



AFCC Regional Congress Day 1 : 16th July 2026

Day 1	16 th July, 2026		DAY 1 :PARALLEL SESSION
08:00 -08:25	Registration		Industry sponsored Breakfast Session-
08:15-08:40	Opening		
08: 45-09:10	Keynote Chair: Dr Gizachew <i>Shaping the Future of Laboratory Medicine: Current Innovations, Challenges and Emerging Trends - Prof T Ozben</i>		
0915-11:15	IFCC Symposium 1 Chair: Dr Raghubeer	09:15-10:00	Industry Sponsored Educational Symposium: Symposia 2 Chair: Mr H Lumano
	1.Evidence-based laboratory medicine: Why critical appraisal is an ethical responsibility - Prof A Zemlin (S Africa)		1.SNIBE @30 mins <i>Advancements in Nanobody-Based and Single Molecule Immunoassay Technology - Prof TPillay</i>
	2. How to ethically read a scientific paper: Bias, transparency, and misleading evidence - Dr A Don-Wauchope (Canada)		2.Stiftung für Pathobiochemie und Molekulare Diagnostik (SPMD) Referenzinstitut für Bioanalytik (RfB) @15 mins <i>External Quality Assurance in Practice – Strengthening Laboratory Quality in African Laboratory Networks - Dr. Anja Kessler</i>
	3. Artificial intelligence in laboratory medicine: Evidence, bias, and ethical risk -		

	<i>Dr S Raghubeer (S Africa)</i>		
	4. <i>From Evidence to Practice: Ethical Decision-Making in the Automated Laboratory - Dr AR Assad (Egypt)</i>	10:00-11:15	Oral Research Presentations 8@8 mins Chair :Dr AG Akalu Q&A
10:45-11:15	Tea and Visit to Exhibition		Tea and Visit to Exhibition
11:15 -12:15	ADLM Symposium 3 Chair: Prof J Ahaneke 1. <i>Supporting Laboratory Quality Improvement Efforts in Africa Through Education: The Journey So Far. - Dr M Tesfazghi, (Chair, ADLM GLQI Africa Subcommittee)</i> 2. <i>From Workshop Outcomes to National Action: Developing Practice Guidelines and a Policy Brief for POCT in Nigeria through the ADLM-ACCN Partnership - Prof Idris Mohammed (Nigeria)</i>	11:15-12:00	Oral Research Presentations X 5 @ 8 mins Chair: Dr G Akalu
12:15 -12:25	Q&A		
12:30-13:30	SAACB Symposium 4 AI in Education in Lab Medicine : Implications and Benefits for Africa Chair: Prof T Pillay <i>From diagnostic gaps to digital leapfrogging: Why AI literacy matters for African laboratory medicine education - Dr B Van Deventer (S Africa)</i> 2. <i>Teaching the AI-ready laboratory professional: Simulations, tutors and synthetic data for competency-based training - Prof R Punchoo (S Africa)</i> 3. <i>Responsible AI for African laboratory education: Governance, equity, quality</i>	12:00-13:30	International Networking & Collaboration (15 min each presentation) Chair: Prof Erasmus ADLM - USA EFLM- Prof Zima , Czechia CAHO – Dr Jairam, India Prof Harald , Germany AFCC - Dr G Akalu, Ethiopia IFCC – Prof Ozben, Turkey

	and sustainability - Prof T Pillay (S Africa)		
13:30-14:25	LUNCH		
14:30- 16:00	NCD Symposium 5 Chair: Prof A Amayo <i>1. Triglyceride-Glucose Index In Patients With NAFLD: A Surrogate Marker For identification of Diabetes Mellitus and Dyslipidemia Prof Bhargava (India)</i> <i>2. Update on Cardiac markers - Prof H Renz (Germany)</i> <i>3. EFLM Lecture :Cancer biomarkers for Personalised Medicine- Prof Zima ,Czechia</i> <i>4. Integrating Epidemiology, Genomics, & the Oral Microbiome to Understand Cardiometabolic Risk: Insights from VMH Study, Cape Town, S Africa - Dr S Davids (S Africa)</i>	14:30-16:00	Symposium 6: Achieving Quality in Lab Performance and Diagnostics Chair: Prof Amayo <i>1. From good to being great :The Art of Leadership - Prof Erasmus</i> <i>2. Training for Impact: Building Competency and Excellence in the Clinical Laboratory – Dr Lam, Singapore</i> <i>3. The Paradigms and Paradoxes of Sigma Metrics in the Analytical Phase of the Medical Diagnostic Laboratory - Prof Bhargava, (India)</i> <i>4. Reference Intervals and Decision Limits – Prof Omuse, (Nairobi, Kenya)</i>
16:00-17:00	AFCC symposium 7 Newborn Screening Prof A Okesina <i>1. Overcoming hurdles to NBS in Africa – Prof Okesina</i> <i>2. Initiating NBS in Africa-beginning small and acting smart- Dr Maina, Nairobi, Kenya</i> <i>3. Specimen collection in neonates: best practices- Dr L Martinez, Mexico</i> <i>4. State of NBS in Africa – Survey Results – Dr T Satekge, Johannesburg, S Africa</i>	16:00-17:00	Industry Sponsored Workshop Chair: Dr Cyrus Matheka <i>Auto-Bio, China @30 mins</i> <i>Use of Immunoassays in Infectious Diseases</i>
17:00 -17:30	PLENARY Chair: Prof Ozben <i>Sepsis Biomarkers - Prof Renz (Germany)</i>		
19:30-21:30	Opening Ceremony And Cocktail		

	1. AFCC President 2. Chair of LOC 3. IFCC president 4. Congress Chair		
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AFCC Regional Congress Day 2 : 17th July 2026

DAY 2	17 th July 2026	DAY 2	Parallel Session
08:00-08:30	Industry sponsored breakfast workshop 2 TBA	08:00-08:30	Industry Sponsored breakfast workshop 3 TBA
09:00 -09:20	<i>When Results Lie: Unmasking Interference in Immunoassays</i> <i>Dr Lam, Singapore</i>	08:30- 09:00	AFCC Young Scientists Forum Chair: Mr K Kiptim Keynote - <i>Impact of building a young scientist and how to gather opportunities globally</i> - Dr A Rampul (S A)
09:20-09:50	<i>UNIVANTS :Improving patient outcomes through quality linked collaborations</i> <i>T Ravalico, USA</i>	09:00-09:20	<i>Cultivating Leadership among Young and Mid Level Scientists: Building Resilient Lab Systems and Strengthening the future Scientific Workforce in Africa – FJ Kandama (Zambia)</i>
09:50-11:45	IFCC Symposium 8 Precision Diagnostics in Kidney Disease: From Analytical Challenges to Emerging Biomarkers Chair:	09:30:09:50	<i>Sepsis in Motion: Using Procalcitonin Trajectories to Improve Risk Stratification</i> - A Fataar (SA)

	<i>1. Analytical Challenges and Interpretation of Laboratory Results in Chronic Kidney Dis</i> <i>Dr S Narawade (India)</i> <i>2. eGFR Measurement: Accuracy, Limitations, and Clinical Implications</i> <i>Prof A Adedeji, Nigeria</i> <i>3. Emerging Biomarkers for Early Detection of Acute Kidney Injury: Clinical and Laboratory Insights</i> <i>4. Defective regulation of the alternative complement pathways in atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome (aHUS) leading to kidney disease</i>	10:00-10:20	<i>Closing the Loop: Improving Critical Laboratory Result Communication in Sub-Saharan Africa - A Davids</i>
		10:20 -11:45	YS Abstract presentations Chair: Dr Rampul @8 min x 10 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
11:45-12:15	TEA	TEA	
12:15-12:35 12:40-13:00	Infectious Disease Update Chair: <i>Mitigating the spread of TB through Point of Care Testing (POCT) - Prof Nyasulu (S Africa)</i>	12:15-12:35 12:40-13:00	NCD Research Update Chair: Dr Matshazi 1. <i>Can a tape measure predict diabetes? Identifying insulin resistance in S African Community</i> -Dr S Davids (SA)

	<i>HbA1c Testing during Covid19 Pandemic - Dr Kruger (S Africa)</i>		<i>2.Perceived body image and weight management in a S African population - Dr S Raghubeer (SA)</i>
13:00-13:30	PLENARY TBA Prof A Kengne, African Population Health Research Centre, Nairobi		
13:30-14:25	LUNCH		LUNCH
14:30 -16:30	IFCC Symposium 9 : Emerging Technologies Transforming Lab Medicine for Equitable and Sustainable Healthcare. Chair: <i>1.From Laboratories to Networks: AI and Connected Diagnostics for Africa's Last Mile - Dr B Gouget (France)</i> <i>2.Next-Generation Diagnostics for Infectious Diseases and Antimicrobial Resistance - Prof F Doucet Populaire</i> <i>3.Emerging Biomarkers and Precision Medicine: Bridging Implementation Barriers in Africa - Dr Shah (India).</i> <i>4.The Human Exposome: Integrating Environmental Factors into Precision Diagnostics for Africa - Dr Ganguli (India)</i>	14:30-14:50 15:00-16:30	<i>Expression profiles of miR-146-5p may reflect long term glycaemic improvement in a mixed ancestry population- Dr S Davids</i> YS Oral/Poster Research Presentations -TBA Chair: 16 @ 5 mins Q&A
16:30-17:00	CLOSING KEYNOTE LECTURE Climate Change and Health - Prof C Berry (Germany)		

17:00-17:30	AWARDS AND CLOSING CEREMONY Dr G Akalu, AFCC Prez Mr Kibet Peter, Chair, LOC Prof Erasmus		
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