

Violence, Trauma and Development

OVERVIEW OF THE CONFERENCE

The Faculty of Medical Sciences of The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, has held 26 consecutive conferences to date. Regardless of the diversity of conference themes, over the years the conference has consistently found relevance in the medical and scientific communities in Jamaica, across the wider Caribbean and the world as well as with governmental and non-governmental agencies and the general populace. Through its accumulative hundreds of presentations have emanated important policy-directed discussions and submissions.

STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference is presented in three parts: the *Scientific Sessions*, which highlight the wide-ranging, often times cutting-edge research within the Faculty and beyond and is not necessarily related to the conference theme; the *Main Research Workshops*, which discusses updates specifically related to the conference theme; and the *Ethics Seminar*, which deals with topical issues that affect patient care. This year's theme for the Ethics Seminar 'Caring for the Vulnerable Patient' will feature presentations on a range of vulnerable populations, including children, incarcerated persons and the elderly. Presenters are drawn from multiple disciplines such as bioethics, child rights and advocacy, psychiatry, forensic pathology, health policy and administration and public health and ageing. Important policy directions such as the Ministry of Health's Compassionate Care Programme and the implications for healthcare delivery will also be discussed.

ABOUT THE DISTINGUISHED LECTURE AND WORKSHOP

Attendees look forward each year to the 'Sir Kenneth Standard Distinguished Lecture' which bears strong emphasis

on public health research and policy. The plenary lecture, included as part of the Main Research Workshop, is also delivered by the distinguished lecturer.

Specifically, for the main research workshop:

AIMS:

- To provide a multidisciplinary platform to discuss and exchange the research findings and knowledge on aspects of violence, trauma and development
- To discuss societal challenges and mental health associated with violence and trauma
- To identify and understand the knowledge gaps that relate to existing challenges in order to develop strategic approaches for the way forward

OBJECTIVES:

- To engage our audience on matters related to violence and trauma
- To increase awareness on the physical and psychosocial impacts of violence and trauma *via* evidence-based reports
- To promote a holistic care approach to victims of violence and trauma
- To advance knowledge on preventive actions to curtail violence and trauma

AUDIENCE

- Medical and cross-faculty members and students from local and international universities
- Health and allied health professionals
- Policy-makers from governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- Members from the policing and legal fraternities
- Secondary and pre-university students
- The general public