

## MASTERS IN VACCINOLOGY AND PHARMACEUTICAL CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS' PROFILE

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NAME            **Alemnew Fitayehu**  
SURNAME       Dagneu  
COUNTRY       **Ethiopia**  
AGE            31 year old  
FAMILY         Single

### **Educational Background**

MD (Faculty of Medicine, Addis Ababa University)

Post-graduate student in Medical Microbiology at Department of Microbiology, ongoing.

### **Current Employment before leaving his country**

Mekelle University, College of Health Science, Ethiopia: Lecturer since July 2005.

### **Something interesting about him:**

He speaks Amharic

### **Extracted from Motivation Letter:**

*"As part of my master's fulfillment, I am conducting a research project entitled "Immune Response to Vaccine Candidate MTB Antigens in Healthy Adult Ethiopians" aiming at generating background immunological data on immune response to selected candidate TB vaccine antigens of healthy adult Ethiopians for a new TB vaccine clinical trial recently started. This project is a joint collaboration between Addis Ababa University and Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI), Ethiopia. The clinical trial on the new Tuberculosis vaccine is to be under taken at Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI) and I am one of the study physicians.*

*Attending this Master's programme will build my capacity in the area of vaccine development. The benefits I am expecting from this course for me to contribute in the area, therefore, are the motivating engines".*

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NAME **Mgaywa Gilbert Mjungu Damas**  
SURNAME MAGAFU  
COUNTRY **TANZANIA**  
AGE 37 (on 11 June 2009)  
FAMILY Married

### **Educational Background**

Doctor of Medicine (MD), University of Dar es Salaam's Certificate for Excellent Performance in the following subjects: Biochemistry, Pathology & Pharmacology.

### **Current Employment before leaving his country**

Junior Research Scientist at Ifakara Health Institute (IHI), responsible for:

- Carrying out research activities
- Instructing students at the IHI

IHI was one of the 4 recipients of the 2008 Prince of Asturias Foundation Award for International Cooperation on the fight against malaria in Africa.

### **Some additional information:**

1. Best third year student in pharmacology - 1997/98. Awarded a certificate for excellent performance of the University of Dar es Salaam
2. Best third year student in Pathology - 1997/98. Awarded a certificate for excellent performance of the University of Dar es Salaam
3. Best first year student in Biochemistry – 1995/96. Awarded a certificate for excellent performance of the University of Dar es Salaam
4. Best student award in the national form four exams, 1990
5. Overall best student award final year – Ihungo secondary school, 1990
6. Best student award in Kagera regional mock exams, 1990
7. Best student award in the national form two exams, 1988.

### **Extracted from Motivation Letter:**

*" (...)Reflecting on my childhood, I remember to have lost playmates, schoolmates, and even a sibling from infectious diseases ...I see many people, young and old, women and men, from within my village and from outside, all queuing to see a doctor at the village health centre because of what I came to know later as preventable infectious diseases. (...) Then came a rare opportunity (for a Tanzanian child) to go to secondary school. At secondary school I learnt the causes and prevention methods of disease in science classes and reflecting on my background I developed a keen interest in science. Within me, I felt that I had a moral obligation to learn medicine and serve my people to alleviate disease and suffering. (...) I would like to attend the Masters in Vaccinology and Pharmaceutical Clinical Development to enhance my ability to conduct preventive public health research particularly in the area of development of vaccines and pharmaceutical products. (...)I could not study public health at a master level in the past because of a shortage of doctors at my previous duty station. (...)I feel that this is my best chance to do a course that is directly related to my long time dream – disease prevention and suffering alleviation. I would be honored and humbled to be taught by such a great team and I will give my all to the course."*

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NAME            **Mike**  
SURNAME        CHAPONDA  
COUNTRY        **Zambia**  
AGE             33  
FAMILY          Married (waiting for a child in June)

### **Educational Background**

Bachelor of medicine, Bachelor of surgery  
Bachelor of Science Human Biology

### **Current Employment before leaving his country**

Medical Scientific Officer, Department of Clinical Sciences, Tropical Diseases Research Centre. His duties included:

- Development, conduct and analysis of Medical Research of Public health importance
- Medical care for research patients
- Supervision of Laboratory and Nursing staff
- Ensuring that the principles of Good Clinical Practice are adhered to in clinical trials he is responsible for

### **Some news on his Cultural Background**

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### **Extracted from Motivation Letter:**

*"The Masters programme in Vaccinology and Pharmaceutical Clinical Development offers me the opportunity to learn, appreciate and develop the needed skills in the development of Vaccines needed to fight infectious diseases and to foster Clinical Research in my country. I have been working as an Investigator in Clinical Trials in Malaria, which requires me to have sound knowledge of the processes in Clinical Pharmaceutical Development, which I currently lack.*

*It is my view that given a chance, I will be able to contribute greatly to my country and internationally using this knowledge to develop collaborations, which will enhance the development of vaccines needed for specific disease prevention. There is no such training offered in my country despite communicable diseases being the major health burden. I will use the knowledge acquired to teach my subordinates and guide them in the conduct of Clinical trials".*

## MASTERS IN VACCINOLOGY AND PHARMACEUTICAL CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS' PROFILE

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NAME	Yauba
SURNAME	SAIDU
COUNTRY	<b>CAMEROON</b>
AGE	29
FAMILY	Single

### **Educational Background**

Doctor of Medicine (MD) General Medicine, (Honors)

### **Current Employment before leaving his country**

Physician at the emergency unit of the Mother and Child Center of the Chantal Biya Foundation (A reference and teaching Paediatrics hospital).

He was promoted to the Head of Unit of the Sickle Cell Unit of the Mother and Child Center of the Chantal BIYA Foundation in January 2009. Equally, he was the internal Clinical Monitor of the Cameroon Counter part of the African Malaria Nutrition Initiative (a clinical trial project that aims to look at the impact of Vitamin A and Zinc supplementation on the incidence of Malaria, Pneumonia, diarrhea and anemia). The trial started in March and will run till November.

### **Something interesting about him:**

Nov 2007: Among many prizes, he has been awarded with red feather for meritorious health services (a red feather signifies a high position in the traditional council and cuts across cultures and it is awarded to people who have rendered exceptional services to a community. In the old days, it was reserved for conquerors or lion hunters but today it is given to those who have rendered exceptional services to a community).

### **Extracted from Motivation Letter:**

*".. the programme is going to open a gate way of opportunities that will foster the development of a new generation of culturally diverse leaders in the field of vaccinology, pharmaceuticals and translational research.*

*For the past 4 years I have been involved in a good number of research projects, mostly clinical trials. Currently, I am involved in a research project that aims at evaluating the diagnostic aspects of childhood meningitis and its prevention through vaccination. This Masters programme will provide me with specific skills and extensive practical training that will permit me to understand the challenges (several etiologic agents with diverse serotypes) facing the prevention of this disease and how these challenges may be confronted (...)  
(...) This of course will prepare me for future challenges in the academic career that I hope to pursue".*

## MASTERS IN VACCINOLOGY AND PHARMACEUTICAL CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS' PROFILE

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NAME            **Peter Louis Mwangi**  
SURNAME        GITHUA  
COUNTRY        **KENYA**  
AGE              36  
FAMILY          Married, 1 child

### **Educational Background**

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

### **Current Employment before leaving his country**

Research physician/manager at KEMRI (Wellcome Trust-IAVI collaborative HIV project).

His current duties include:

- Trial working group chair for a multi-center acute HIV infection study. ( IAVI)
- Chair of trial working group for a Multi center male HIV-shedding study sponsored by the University of Washington.
- Developing and implementing Standard Operating Procedures for the smooth running of the various research protocols
- Member of the Kemri-Wellcome Trust Scientific Steering Committee which reviews, approves and gives technical oversight to all research studies taking place under the Kemri aegis

### **Hobbies:**

Volunteerism, Rugby, Motor-sports

### **Extracted from Motivation Letter:**

*" (...)I will contribute significantly to national and regional research capacity as I will have significant knowledge of prevalent local diseases and will also transfer my knowledge to local colleagues and thus broaden research capacity locally, given the dearth of qualified local researchers.*

*I believe I have a good foundation for the course and the ability to apply new knowledge learnt given my experience in working in a research institution working with vaccines. I have also been trained in basic and advanced Good Clinical Practice which governs our research protocols and have worked with national and regional regulatory boards for approval of investigational products. I am very interested in improving my knowledge of immunology and production of vaccines, as well as clinical data and regulatory management (...)"*

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NAME            **Zamir**  
SURNAME        Hussain SUHAG  
COUNTRY        **PAKISTAN**  
AGE             43  
FAMILY          Married, 4 children

### **Educational Background**

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery

### **Current Employment before leaving his country**

Pediatrician & Health System Research coordinator at Department of Pediatrics & Child Health, The Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan.

### **Some additional information:**

Awarded as Best Resident during the third year of residency at Aga Khan University Hospital Karachi

### **Extracted from Motivation Letter:**

*"...During my stay at the department of Pediatrics, vaccine preventable childhood illnesses were the most frequent causes of hospital visits for children. The situation impelled me to consider a career in vaccine research. (...)Being a specialist in vaccinology I will be able to acquire the knowledge of immunology, microbiology, the basis of clinical trials and also the practical skills of implementing clinical research studies. I think the Masters Course in Vaccinology & Pharmaceutical Clinical Development will equip me with the required skills. I am convinced that this course will enrich my previous practical experience with theoretical concepts. After the completion of this course I will be able to contribute in the research & development of vaccines in Pakistan".*

## MASTERS IN VACCINOLOGY AND PHARMACEUTICAL CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS' PROFILE

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NAME            **Chiranjiwi**  
SURNAME        BHUSAL  
COUNTRY        **NEPAL**  
AGE              26  
FAMILY          Single

### **Educational Background**

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) 2007  
Medical College of Zheng Zhou University, People's Republic of China

### **Current Employment before leaving his country**

Working as a research clinician in Patan Hospital, Lagankhel, Lalitpur, Nepal as part of the collaboration between Patan Hospital and the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit Nepal. Research topics include randomized controlled trial in Enteric Fever, Hepatitis E in pregnant and non-pregnant women, Seroprevalance of Hepatitis E in population in Nepalese population, Prevalence of Salmonella in bile of Cholecystectomy patients.

### **Something interesting about him:**

Passed Chinese language Proficiency Test!

His first contact with the field of vaccines took place when I read the story of Edward Jenner and the development of the smallpox vaccine

### **Extracted from Motivation Letter:**

*"More recently we have seen another devastating disease, polio, being brought to its knees by vaccination. It leads to me think how wonderful it would be if many such deadly infectious diseases were eradicated with vaccination. This idea motivated my interest in the field of vaccinology ever since I studied about vaccines at medical school. I am also very curious to understand how scientists design a vaccine in the laboratory and implement them in the field. (...)If I get a chance to study vaccinology in Sienna I would come back to Nepal and get involved in a clinical trial of salmonella vaccine as part of the collaboration between Patan Hospital and Oxford University*

*Nepal is a country which shares open border, language and culture with India. Another neighbouring country China is the place where I studied medicine. This gives me ease to work in these countries which comprise of one third of the world population. However there is shortage of manpower in the field of vaccinology in this area of the world"*

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NAME            **Zenaida**  
SURNAME        **MOJARES**  
COUNTRY        **PHILIPPINES**  
AGE             51  
FAMILY          1 daughter

### **Educational Background**

Doctor of Medicine,  
Bachelor of Science  
Master in Public Health, University of the Philippines

### **Current Employment before leaving his country**

Medical Specialist II, Head, Employees Health Service, Research Institute for Tropical  
Medicine, Department of Health, Alabang, Muntinlupa City, Philippines

Coordinator, Health Emergency Management Service, Research Institute for Tropical  
Medicine, Department of Health, Alabang, Muntinlupa City, Philippines

### **Extracted from Motivation Letter:**

*"My motivation for application stems from my desire to pursue a career in vaccinology and need an innovative training like this programme to be equipped with state of the art skills and expertise on all aspects of vaccine developments, immunology and infectious diseases, clinical research methodology and epidemiology, biostatistics and clinical data management. The thrust of our Department of Health is to develop and produce vaccines for utilization in the country's Expanded Program of Immunization and is presently in the early stages of BCG and PPD development which are being conducted in our Institute. Advanced knowledge and skills that will be obtained in this training will be beneficial to the RITM as it will strengthen its research and development capabilities on vaccine development and production"*

## MASTERS IN VACCINOLOGY AND PHARMACEUTICAL CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS' PROFILE

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NAME            **Robert Baldwin**  
SURNAME        MBOIZI  
COUNTRY        **UGANDA**  
AGE             34  
FAMILY         Married, 1 child

### **Educational Background**

MB.ChB (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery)

### **Current Employment before leaving his country**

Medical Officer, Makerere University- John Hopkins University        (MU-JHU) Research Collaboration.

Some of duties and Responsibilities:

- Provide Pediatrics and general Medical care and follow up to Study patients.
- Participate in Clinic Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Development.
- Recruit study participants for the research.
- Coordinate activities at the recruitment site (antenatal clinics).
- Participate in Continuing Medical Education Sessions. (CME)
- Provide emergency medical care.
- Provide HIV/AIDS care

### **Some additional information:**

He's part of the Team at Case Medical Centre that provides free medical services to the KPC watoto children (a faith based group for orphans), providing holistic care to these orphans and widows.

While in third year medical school He participated in activities aimed at the prevention of malaria and diarrhea diseases in a community in a peri-urban area in central Uganda. This activity contributed to the development of culturally acceptable and understandable health education messages.

### **Extracted from Motivation Letter:**

*"I have had all my medical training and experience so far from here in Uganda. Upon qualification (completion of my MBChB) I have had opportunity to work in government Hospitals as well as in private practice and the one thing that has struck me the most is the high prevalence of infectious diseases in the community. Most of the patients that I have seen over the years have come because of these infectious Diseases especially malaria, pneumonia and HIV related illnesses. I have always felt and wished I could do something more for these patients. I have wanted to do something that can have a greater impact, something that could help reduce the burden of these diseases from the community"*