaica's Paediatric, Perinatal and Adolescent HIV/AIDS Program (2002 to date).

Dr Christie-Samuels holds a Doctorate of Medicine in Paediatrics from UWI. She pursued two post-doctoral fellowships in Paediatric Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology and later in Hospital and Molecular Epidemiology, from Yale University School of Medicine, USA. She then completed her MPH degree from John Hopkins University, USA.



Dr Christie-Samuels has contributed extensively to the medical literature on research topics in her field. Her research in the *New England Journal of Medicine* on the reduced vaccine effectiveness during an epidemic of whooping cough among highly immunized children in Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, contributed to a change in whooping cough vaccine policy in that country. She has served as consultant to various national bodies in the USA, such as the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, and was a member of the Food and Drugs Administration Anti Infective Drugs Advisory Expert Panel. She has received several awards; the most recent were the *Lancet's* "Paper of the Year Award" for the best original medical research worldwide, as a co-author, on the International Pentavalent Rotavirus Vaccine Trial, published in *New England Journal of Medicine* (2006), and the International Leadership Award from the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation, USA. She has also received several regional awards for research excellence, including from the Caribbean Public Health Agency and also from the UWI's Vice Chancellor. Dr Christie-Samuels is a twice-elected member of the Governing Council of the International AIDS Society (IAS), representing Latin America and the Caribbean. Her current focus remains the elimination of vertical transmission of HIV and congenital syphilis, as well as paediatric, perinatal and adolescent HIV/AIDS, working out of Jamaica.

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## About Chewe Luo, MD, PhD

### Biography

Dr Chewe Luo is a paediatrician and tropical child health specialist. Dr Luo is currently working as technical team leader for country programme scale up and senior programme adviser for HIV at UNICEF in New York. She has more than 15 years of experience in HIV/AIDS and child health research and programming.

Dr Luo holds a medical degree from the University of Zambia, and a Masters in Tropical Pediatrics and a PhD from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine in the UK.

She has previously worked as a UNICEF regional PMTCT adviser for eastern and southern Africa in Nairobi, where she provided technical guidance to countries in policy and strategy formulation, as well as programme design. In addition, Dr Luo was a UNICEF HIV technical adviser in Botswana when that country's government was scaling up its PMTCT programme and initiating its HIV treatment programme. Before joining UNICEF, she worked as a paediatrician at the University Teaching Hospital in Zambia, where she spearheaded key infectious disease research related to malnutrition, diarrheal disease, tuberculosis and HIV.



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## **About Diana Gibb, MD, MSc**

### **Biography**

Dr Diana Gibb is Professor of Epidemiology and Programme Leader of the Paediatric Programme of trials and cohorts at the MRC Clinical Trials Unit at University College London, UK. During the past 20 years, she has set up and coordinated a network of clinical trials and cohorts within the PENTA group across Europe, Thailand and South America, mainly addressing questions in paediatric HIV infection.

Professor Gibb holds a Doctor of Medicine from the University of Bristol and a Master of Science from London. Since 1999, her focus has expanded to Africa, where she runs large trials, addressing strategy questions in adult and paediatric HIV infection and, more recently, the acutely sick child (frequently with sepsis and/or malaria), collaborating widely with clinical and research centres in six countries in east and southern Africa.

She serves on a number of WHO advisory and guideline committees and continues to honour a clinical commitment at the HIV family clinic at the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children in London, which she started in 1991.



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## About François Dabis, MD

### Biography

Dr François Dabis is a medical doctor and Professor of Epidemiology at the School of Public Health (ISPED) of the University of Bordeaux, France. He has 27 years of experience in research on HIV epidemiology and global health. Since 2001, he has been leading the HIV research team within ISPED. He is the principal investigator of the oldest cohort of people living with HIV in France, the ANRS CO3 Aquitaine Cohort initiated 27 years ago and the co-principal investigator of the unique cohort of HIV-HCV co-infected patients, the nationwide ANRS CO13 HEPAVIH Cohort.

Dr Dabis is the Chair of the Coordinated Action n°12 of the French Agency for Research on HIV/AIDS and Viral Hepatitis (ANRS) in charge of the scientific agenda in lower-income countries. For nine years, he was the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Institut national de la Veille Sanitaire (French CDC).

During his career, he has contributed to more than 550 publications in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters and has served on the editorial boards of two leading journals in infectious diseases: *AIDS* and the *Journal of the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome*. Dr Dabis is the Chief Editor of a reference textbook on field epidemiology published in France in 2012.



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## About Laura Guay, MD

### Biography

Dr Laura Guay serves in a dual appointment as Vice President of Research at the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation and as Research Professor at The George Washington University (GWU) Milken Institute School of Public Health.

She received her MD from GWU in 1985, and went on to a paediatrics residency at Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital and Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr Guay was a visiting lecturer at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, from 1988 to 1991, and then returned to CWRU to complete her fellowship in paediatric infectious diseases.

She then spent seven more years in Uganda, where she worked on the landmark HIVNET 012 trial, which determined the effectiveness of single-dose nevirapine in preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV. Prior to joining GWU, Dr Guay was a member of the faculty at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Her previous research focused on identifying interventions to reduce the rate of HIV transmission in breastfeeding infants and on the testing of an HIV vaccine in infants. Her current work focuses on how to translate the key scientific breakthroughs in HIV prevention and treatment in women and children into the field in settings with limited resources and infrastructure.



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## **About Linda-Gail Bekker, MBChB, DTMH, DCH, ECP (SA), PhD**

### **Biography**

Professor Linda-Gail Bekker is Deputy Director of the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre at the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine, University of Cape Town, South Africa, and Chief Operating Officer of the Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation.

She is a physician scientist with a keen interest in HIV, tuberculosis and related diseases. Over the years, Professor Bekker has developed expertise and research interests in many aspects of the epidemic. Post specialist qualification, her doctoral work covered the immunological complexities of the TB/HIV dual infection. Thereafter, she developed a skill set in clinical trials of antiviral therapy and also in the programmatic aspects of setting up and running large ART programmes at community level in some of the poorest townships in Cape Town. Her interest in prevention sciences and the testing of biomedical technologies, including HIV vaccines, PrEP and microbicides, has given her international renown in these fields. More recently, under her leadership, the foundation has developed expertise in a number of key populations, including pregnant women, adolescents, men who have sex with men and other more difficult-to-reach and difficult-to-engage populations.

She has contributed to a number of publications emanating from the HIV centre on topics relevant to the South African HIV and TB epidemics. In her role at the foundation, she is passionate about community development and engagement and actively explores new and innovative ways to tackle the challenge that is HIV. Prof Bekker is an IAS Governing Council member and is IAS President-Elect.



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## **About Martina Penazzato, MD, DTMH, MSC, PhD**

### **Biography**

Dr Martina Penazzato is the Paediatric Technical Advisor for the HIV Department in WHO, where she is leading the work that WHO is undertaking in the area of treatment and care for paediatric HIV. Dr Penazzato is an infectious diseases specialist with a strong interest in paediatric HIV, tuberculosis and related diseases.

Her research interest, which she has developed working with the PENTA foundation, has focused on the optimization of diagnosis and treatment of HIV-infected infants and young children. In her work for WHO, she has set up surveillance projects to assess HIVDR in HIV-infected infants and provided technical assistance to a number of African countries. This is in addition to making a major contribution to several guidelines development processes at WHO.

Most recently, she has contributed to the work of the IATT for elimination of mother-to-child transmission as the Co-Chair of the Child Survival Working Group and provided technical input to the normative work of the IATT.



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## About Lynne Mofenson, MD

### Biography

Dr Lynne Mofenson served as Chief, Maternal and Pediatric Infectious Disease Branch at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health, US, from 1989 until 2014. Dr Mofenson was responsible for programme planning and development and scientific direction of research studies and clinical trials in domestic and international paediatric, adolescent and maternal HIV infection and disease.

She received her medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, with honours in 1977. She completed a paediatric residency at Boston Children's Hospital, followed by Pediatric Chief Residency and an adult/paediatric infectious disease fellowship at the University of Massachusetts Medical School.

Dr Mofenson has published and lectured extensively on issues related to perinatal HIV transmission and prevention and on treatment of paediatric and adolescent HIV infection. Dr Mofenson served as Executive Secretary for the US guidelines on prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission, as well as guidelines on treatment of paediatric HIV infection and opportunistic infections. She is currently working for the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation. Finally, she continues to serve as a consultant to international organizations, such as the World Health Organization, on policies related to antiretroviral treatment and prevention of HIV infection in children, adolescents and women.



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## **About Mark Cotton, FCPaed (SA), M.Med (Paed), PhD**

### **Biography**

Dr Mark Cotton is Head of the Division of Paediatric Infectious Diseases and Director of the Family Infectious Diseases Clinical Research Unit (FAM-CRU) at Tygerberg Children's Hospital (TCH), Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University, South Africa.

He completed a three-year fellowship in paediatric infectious diseases at the University of Colorado-Denver, and also conducted laboratory-based research on apoptosis in paediatric HIV under the supervision of Dr Terri Finkel at the National Jewish Center for Respiratory Diseases and Immunology, Denver, Colorado. On his return to Tygerberg Academic Hospital, Dr Cotton completed a PhD on the role of apoptosis in paediatric HIV infection. He has been conducting a number of multi-centre trials focusing on TB and HIV in children.



He has been a member of WHO technical task teams on HIV staging, ART and guidelines for tuberculosis in children since 2004. In addition, he is a specialist in paediatric infectious diseases, with extensive experience in managing HIV-infected children. He has also been co-principal investigator and investigator in a number of randomized clinical trials on children on ART strategy and isoniazid prophylaxis and also on ARV pharmacokinetics in HIV-infected children. He is also the principal investigator for the Stellenbosch University Clinical Trial Unit (SUN-CTU) with special focus on tuberculosis and HIV.

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## About Rohan Hazra, MD

### Biography

Dr Rohan Hazra is the Chief of the Maternal and Pediatric Infectious Disease Branch, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, where he oversees the Pediatric HIV AIDS Cohort Study (PHACS), a multi-centre United States-based programme that follows both perinatally HIV-infected youth and HIV-exposed/uninfected infants, children and youth.

Dr Hazra received his BS degree in biology from Yale University and his MD from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Following graduation from medical school, he completed a paediatric residency and paediatric infectious disease fellowship at the Children's Hospital in Boston. During that period, he worked on mycobacterial gene regulation and the molecular epidemiology of nontuberculous mycobacterial disease in children. In 2000, he joined the HIV and AIDS Malignancy Branch, where he has been conducting clinical studies in paediatric HIV, currently as an adjunct clinical researcher.



Dr Hazra is actively involved in observational studies of perinatally HIV-infected children in Latin America and in clinical trials and other observational studies in the United States and globally. He is Board certified in both paediatrics and paediatric infectious diseases. His research interests include studying the long-term impact of HIV and its treatment on children, adolescents and young adults who were infected with HIV as infants. In addition, he continues to be involved in studies evaluating new antiretroviral medications and treatment strategies in HIV-infected children, especially in resource-limited countries.

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## **About Shaffiq Essajee, MD**

### **Biography**

Dr Shaffiq Essajee is the Senior Medical Advisor for the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) and a member of the Pediatric Infectious Disease Faculty at New York University, where he has been working with children with HIV for the past 18 years.

He graduated from the Oxford University Medical School, UK, and completed his residency in paediatrics at the University of California, San Francisco, before joining the Pediatric Infectious Disease Division at New York University.

Dr Essajee is originally from Kenya and, in 2001, he established one of the first free paediatric HIV clinics in the region in the city of Mombasa. He recently spent two years working for the World Health Organization as the Medical Officer for Paediatric and Family Care in Geneva. In addition to his work as a clinician and public health advocate, Dr Essajee is a research scientist and has been supported by the NIH Center for AIDS Research and the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.



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