

## FACULTY BIO SKETCHES

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### **Michael Cappello, MD**

*Professor of Paediatrics, Microbial Pathogenesis, and Public Health  
Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, USA*



Michael Cappello is Professor of Paediatrics, Microbial Pathogenesis and Public Health at the Yale School of Medicine. He graduated from Brown University with a degree in Biomedical Ethics and received his MD from

Georgetown University in Washington, DC. Dr Cappello directs a laboratory and field based research programme focussed on the global health impact of infectious diseases. He is a 2007 recipient of the Bailey K Ashford medal, awarded by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene “for distinguished work in tropical medicine”. In addition to research, Dr Cappello provides clinical care as an infectious diseases specialist at Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital. He is also Co-Director of the Yale Partnerships for Global Health, an initiative that advances scientific knowledge, promotes international understanding and builds human capacity through collaborative research and training. From 2007–15, Dr Cappello directed the Yale World Fellows Programme, a multi-disciplinary initiative whose mission is to cultivate and inspire a global network of leaders committed to positive change. In 2015, Dr Cappello was appointed Chair of the Council on African Studies at the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale and Co-Director of the Yale Africa Initiative.

**Hari Deshpande, MD**

*Associate Professor of Medicine  
Yale University School of Medicine  
New Haven, CT, USA*



Dr Deshpande is an associate professor of medicine at Yale School of Medicine. He is the director of the medical oncology elective for medical students and the acting chairman of the Protocol Review Committee at Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Cancer Hospital. He graduated from Leeds Medical School in England with an MBChB in 1991. He proceeded to do internal medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Jacobi Medical Center in New York and fellowship (Haematology and Oncology) at Albert Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore Medical Center in New York. His interests are head and neck cancers, prostate, bladder and testicular cancers, sarcomas, thyroid and endocrine cancers. He is involved in clinical trials involving the above cancers.

**Jeffrey R Gruen, MD**

*Professor of Paediatrics, Genetics, and Investigative Medicine  
Yale Child Health Research Center  
Yale University School of Medicine  
New Haven, CT, USA*



Dr Gruen received his BS and his MD degrees from Tulane University in New Orleans. He has been at Yale since beginning internship training in paediatrics in 1981, which was followed by subspecialty training in neonatology and research training in molecular genetics with Dr Sherman Weissman. Dr Gruen formally joined the faculty at Yale in 1988, splitting his time as a neonatology attending in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Yale-New Haven Hospital and his laboratory where he initially mapped the gene for haemochromatosis. By 2000, the focus of his laboratory turned to mapping and identifying the reading disability (dyslexia) gene locus on chromosome 6 (*DYX2*). His laboratory was the first to generate high-resolution

genetic markers, genetic association maps and gene expression maps of *DYX2*. These studies led to the identification of *DCDC2*, a dyslexia gene that was cited by the journal *Science* as the 5<sup>th</sup> top breakthrough of 2005. The laboratory performed a National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded clinical study of *DCDC2* and other genes related to reading and language in the ALSPAC birth cohort of 10 000 children and mothers. These studies identified the transcriptional control element called READ1 and READ1 alleles that are detrimental and protective for reading disability and language impairment. Dr Gruen is the principal investigator for the Yale Genes, Reading and Dyslexia (GRaD) Study, a ground-breaking case-control study of dyslexia in 1400 Hispanic American and African American children recruited from seven sites across North America. He was the Yale site principal investigator for the NIH Paediatric Imaging NeuroGenetics (PING) Data Resource Study of 1575 normal children, ages 3–20 years. Most recently, Dr Gruen started the New Haven Lexinome Project, a six-year longitudinal study of the genetics of response-to-intervention spanning the entire 2015 and 2016 New Haven Public Schools first grade classes. The goals of the New Haven Lexinome Project are to determine risk for learning disabilities conferred by specific genetic variants for presymptomatic diagnosis and to determine how genetic variants inform interventions for precision/personal education. In addition to his research, Dr Gruen continues to attend eight weeks each year in the NICU at the Children's Hospital at Yale-New Haven.

**Maureen Samms-Vaughan**

*Professor of Child Health, Child Development*

*and Behaviour, The University of the West Indies;*

*Consultant Developmental and Behavioural Paediatrician;*

*University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI) Director, Child and Family Clinic*



Professor Maureen Samms-Vaughan is known locally, regionally and internationally for her seminal research, clinical work and policy development in the field of child health, child development and behaviour. She is also recognized as an advocate for the well-being of all children, but particularly so for those at the early childhood level and those with disabilities. She served in a number of academic UWI positions since 1993, and was appointed UWI's first Professor of Child Health, Child Development and Behaviour in 2006. She has been Consultant Developmental and Behavioural Paediatrician at UHWI and Director of the weekly Child and Family Clinic for children with developmental and behavioural disorders since 1993. She has taught at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels throughout The UWI and has supervised doctoral students at The UWI and at several universities in the USA in child development research. She has Adjunct Professorial status at universities in the USA. Professor Samms-Vaughan has over 70 publications, including three books, several book chapters and peer reviewed papers, on a range of child development and behaviour related topics. She has also completed numerous consultancies in the field of child development and behaviour for the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the World Bank, United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). She is currently a member of

the IDB's Advisory Group on Early Childhood Development. She has received numerous research grants for child development research from UNICEF, the IDB, the World Bank and the National Institutes of Health. Administratively, she was appointed Head of the Department of Child Health in 2001, a position which was relinquished when seconded to the Government of Jamaica to guide the development of its new agency, the Early Childhood Commission (ECC). She currently chairs The UWI's Committee for the development of programmes in the Professions Allied to Medicine. She has been a member of the Government of Jamaica's National Advisory Council on Disability and the National Council on Education. She currently serves as a Director of Family Life Ministries, The Usain Bolt Foundation and a number of school boards and is the Patron of the Jamaica Autism Support Association, a parent support group for children with autism. She was appointed the first Chairman of the ECC, a body established by the Government of Jamaica to develop the country's early childhood sector in 2003 and served in this position until 2015. Under her leadership, the ECC developed and implemented Jamaica's first cross-sectoral National Strategic Plan for Early Childhood Development (ECD) 2008–2013 and is now implementing the follow-on plan, 2013–2018. The plan addresses parenting, well-child care and nutrition, screening and early intervention, regulation of early childhood institutions, training of EC practitioners, co-ordinated sector-wide planning and budgeting, monitoring and evaluation of child development. She has also guided the ECC in the development of Jamaica's National Parenting Policy and has co-ordinated the early development of Jamaica's ECD Policy. The structure and function of the ECC and the National Strategic Plan for ECD have been recognized as international models by the World Bank, IDB and UNICEF. She received the UWI Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Public Service in 2010. She was the recipient of the Soroptimist's International and Women's Leadership Initiative 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Awards in 2012. In recognition of her work, she was awarded a national honour, the Commander of the Order of Distinction, by the Government of Jamaica in 2007 for pioneering work in early childhood development and child healthcare.

**Russell B Pierre, MBBS, DCH, DM (Paediatrics), MPH**

*Professor of Paediatrics*

*The University of the West Indies, Mona*



Russell Pierre is Professor of Paediatrics at The University of the West Indies and Consultant Paediatrician in the Department of Child and Adolescent Health, University Hospital of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica.

Following completion of his undergraduate medical education at the Faculty of Medical Sciences, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, he pursued post-graduate training in Paediatrics and Public Health at the same institution. He subsequently completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Critical Care Paediatrics at University of

Bristol/Bristol Royal Hospital for Children, United Kingdom. The foundation for his body of work in HIV is based on training and clinical research in Paediatric and Perinatal HIV (mentor, Professor Celia DC Christie).

His primary research interests centre on paediatric and perinatal HIV/AIDS, and include the epidemiology of paediatric HIV/AIDS in Jamaica, outcomes-based research on impact of interventions for treatment and care of infected children and adolescents, and prevention of mother-to-child transmission.

He has been working professionally in paediatric HIV medicine for the past fifteen years. As consultant and collaborator with the Kingston Paediatric and Perinatal HIV/AIDS Programme, Jamaica, he has participated in National Institutes of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) funded observational cohort studies in paediatric and perinatal HIV, and an Elizabeth Glaser Paediatrics AIDS Foundation funded Paediatric and Perinatal Leadership Initiative for comprehensive scale-up of prevention of mother-to-child transmission, paediatric HIV care, antiretroviral treatment, training and mentorship in Jamaica. More recent is his collaborative research with Yale School of Medicine on improving HIV diagnostic testing in resource-constrained settings, and a ViiV Healthcare-funded international, multi-site research initiative on mapping transition for adolescents living with HIV.

**Elijah Paintsil, MD**

*Associate Professor of Paediatrics (Infectious Diseases), Pharmacology, and Public Health  
Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, USA*



Elijah Paintsil is an associate professor of Paediatrics (Infectious Diseases), Pharmacology, and Public Health at Yale School of Medicine. He is the Director of the Paediatric Infectious Diseases Fellowship Training Programme and Co-Director of the Yale Partnerships for Global Health. He graduated from University of Ghana Medical School and did his postdoctoral studies at Yale. His clinical interest is paediatric infectious diseases with special interest in the management of multidrug resistant

HIV infection and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. His research interest is infectious diseases of global significance. The Paintsil laboratory focusses on increasing understanding of the host determinants of individual differences in response to HIV treatment, particularly, treatment-induced mitochondrial toxicity and other anti-retroviral therapy complications.

In 2006, Dr Paintsil and his colleagues established the Yale-Ghana Partnership for Global Health with the mission of accelerating progress in infectious diseases and public health research in Africa through collaborative partnerships that effectively build intrinsic research capacity, reverse “brain-drain” by strengthening academic infrastructures and create viable career opportunities for African and American scientists. The Yale-Ghana Partnership for Global Health is currently collaborating with the Ghana Health Service, IBM and other stakeholders in an unprecedented public-private partnership with the goal of helping to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV in Ghana, initiative – “towards an AIDS-free generation”. The Yale Partnerships for Global Health has expanded to include premier universities worldwide – University of Sao Paulo, Brazil; King Saud University, Saudi Arabia; Peking University, China; Australia National University, Australia; National University of Singapore, Singapore and The University of the West Indies, Jamaica.

**Flavia De Souza, MD Candidate**  
*Yale University School of Medicine*  
*New Haven, CT, USA*



Flavia De Souza is a final year medical student at Yale University. She was born and raised in Jamaica, and graduated from Campion College before going to the United States for university. Between university and medical school, she worked in ministry as community organizer on various issues, including police community relations and food justice. In her second to last year of medical school, under the supervision and mentorship of Professor Christie-Samuels, she completed research for her thesis project, which is the subject of her presentation. She will begin her Psychiatry residency at Yale-New Haven Hospital in June and hopes to return home to serve as a child and adult psychiatrist.

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**Sashikala Gowda, MD**  
*Paediatric Resident*  
*University of the West Indies, Mona*



Sashikala Gowda is a final year Paediatric resident at the University Hospital of the West Indies, Jamaica.

She migrated to Jamaica after completing her MBBS from Mysore University in India in 2003. During 2004 to 2010, she worked as a Medical Officer in the Accident and Emergency Department at Bustamante Hospital for Children, Jamaica, the only paediatric institution in the English-speaking Caribbean. She read for the Masters of Public Health at the University of the West Indies, Mona, in

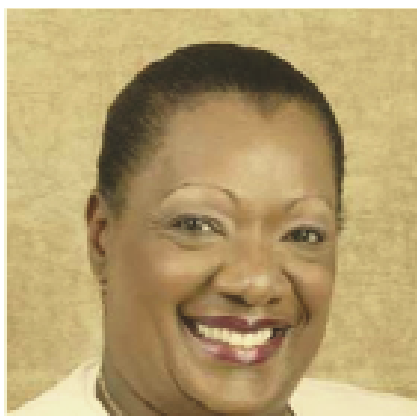
2011. She conducted a study entitled “Inhaled corticosteroid use among asthmatics seen in the Accident and Emergency Department at the Bustamante Hospital for Children, Kingston, Jamaica”. Aspects of the study were presented at (i) the Faculty of Medical Sciences’ 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference (November 2011) and awarded the best oral presentation in Paediatrics, (ii) at the Jamaica Ministry of Health’s second National Health Research Day (October 27, 2011) and (iii) at the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual CHRC/CARPHA Research Scientific Conference (April 20, 2012) in the Cayman Islands.

Her passion for working with children continued as she started her residency in Paediatrics in 2012. During her academic journey, she has unexpectedly found a love for teaching and mentoring.

Her current study on survival of HIV-infected children in the era of antiretroviral therapy (ART) in Jamaica is in part fulfilment of the Doctor of Medicine Degree (Paediatrics), the University of the West Indies. Her leadership posts have included Acting Chief Resident during this academic year. On completion of her paediatric residency with her public health background, Dr Gowda seeks to explore opportunities for postdoctoral studies as a Fellow in Global Health or Infectious Diseases. Outside of medicine, she enjoys spending time with her husband and her two kids, cooking and travelling.



**Celia DC Christie, MBBS, DM Paeds, MPH, FAAP, FIDSA, FRCP (Edin)**  
*Professor of Paediatrics (Infectious Diseases, Epidemiology and Public Health)*  
*The University of the West Indies, Mona*



Dr Celia DC Christie is a Consultant Paediatrician (in Infectious Diseases, Epidemiology and Public Health) and a university professor who received her undergraduate training in Medicine and Surgery and postgraduate training in Paediatrics at The University of the West Indies (UWI) and its hospital in Jamaica. With facilitation by Professor Richard Olmsted, she pursued two postdoctoral fellowships in Paediatric Infectious Diseases and later in Hospital and Molecular Epidemiology at Yale University and Yale-New Haven Hospital, mentored primarily by Professors Robert S Baltimore and I George Miller. Later, she pursued an MPH degree from Johns Hopkins University. She was on faculty at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Research Foundation and University of Cincinnati, USA, for over nine years and

has been in Jamaica at The UWI and its hospital for the past 16 years. She has also worked for the Food and Drug Administration in the USA. She is a two-term elected member of the Governing Council of the International AIDS Society and was voted by her international peers to be its Treasurer. Her areas of recent focus are two-fold. The first is on prevention, treatment and care of HIV/AIDS in women, children and adolescents. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Jamaica, with an International Leadership Award from the Elizabeth Glaser Paediatric AIDS Foundation and several other external and local funders, she assisted in leading the implementation of Jamaica's national programme, since 2002, to reduce perinatal HIV/AIDS transmission, as well as HIV-attributable morbidity and mortality in children. Her second focus is the implementation of clinical trials of vaccine-preventable diseases, which have included pertussis and rotavirus gastroenteritis.

She has received numerous honours and awards. They include the Excellence in Science Inaugural Stephen Preblud Award from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2002 for her seminal work on the Cincinnati pertussis epidemic, the UWI's Vice Chancellor's Award for Research Excellence in 2008 and the Gold Medal for Eminence in Research from the Board of Governors of the Institute of Jamaica in 2014. In addition to spending time with her daughter and extended family, she thoroughly enjoys playing her clarinet.



**Robert Baltimore, MD**

*Professor of Paediatrics (Infectious Diseases) and of Epidemiology (Microbial Diseases) and  
Clinical Professor of Nursing  
Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, USA*



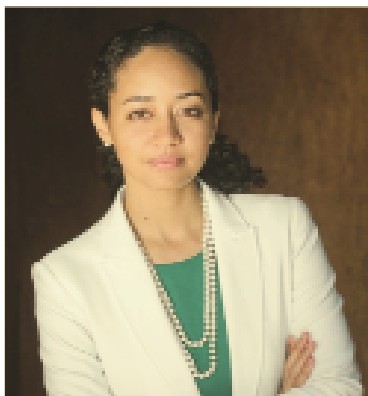
Dr Baltimore was born in New York City and graduated from the University of Chicago with an AB in Biology. His medical school training was at the State University of New York at Buffalo, School of Medicine. He did an internship and residency in Paediatrics at the University of Chicago's Wyler Children's Hospital. After completing his residency, he was a Major in the US Army stationed at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research where he did research in bacterial infections and clinical training in infectious diseases. After military service, he was a postdoctoral fellow and instructor in Paediatrics at Harvard Medical School's Channing Laboratory situated at the Boston City Hospital.

In 1976, he accepted a position in the Department of Paediatrics at Yale University School of Medicine where he is currently Professor of Paediatrics and Epidemiology

While a faculty member at Yale, Dr Baltimore has held research grants from the Hood Foundation, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health (NIH). His research has centred on studies of group B *Streptococcus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, infections in the neonate and nosocomial infections. He is currently the Associate Director of Hospital Epidemiology at Yale-New Haven Hospital and Epidemiologist for Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital, Director of the Paediatric Tuberculosis Clinic and Co-Director of the Training Programme in Paediatric Infectious Diseases.

Dr Baltimore has authored more than 200 research papers and book chapters, edited three books and is on the editorial boards of several paediatric and infectious diseases journals. He was a member of the American Academy of Paediatrics Committee on Infectious Diseases (The "Red Book Committee"), a liaison member of the CDC's Task Force on Smallpox Vaccination, and is currently a member of the American Heart Association Committee on Rheumatic Fever, Endocarditis and Kawasaki Disease. He is named in *The Best Doctors in the New York Metropolitan Area*, *America's Top Doctors*, *Guide to America's Top Paediatricians* and *Who's Who in America*.

**Kathryn Swaby, MBBS (Hons)**  
*2<sup>nd</sup> year Resident in Paediatrics*  
*The University of the West Indies, Mona*



Dr Kathryn Swaby is a second-year resident in Paediatrics at The University of the West Indies, Mona, and graduated with an MBBS Honours degree from the same institution. She has a peer-reviewed research publication describing the effects of genetic variants of redox enzymes on susceptibility to oedematous malnutrition and on percentage cytotoxicity in response to oxidative stress *in vitro*. She aims to complete postdoctoral studies in Paediatric Infectious Diseases to specifically improve public health policies that govern paediatric care. Currently, she is a Service Worker at children's homes, with Hope Worldwide, as part of her community service.

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**Raja Dandamundi, MBBS**  
*3<sup>rd</sup> year Resident in Paediatrics*  
*The University of the West Indies, Mona*



Dr Raja Dandamundi is a third-year postgraduate resident in the Department of Paediatrics at University Hospital of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica. Dr Dandamundi completed his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery from NTR University of Health Sciences, India. After com-

pleting his Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery degree, Dr Dandamundi did his Master's in Clinical Investigations at University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Texas.

Dr Dandamundi's research work is on oestrogen receptors that mediate the biological function of steroidal hormones, modulating a wide range of biological processes. Oestrogen receptors are implicated in the progression of a number of diseases, including breast, endometrial, ovarian and brain cancers. His work has centred on a cloned novel oestrogen receptor regulatory protein named proline, glutamic acid and leucine-rich protein 1 (PELP1). Dr Dandamundi has three peer-reviewed research publications for this work to his credit. His leadership posts have included Acting Chief Resident during this academic year. He desires to complete a postdoctoral fellowship in Paediatric Infectious Diseases or Oncology.

**Matthew Bizzaro, MD**

*Associate Professor of Paediatrics  
Yale University School of Medicine  
New Haven, CT, USA*



Dr Matthew Bizzaro is an associate professor in the Department of Paediatrics at the Yale University School of Medicine. He also serves as the Medical Director of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital, which entails oversight of all clinical operations, drafting and implementation of unit-based guidelines, and direction of quality and safety measures.

Dr Bizzaro's primary academic focus is neonatal infectious disease epidemiology and the prevention of hospital acquired infections in the NICU population. His interest in infection control and healthcare epidemiology began

during his postdoctoral fellowship training when he was given the opportunity to contribute to a longitudinal case series of neonatal bloodstream infections (BSI) at Yale-New Haven Hospital, published in 2005. In that publication, an alarming increase in BSI in the Yale NICU was noted, the majority of which were noted to be central line-associated (CLABSI). In addition to providing the background for more specific infectious disease epidemiology-based research, these findings piqued Dr Bizzaro's interest in infection prevention. In an attempt to challenge the notion that BSI were an inevitable aspect of caring for an immunocompromised population, he helped organize a NICU-based programme aimed at reducing an escalating rate of healthcare-acquired BSI by targeting CLABSI. This successful endeavour would serve as the model for additional quality improvement programmes in the Yale NICU. Shortly thereafter, Dr Bizzaro was invited to participate in an international taskforce aimed at drafting guidelines for the prevention of acquired infections in the extracorporeal membrane oxygenation population.

In addition to continued focus on infection prevention efforts, Dr Bizzaro's recent attention has turned to the deleterious effects of antibiotic over-prescription in the NICU. This work led to the creation and implementation of an antibiotic stewardship programme in the Yale NICU, the first of its kind at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

**Nadia Ameen, MD**

*Associate Professor of Paediatrics, Cellular and Molecular Physiology  
Yale University School Medicine, New Haven, CT, USA*

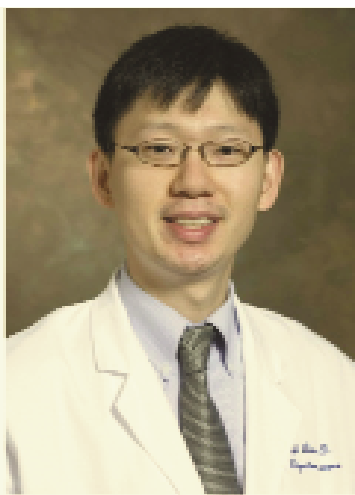


Dr Nadia Ameen is an associate professor and physician-scientist in Paediatrics (Gastroenterology) and Assistant Director of the Fellowship Programme, Yale School of Medicine. She cares for patients and teaches postdoctoral fellows, residents and medical students in gastroenterology and general paediatrics. She received her medical training from The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. She completed an internship in her home country, Trinidad and Tobago, and then left for the USA where she received residency training in Paediatrics at Children's Hospital

Wisconsin, and was appointed Chief Resident. After completion of residency, she moved to Yale for fellowship training in Paediatric Gastroenterology. Her research training at Yale led to the discovery of a new cell type in the intestine for which she is widely recognized. She also trained in research in The Netherlands. She has held faculty appointments at The University of Miami, and Children's Hospital Pittsburgh, prior to returning to Yale in 2009. Her research on intestinal ion transport and secretory diarrhoea spans two decades of continuous support from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She is recognized nationally and internationally for her work in the field. She was the first to identify apical trafficking of the CFTR chloride channel as the underlying mechanism responsible for secretory diarrhoea. More recently, she has turned her focus on understanding the pathogenesis of congenital diarrhoeal diseases. She is the only paediatric gastroenterologist studying these diseases. Because of her expertise, she is a standing member of NIH Study Section (CIMG), the NIDDK Minority Investigators and minority faculty mentor for the NIH-STEP programme for under-represented minority students. She directs summer and year-long mentored programmes for undergraduate and high school students interested in careers in biomedical science. She serves as faculty mentor for Yale PhD students and undergraduates, is a member of the MD/PhD programme at Yale School of Medicine and holds a joint appointment within the Department of Cellular and Molecular Physiology.

**Joseph K Lim, MD**

*Associate Professor of Medicine in the Section of Digestive Diseases  
Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, CT, USA*



Dr Lim is an associate professor of Medicine in the Section of Digestive Diseases at Yale University, where he serves as Director of the Yale Viral Hepatitis Programme. He is a graduate of the Feinberg School of Medicine at North-

western University (Chicago, IL), completed an internship and residency in Internal Medicine at Yale University (New Haven, CT), and a fellowship in Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Stanford University (Palo Alto, CA). In his role at the Yale Liver Center, he directs an active clinical trials programme evaluating novel investigational agents for chronic Hepatitis B and C infections and studies health outcomes in observational cohorts of Hepatitis C virus (HCV) and HCV-HIV co-infected patients. He has co-authored over 90 peer-reviewed manuscripts in journals such as the *Lancet*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *Gastroenterology* and *Hepatology*. He has held numerous leadership roles for the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD), American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) and the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG), and has served as Section Editor of *JAMA*, Senior Associate Editor of *Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology*, Editor-in-Chief of *BMJ Open Gastroenterology* and on the editorial boards of *JAMA*, *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy* and *Hepatology*.

**Marvin Reid, MD, PhD**

*Professor and Director*

*Tropical Medicine Research Institute and Sickle Cell Research Unit*

*The University of the West Indies, Mona*



Professor Reid holds the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery Degree, as well as the Doctor of Philosophy in Community Medicine from The University of the West Indies. He has completed studies in Clinical Nutrition at the University of Southampton, United Kingdom (1993) and postdoctoral studies from Baylor College of Medicine, Texas, USA (2000). He has demonstrated strong leadership qualities and is an excellent administrator. Professor Reid's research spans the gamut of Community Health, Family Medicine and Human Metabolism. As a Metabolist and Clinical Nutritionist, he is skilled in the application of stable isotope methods which involve attaching nonradioac-

tive chemicals to nutrients which are then infused into or ingested by the patient. The distribution of these labelled nutrients in tissues and body fluids are then measured and this helps researchers understand how the body functions in health and disease. In particular, his work has centred on how the body adapts to oxidative and nutritional stresses. More recently, he has focussed on how these adaptive responses increase susceptibility to cardiovascular and renal diseases and the complications of sickle cell disease. His research also extends into clinical trials of drugs in the management of sickle cell disease. He has contributed most significantly to international literature, with numerous papers in peer reviewed journals.

Professor Reid has participated in a number of sporting activities at both the local and international levels. He represented Jamaica in volleyball between 1985 and 1995 at the Pan American Games and the Caribbean Volleyball Championships. He was Sportsman of the Year for The University of the West Indies, Mona, in 1987 and represented Jamaica in track and field, long jump at the World University Games that same year. He is certified by the International Volleyball Association as a Grade 1 Coach and referee in volleyball.

**Minerva Thame, MBBS, DCH, DM (Paeds), PhD**

*Professor of Perinatal and Paediatric Medicine*

*Head, Department of Child and Adolescent Health;*

*Deputy Dean and Chair for the Committee of Graduate Studies,*

*Faculty of Medicine, The University of the West Indies, Mona;*

*Consultant Paediatrician, University Hospital of the West Indies*



Minerva Thame received her Doctor of Medicine in Paediatrics and PhD (Thesis entitled “Nutritional Determinants of Foetal and Placental Growth”) from the University of the West Indies, Mona. She is involved in active clinical neonatology, administration and research.

Her studies involve the roles of maternal anthropometry and body composition on fetal growth in pregnant women with Sickle Cell Disease and comparing pregnant adolescents to mature pregnant women. She collaborates with Professor Farook Jahoor from the Children’s Nutrition

Research Center, Baylor College, Texas, on the relationship between maternal nutritional status and pregnancy outcome using stable isotope techniques. Their work has shown a significant difference in the way in which the adolescent uses nutrients in pregnancy compared to the mature pregnant adult.

Administratively, she is the Head of the Department of Child and Adolescent Health and is the Deputy Dean for Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Medical Sciences at Mona and is in charge of all graduate students affairs. She rotates with three others as the Consultant in charge of the Special Care Nursery/Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the University Hospital of the West Indies. This clinical role involves teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students in Paediatrics.

In 2007 and 2009, she received the Principal’s Award for the Most Outstanding Researcher in the Faculty of Medical Sciences and also received the Principal’s Award for Best Research Publication for three papers in 2009. She was recognized by the Rotary Club and received the Paul Harris Fellow Award in 2009 for recognition of her work in clinical medicine in Jamaica. In 2011, she received the Vice Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in the Category of Research.



**Tamara Thompson, MD**  
*Consultant Physician and Lecturer*  
*The University of the West Indies, Mona*



Dr Tamara Thompson completed her fellowship training in the field of Adult Infectious Diseases at the University of Toronto, Canada. She is currently serving as a consultant physician and lecturer in the Department of Medicine of The University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona. She is also the Programme Director of the Adult Infectious Diseases Fellowship Programme at The UWI and is involved in the mentorship of undergraduate and postgraduate clinical trainees.

Outside of the medical arena, Dr Thompson is a devoted wife and mother. Her interests include spending time with her family, swimming and travelling.

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**Sukiena Anderson-Gabriel, MBBS**  
*1<sup>st</sup> year Resident in Paediatrics*  
*The University of the West Indies, Mona*



Dr Sukiena Anderson-Gabriel is a first-year Resident enrolled in the DM Paediatric programme at The University of the West Indies at Mona. She is a proud graduate of MBBS Class of 2013. In her spare time, she enjoys doing research and reading. She believes that true success is achieved through hard work and dedication. She aspires to improve the quality of care provided to patients through research and education, both locally and internationally. On completing her paediatric residency, she aims to pursue postdoctoral studies in Paediatric Pulmonology or Infectious Diseases.

**Tarik Davidson, MBBS**

*Final year Resident in Paediatrics  
The University of the West Indies, Mona*



Dr Tarik Davidson is a fourth-year resident in Paediatrics at The University of the West Indies, Mona. He graduated with his MBBS degree from the University of Guyana. His leadership roles have included President, University of Guyana Medical Students Association and the Student Representative for the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and Other Health Professions. He was also Acting Chief Resident during this academic year. He aims to return to Guyana to practise Paediatrics when his residency is completed. In addition to spending quality time with family, he enjoys playing basketball, cricket and football.

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**Roxanne Melbourne-Chambers, MD**

*Lecturer, Department of Child and Adolescent Health  
The University of the West Indies, Mona*



Dr Roxanne Melbourne-Chambers is a lecturer in the Department of Child and Adolescent Health and Coordinator of the DM (Paediatrics) training programme at the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona. She is also

a Consultant Paediatric Neurologist and Director of the Paediatric Neurology Clinic at the University Hospital of the West Indies. She is an honours graduate of the MBBS programme at The UWI, Mona, and pursued her clinical fellowship training in Paediatric Neurology at the University of Ottawa-Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, Canada. Dr Melbourne-Chambers has a special research interest in cognition and quality of life in children with epilepsy. She received The UWI Principal's Award for the Best Research Publication in 2013 for her seminal work in epilepsy. During the Chikungunya fever epidemic in Jamaica, she and several of her paediatric colleagues became interested in the severe impact of the illness in children, noting the record numbers of children who presented for care and the severe disability they faced with the fever, lassitude and joint pain. This prompted a review by her and paediatric colleagues of the clinical features in children and the public health impact of Chikungunya virus (CHIK V) infection in Jamaica.