



# Faculty of Medical Sciences Research Day

March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019  
*Hyatt Regency Hotel, Trinidad*

## Programme

### *Equity and Equality in Health*

8:30 – 8:35 am	National Anthem
8:35 – 8:45 am	Greetings <b>Professor Brian Copeland, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal, UWI, St. Augustine</b>
8:45 – 8:55 am	Remarks <b>Professor Terence Seemungal, Dean, Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, St. Augustine</b>
8:55 – 9:05 am	Remarks <b>Professor Patricia Mohammed, Director, School of Graduate Studies and Research, UWI, St. Augustine</b>
9:05 – 9:15 am	Research Needs of the Ministry of Health, Trinidad and Tobago <b>Dr Roshan Parasram, Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health, Trinidad and Tobago</b>
9:15 – 10:00 am	Feature Speaker – Equality and Equity in Public Health: Necessary but not sufficient <b>Professor Michael Clarke, University of Western Ontario</b>
10:00 – 10:15 am	<b>(O1) Occupational dust exposure is independently associated with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in Trinidad and Tobago</b> <i>S Sakhamuri, L Conyette, F Lutchmansingh, D Simeon, MA Ivey, T Seemungal</i>
10:15 – 10:30 am	<b>(O2) Prevalence of Methicillin Resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> in pigs and workers at abattoirs in Trinidad And Tobago</b> <i>A Stewart-Johnson, F Dziva, W Abdela, S Rahaman, A Adesiyun</i>
10:30 – 10:45 am	<b>(O3) An investigation of the frequency of detection of Fluoroquinolone residues in the muscle of broiler chickens sold at supermarkets and pluck shops in Trinidad Tobago</b> <i>G Benjamin, K Jackson, T Barcelo, K Carrington, K Georges, SM Suepaul</i>

10:45 – 11:15 am

COFFEE BREAK

11:15 – 12:30 pm

## POSTER PRESENTATIONS

12:30 – 1:30 pm

LUNCH

1:30 – 1:45 am

**(O4) Performance of the HEART, Emergency Department Assessment of Chest Pain Score (EDACS) and Vancouver Chest Pain Rule (VCPR) to identify low risk chest pain in the emergency department**

*W Balgobin, P Rampersad, I Sammy, J Paul, R Singh, S Ramlakhan*

1:45 – 2:00 pm

**(O5) Polypharmacy and the risk of potentially inappropriate medications among the elderly in Trinidad and Tobago**

*S Dhingra, R Francis*

2:00 – 2:15 pm

**(O6) The prevalence of dentine hypersensitivity among adult patients attending a university dental clinic**

*R Rafeek, T Peters, G Paul, R Naidu*

2:15 – 2:30 pm

**(O7) Exploring the knowledge levels, attitudes and beliefs towards organ donation among patients' relatives in the intensive care units of two major hospitals in Trinidad**

*P Onuoha, G Mootoo-Ramdani, R Edwards, R Gobin, D McConney, A Greene-Nicholas, D Ranoo, V Young*

2:30 – 2:45 pm

**(O8) Quality of sleep in Trinidad among the adult population**

*N Singh, R Sirjue, N Sitaramsingh, A Sookoo, S Sookoo, N Sookoo, K Sookoo, K Sookram, S Soomai, V K Chattu, S Sakhamuri*

2:45 – 3:00 pm

**(O9) Factors that influence health risk behaviors among teenagers**

*A Jones, S Kewley-Lashley, C Lewis, V Richards, S Roopchand, S Santokie, P Onuoha, V Sealey-Tobias, K Mahadeo*

3:15 – 3:30 pm

**(O10) Characterisation of B-cell responses to Zika virus (ZtraIKV)**

*A Ramjag, K Lu, N Liss, A Mamchak, N Nguyen, E Davidson, B Doranz, G Cavet, CVF Carrington, G Simmons*

3:30 – 3:45 pm

COFFEE BREAK

3:45 – 4:45 pm

## POSTER PRESENTATIONS

4:45 – 5:00 pm	<b>(O11) Public perception of deceased organ donation in Trinidad</b> <i>K Rahaman, A Rajack, A Ramai, D Ramdahin, M Ramdeen, S Ramdeen, R Ramesh, S Ramkaran, V Jaikaransingh, MA Ivey</i>
5:00 – 5:15 pm	Most Productive Researcher <b>Awardee</b>
5:15 – 5:30 pm	Most Impactful Research Project <b>Awardee</b>
5:30 – 6:00 pm	Awards and Closing Ceremony

## **POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

- P1**     **Dental students' and examiners' perceptions of an OSCE in the DDS programme in Trinidad**  
*W Smith, R Rafeek, B Sa, C Bodkyn*
- P2**     **Occupational dust exposure is independently associated with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) in Trinidad and Tobago**  
*S Sakhamuri, L Conyette, F Lutchmansingh, D Simeon, MA Ivey, T Seemungal*
- P3**     **Indo-Caribbean population has lower vital capacities than Afro-Caribbean population in Trinidad and Tobago**  
*F Lutchmansingh, S Sakhamuri, D Simeon, L Conyette, MA Ivey, T Seemungal*
- P4**     **Perceptions and attitudes towards child sexual abuse in Trinidad and Tobago: The case for a gendered approach to management**  
*SD Reid, R Reddock, T Nickenig*
- P5**     **Socio-demographic and clinical determinants of dementia in the oldest old: National Survey of Ageing and Cognition in Trinidad**  
*N Baboolal, G Davis, V Tripathi, A McRae, R Stewart, A McRae*
- P6**     **Universal access to screening and management of diabetes in pregnancy in Trinidad using an ICT solution**  
*F Lutchmansingh, S Chamely, K Mallalieu H Chow, R Balkaran, S Ramsewak, S Teelucksingh*
- P7**     **Performance of the HEART, Emergency Department Assessment of Chest Pain Score (EDACS) and Vancouver Chest Pain Rule (VCPR) to identify low risk chest pain in the emergency department**  
*W Balgobin, P Rampersad, I Sammy, J Paul, R Singh, S Ramlakhan*

- P8 The assessment of postoperative delirium at the Port of Spain General Hospital**  
*C Ramoutar, D Ventour*
- P9 A comparison of computer applications vs conventional colour vision tests: Can they be used interchangeably?**  
*S Sharma, A Jagdeo, A Williams*
- P10 Vision standards for driving in Trinidad and Tobago**  
*N Bachan, B Sankar, N Farnon*
- P11 Health literacy in patients requiring joint replacement**  
*R Rampersad, M Mencia*
- P12 A fall epidemiological analysis and risk factor assessment**  
*S Lewis, C Rauseo, M Mencia*
- P13 Normative values for hand grip strength in Trinidad And Tobago**  
*E Budhoo, A Glasgow, D Santana, S Cooblal, D Maharaj, M Mencia, A Cateau, K Fung, D Baiju*
- P14 Blue-Yellow (B-Y) perimetry vs White-White (W-W) in detecting glaucomatous changes**  
*R Singh, K Acosta*
- P15 Comparing the expected refractive status from immersion biometry and the achieved refractive status post cataract surgery**  
*J Bohringer, C Ballantyne, J Bartholomew, R Bhola, S Singh, I Mohammed*
- P16 Comparing the peek retina to fundus camera, direct ophthalmoscope and Volk lens for the viewing of the optic disc**  
*F Mohammed, S Mohammed, N Farnon, V Tripathi*
- P17 The effect of pituitary adenomas on motion perception**  
*M Joshi, B Morris, S Ali*
- P18 Epidemiology and management trends of patients with severe sepsis and septic shock in Trinidadian intensive care units: A prospective multicentre trial**  
*K Singh, D Ventour, S Hariharan, L Merritt-Charles, D Chen, M Sookwah, D Maharaj, S Sankar-Maharaj*
- P19 Characterization of the ABCA4 gene in Stargardt's Disease in Trinidad and Tobago**  
*J Bohringer, S Corbie, S Hassanali, A Treco, B Alexander, G Edmond, S Singh*
- P20 A trend analysis of the burden of cataract in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Caribbean from 1990 to 2016**  
*E Sonron, V Tripathi, H Seetharaman*

- P21**    **The creation of a strip test which can be used to monitor blood sugar levels in diabetics using tears**  
*C Hosein, G Joseph*
- P22**    **Axial length measurement using optical versus immersion ultrasound: Impact on predicted refractive outcome following cataract surgery**  
*K Clarke, S Grainger, D Murray*
- P23**    **Management of symptomatic gallstone disease: equity between two healthcare delivery systems in Trinidad & Tobago**  
*AH Mahabir, SO Cawich*
- P24**    **Determination of risk factors associated with adverse outcomes of thrombolysis in acute ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI)**  
*E Ottley, D Timothy, P Rampersad, J Paul, I Sammy, R Singh, S Ramlakhan*
- P25**    **Public perception of deceased organ donation in Trinidad**  
*K Rahaman, A Rajack, A Ramai, D Ramdahin, M Ramdeen, S Ramdeen, R Ramesh, S Ramkaran, V Jaikaransingh, MA Ivey*
- P26**    **The economic and social burden of insulin in a period of economic recession**  
*K Mungrue, A Ramroop*
- P27**    **Towards total voluntary non-remunerated blood donation in Trinidad and Tobago**  
*KS Charles, M Friday, D Lall, R Persad, K Harricharan, M De Four, A Earle*
- P28**    **Asymptomatic 'normal' subjects may have a respiratory health burden as assessed by the St Georges Respiratory Questionnaire (SGRQ)**  
*T Seemungal, S Sakhamuri, D Simeon, F Lutchmansingh, L Conyette, MA Ivey*
- P29**    **Health status and risk factors for dementia in the middle old in Trinidad: Findings from a nationally representative survey**  
*G Davis, N Baboolal, V Tripathi, R Stewart*
- P30**    **Sex and social class inequities in physical and mental health: An analysis using data from the Burden of Obstructive Lung Disease Trinidad and Tobago (BOLD-TT) Study**  
*MA Ivey, D Simeon, S Sakhamuri, F Lutchmansingh, L Connyette, T Seemungal*
- P31**    **Factors associated with quality of life impairment among asthma patients attending specialty clinics in Trinidad and Tobago**  
*MA Ivey, S Sakhamauri, LM Pinto Pereira*
- P32**    **Prevalence and risk factors of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) among Persons Living with HIV attending STI Clinic in Trinidad**  
*J Edwards, N Lyons, A Hinds, JP Figueroa*

- P33** Cost of using a patient tracer to reduce loss to follow up and resolve the status of non-active patients at the HIV Clinic, Medical Research Foundation of Trinidad and Tobago  
*J Edwards, W Samaroo, N Lyons, S Todd, G Boyce*
- P34** Anti-budding assay: development of a high throughput screen to identify neutralizing antibodies that block Chikungunya virus (CHIKV) release  
*A Ramjag, K Lu, J Jin, CVF Carrington, G Simmons*
- P35** High-fat diet induced obesity and the effect of fructooligosaccharides on cardiac protein expression  
*S Sarfaraz, S Singh, DD Ramdath*
- P36** Microvascular endothelial function and regional differences in vasodilation in the human cutaneous microcirculation in primary open angle glaucoma  
*JS Mohan, C Petty, S Sharma, N Farnon, K Rocke*
- P37** Polypharmacy and the risk of potentially inappropriate medications among the elderly in Trinidad and Tobago  
*S Dhingra, R Francis*
- P38** Does the Chronic Disease Assistance Program promote equity or increases the socioeconomic divide?  
*SB Maharaj, G Saha*
- P39** Antibiotic prescribing patterns in the emergency department at the Wendy Fitzwilliam Paediatric Hospital  
*A Gadad, M Charles, A Balcon*
- P40** Efficacy of levofloxacin loaded non-ionic surfactant vesicles (niosomes) in a *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infection model in Sprague Dawley rats  
*S Jankie, J Johnson, GK Pillai, AS Adebayo, LM Pinto-Pereira*
- P41** Synthetic and antimicrobial studies on natural Cyclopolypeptide from Caribbean marine-sponge and its analogs  
*R Dahiya, S Rampersad, T Ramnanansingh, K Kaur, R Kaur, R Fairman, N Jalsa*
- P42** Quality control testing of different brands of conventional tablets of Ibuprofen available in Trinidad & Tobago, West Indies: An in-vitro testing  
*MM Gupta*
- P43** A point prevalence survey of health associated infections and antimicrobial use in a public health institution in Trinidad  
*SC Francois, PI Sealy, G Legall*

- P44 Exploring the knowledge levels, attitudes and beliefs towards organ donation among patients' relatives in the intensive care units of two major hospitals in Trinidad**  
*P Onuoha, G Mootoo-Ramdani, R Edwards, R Gobin, D McConney, A Greene-Nicholas, D Ranoo, V Young*
- P45 Readiness to practice: Expressed views of the newly registered nurses' in medical/ surgical settings at public hospitals across Trinidad**  
*P Onuoha, T Als, K Joseph, M Jacob-Oliviel, Oliver, R, N Beckles, V La Croix-Andrews, C Joefield, K Mahadeo*
- P46 Knowledge levels, attitude and beliefs of men towards the Digital Rectal Examinations (DRE): A study in Trinidad**  
*P Onuoha, G Mootoo-Ramdeen, M Romany, G La Fleur-Roseman, J Roopnarine, D Diaspia-Murrell, K Martin-Boucaud, P Hypolite*
- P47 Factors that influence health risk behaviours among teenagers**  
*A Jones, S Kewley-Lashley, C Lewis, V Richards, S Roopchand, S Santokie, P Onuoha, V Sealey-Tobias, K Mahadeo*
- P48 Prevalence of Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in pigs and workers at abattoirs in Trinidad and Tobago**  
*A Stewart-Johnson, F Dziva, W Abdela, S Rahaman, A Adesiyun*
- P49 An investigation of the frequency of detection of Fluoroquinolone residues in the muscle of broiler chickens sold at supermarkets and pluck shops in Trinidad**  
*G Benjamin, K Jackson, T Barcelo, K Carrington, K Georges, SM Suepaul*
- P50 *Escherichia coli* contamination of lettuce sold at markets in Trinidad: A preliminary study**  
*A Boodram, C Sam, E Walcott, L Hutchinson, A Yusuf, S Suepaul, A Persad*
- P51 Evaluation of pig production practices and constraints faced by smallholder piggeries in Trinidad**  
*D Khan, A Persad*
- P52 Current pig production practices: A potential risk to human and animal health**  
*D Khan, A Persad*
- P53 A comparison of the efficacy of two commercial acaricides (fipronil and amitraz) with *Azadirachta indica* (neem) on the brown dog tick (*Rhipicephalus sanguineus*) from canines in Trinidad**  
*R Suraj, R Rambarran, K Ali, D Harbajan, R Charles, C Sant, K Georges, S Suepaul*
- P54 Estrus synchronization and expression of estrus behaviours during periovulatory period in doublesynch treated buffalypso (*Bubalus bubalis*) in Trinidad**

*K Mohan, T Bradshaw, R Hylton, C Paul, L Mckie, M Diptee, K Georges*

- P55 Molecular analysis of Salmonella isolates from poultry by pulsed-field gel electrophoresis**  
*N Kumar, K Mohan, K Georges, R Bridle, F Dziva, A Adesiyun*
- P56 A case report of albendazole toxicity mimicking tetanus in an Anglo-Nubian – Alpine cross goat (Capra hircus)**  
*A Burrows, M Driscoll, A Persad, M Morris, A Nanan, G Williams*
- P57 A review of neoplastic and non-neoplastic skin tumours in dogs in Trinidad from 2010-2015**  
*R Suepaul, S Rajh, K F Acevedo, Indira Pargass, S Suepaul*
- P58 A study of the histological classification and grading of canine malignant mammary tumours in Trinidad**  
*S Rajh, K F Acevedo, S Suepaul, B M Manohar, R Suepaul*
- P59 Anatomical and radiographic study on the skull and mandible of the African lion (Panthera Leo)**  
*R Mohamed*
- P60 Prevalence of Salmonella species in broilers during slaughtering by processing plants in Trinidad using three isolation methods**  
*AS Khan, K Georges, S Rahaman, W Abdela, AA Adesiyun*
- P61 Angiostrongylus cantonensis and the Giant African Snail – threat or not?**  
*C Sant, K Vernon, S Khan, C Hanna, B Clarke, L Gyan, R Charles, K Georges*
- P62 Cytokines changes in beagle dogs vaccinated and challenged with virulent Leptospira strains**  
*V Arjoonsingh, R Suepaul, AA Adesiyun*
- P63 Prevention of severe clinical signs and pathological lesions of leptospirosis in experimentally challenged dogs**  
*T Noel, R Suepaul, F Dziva, A Adesiyun*
- P64 Survey of ticks of domestic dogs and cattle in Trinidad and Tobago**  
*R Charles, B Sanford, P Pow-Brown, C Sant, K Georges*
- P65 A field study on the occurrence of gastrointestinal nematodes in sheep over the wet and dry seasons in two West Indian islands**  
*S Sieuchand, R Charles, J Caruth, A Basu, G von Samson-Himmelstjerna, K Georges*
- P66 Identifying novel Mycobacterium species in fish using multiple gene phylogenetic analysis**  
*L Blake, C Oura, ACN Phillips*



- P67 The identification and characterization of high impact avian viruses circulating in wild and domestic birds in Trinidad and Tobago**  
*A Brown-Joseph, C Oura*
- P68 Biomedical publications in the selected CARICOM countries**  
*M Majumder, S Gupta, U Gaur, P Adams, B Sa, K Singh*
- P69 The effects of dark chocolate on moods among residents of a small community in East Trinidad**  
*R Ali, I Francis-Granderson*
- P70 BMI, nutrition knowledge and practice among nutrition and non-nutrition University students at the University of the West Indies**  
*K Reyes, I Francis-Granderson*
- P71 Characterisation of B-cell responses to Zika virus (ZIKV)**  
*A Ramjag, K Lu, N Liss, A Mamchak, N Nguyen, E Davidson, B Doranz, G Cavet, CVF Carrington, G Simmons*
- P72 Review of the use of deterministic compartmental models used in Epidemiology**  
*J Sooknanan, D Comissiong, T Seemungal*
- P73 Quantifying and analyzing health inequality in Trinidad and Tobago**  
*H Bailey*
- P74 Post-World War II epidemiological transitions in Caribbean societies: Interpretive insights based on age-associated mortality profiles**  
*G St. Bernard, S Armorgan*
- P75 Demographic and socio-economic characteristics of rheumatoid arthritis patients attending public rheumatology clinics, South Trinidad, 2016**  
*H Dyaanand, K Dharamraj, L Conyette, A Samsundar*
- P76 The prevalence of dentine hypersensitivity among adult patients attending a university dental clinic**  
*R Rafeek, T Peters, G Paul, R Naidu*
- P77 Quality of sleep in Trinidad among the adult population**  
*N Singh, R Sirjue, N Sitaramsingh, A Sookoo, S Sookoo, N Sookoo, K Sookoo, K Sookram, S Soomai, VK Chattu, S Sakhamuri*