

BIO-DATA

Location: Johannesburg, South Africa

ORCID ID: 0000-0003-1601-1516

Work Address: Wits Reproductive & HIV Institute, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, Email: csuhyah@wrhi.ac.za, cyahsuh@gmail.com, cyah@nmmu.ac.za, Phone +27763004836, skype clarence.yah

BACKGROUND SUMMARY

Dr Yah is a Senior Researcher in Implementation Science at the WITS Reproductive Health & HIV institute, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. He hold a Master of Science and Ph.D in Medical Microbiology respectively as well as a Master of Science in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Dr Yah after completing his PhD in Medical Microbiology from the University of Benin in 2008 did his first Fulbright NRF Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of the Witwatersrand, School of Chemical Engineering in health and safety studies in nanotechnology from 2008-2010. Based on his huge experiences in nano-toxicology he joined the Biochemistry and Toxicology Section of the National Institute for Occupational Health, a division of National Laboratory Health Services (NIOH-NHLS) from 2011-2012 to mentor students and staff on nano-toxicology and health issues according to OECD. His quest for knowledge did not end there; he believes bridging quantitative experiences with qualitative study will improve his research output. In that delight Dr Yah took up another Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health (JHSPH) in collaboration with Social Aspects for HIV/AIDS Research Alliance (SAHARA) at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) South Africa from 2013 to 2015. In JHSPH, and SAHARA unit of HSRC he has gained wide in-depth knowledge and experiences in both quantitative and qualitative studies. He has work as project Manager in multi-year including Implementation Science, multi-site NIH, CDC, ILO and MAC AIDS-funded collaborative researches of HSRC, Emory and Johns Hopkins Universities and DTHF to test the feasibility, efficacy and effectiveness of combination of HIV prevention packages among vulnerable populations. The behavioural component of the researches include in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, surveys and cognitive interviews while the in-depth biological index findings include HIV & sexually transmitted infections (STIs) testing, CD4 count, HIV-viral load, phylogenetics testing, HIV and STIs treatments and host of other indicators. The community level involve stakeholders engagement with CBOs, Department of Health, Health Care Providers, Community members and consultation groups, organizations working with people living with HIV (PLWH), key population associations and other representatives to address the disproportionate nature of HIV and STIs epidemics among key population.

Based on his experiences in statistical packages such as Epi Info, RDS-analyst and Stata he provides data management and support to "a multi-faceted intervention project to improve adherence to TB treatment at 3 urban clinics in the Eastern Cape Province in the Nelson Mandela Metro-Health District" of South Africa. He also provides support on laboratory issues, data collection, statistical analysis and support to the HIV/AIDS sexually transmitted infections and TB (HAST).

Dr Yah has over 10 years of teaching, research, and support to academic and health systems in overseeing the training of service students, postgraduate student's supervision and provision of

services. He has good relevant record experiences and ongoing scientific researches in the area of nanotechnology, molecular biology, immunology-immunochemistry, epidemiology, infectious diseases and non-communicable disease (NCDs) which serve as career growth part in research and development. Has over 45 peer reviewed articles in international journal.

RESEARCH INTEREST AND ARTICLES IN PEER REVIEWED JOURNALS

Genetic Basis of Emerging Infectious Diseases, Molecular Biology, Epidemiology, Nanomedicine, Nanobiotechnology and Bioinformatics

1. Sheree Schwartz, Andrew Lambert, Nancy Phaswana-Mafuya, Zamakayise Kose, Mfezi Mcingana, Claire Holland, Sosthenes Ketende, **Clarence Yah**, Stephanie Sweitzer, Stefan Baral¹. 2016. Engagement in the HIV care cascade and barriers to antiretroviral therapy uptake among female sex workers in Port Elizabeth, South Africa. *BMJ Sex Transm Infect*: 10.1136/sextrans-2016-052773
2. Ernest Tambo, Ghislaine Madjou, Yves Mbous, Oluwasogo A Olalubi, **Clarence Yah**, Ahmed A Adedeji and Jeanne Yonkeu Ngogang. 2016. Digital Health Implications In Health Systems In Africa. 2016. *European Journal of Pharmaceutical and Medical Research (EJPMR)*. 2016,3(1), 91-93
3. Holland, C.E., Kouanda, S., Lougué, M., Pitche, V.P., Schwartz, S., Anato, S., Ouedraogo, H.G., Tchalla, J., **Yah, C.S.**, Kapesa, L., Ketende, S., Beyrer, C. and Baral, S. 2016. Using Population Size Estimation and Cross Sectional Survey Methods to Evaluate HIV Service Coverage among Key Populations in Burkina Faso and Togo. *Public Health Reports*, 131: 773-782
4. Sassy Molyneux, Salla Sariola, Dan Allman, Maartje Dijkstra, Evans Gichuru, Susan Graham, Dorcas Kamuya, Gloria Gakii, Brian Kayemba, Bernadette Kombo, Allan Maleche, Jessie Mbwambo, Vicki Marsh, Murugi Micheni, Noni Mumba, Michael Parker, Jasmine Shio, **Clarence Yah**, Elise van der Elst, Eduard Sanders. 2016. Public/community engagement in health research with men who have sex with men in sub-Saharan Africa: challenges and opportunities. *Health Research Policy and Systems*. 2016. 14(1):14
5. Ernest Tambo, **Clarence S Yah**, Chidiebere E Ugwu, Oluwasogo A Olalubi , Isatta Wurie , Jeannetta K Jonhson , Jeanne Y Ngogang. 2016. Fostering prevention and care delivery services capability on HIV pandemic and Ebola outbreak symbiosis in Africa . *J Infect Dev Ctries* 2016; 10(1):001-012.
6. [Stahlman S](#), [Johnston LG](#), [Yah C](#), [Ketende S](#), [Maziya S](#), [Trapence G](#), [Jumbe V](#), [Sithole B](#), [Mothopeng T](#), [Mnisi Z](#), [Baral S](#). 2015. Respondent-driven sampling as a recruitment method for men who have sex with men in southern sub-Saharan Africa: a cross-sectional analysis by wave. *Sex Transm Infect*. 2105; 292-8. doi:10.1136/sextrans-2015-052184
7. **Clarence S. Yah** & Geoffrey S. Simate. 2015. Nanoparticles as potential new generation broad spectrum antimicrobial agents. *BMC: DARU Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences* 2015, **23**:43
8. McNaghten A, Kearns R, Siegler AJ, Phaswana-Mafuya N, Bekker LG, Stephenson R, Baral SD, Brookmeyer R, **Yah CS**, Lambert AJ, Brown B, Rosenberg E, Blalock Tharp M, de Voux A, Beyrer C, Sullivan PS. 2014. Sibanye Methods for Prevention Packages Program Project Protocol: Pilot Study of HIV Prevention Interventions for Men Who Have Sex With Men in South Africa. *JMIR Res Protoc* 2014;3(4):e55
9. Melissa V. Vetten, **Clarence S. Yah**, Tanusha Singh, Mary Gullumian. 2014. Challenges facing

sterilization and depyrogenation of nanoparticles: Effects on structural stability and biomedical applications. *Nanomedicine: Nanotechnology, Biology, and Medicine*. 10: 1391–1399.

10. Grace I Olasehinde; **Clarence S Yah**; Oluseyi O. Adeyeba; Ruchi P. Singh; Olushola - Ojuronbe; Adesola A. Ajayi; and Neena – Valecha. 2012. Genetic diversity of *Plasmodium falciparum* field Isolates from South Western Nigeria. *Afr Health Sci*. 12(3):355-61.

CONFERENCES

1. Ernest Tambo, **Clarence S. Yah**, Chidiebere E. Ugwu, Oluwasogo A. Olalubi, Isatta Wurie⁵, Jeannetta K. Jonhson, Jeane Y. Ngogang. 2015. Leveraging on community-based PEPFAR programs achievements in strengthening surveillance, prevention and control toward HIV/AIDS epidemic free generation in Sub-Sahara Africa. A paper presented during the 64th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) from 25-29 of October, 2015 at Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Pennsylvania, USA. <http://www.abstractsonline.com/Plan/ViewAbstract.aspx?mID=3813&sKey=a072e15a-59ff-43c8-99e4-52ebb7ad635b&cKey=47bef0d7-dc31-4af1-88cd-8f549ba516c9&mKey=ab652fdf-0111-45c7-a5e5-0ba9d4af5e12>
2. Lebogang Motaung , **C. Yah**, V. Mavumengwana, W.A. Abia, P. Sekhejane and P. Njobeh. 2015. Mycotoxin contamination of South African agricultural commodities and their threats on food safety and social wellbeing . A paper presented during the 9th Annual Africa Young Graduates And Scholars Conference (AYGS) 30 March to 1 April 2015, University of Cape Town, South Africa. <http://www.hsrc.ac.za/uploads/pageContent/5100/AYGS%20Programme%20with%20cover.pdf>
3. Michel Talla , Ernest Tambo, Jun-Hu Chen , **Clarence S Yah** , Amboise Wonkam⁶ and Zhou Xiao-Nong. 2015. New frontiers of digital surveillance and response intelligence systems in communicable diseases and epidemics prevention and control in Africa. Paper presented during the 2nd Biomedical Engineering Conference and Expo November 30-December 01, 2015 San Antonio, USA. *J Bioengineer & Biomedical Sci* 2015, 5:3. DOI: 10.4172/2155-9538.C1.006
4. L.-G. Bekker, P.S. Sullivan, K. Dominguez, **C. Yah**, S. Baral, N. Phaswana-Mafuya, A.D. McNaghten, A. Siegler, R. Zahn, R. Kearns, T. Sanchez. 2016. PrEP interest, eligibility and initiation by MSM and transwomen in Cape Town and Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Paper presented during the international AIDS Conference from 18-22 July, 2016, Durban South Africa
5. P. Sullivan, S. Baral, N. Phaswana-Mafuya, T. Sanchez, R. Zahn, R. Kearns, K. Dominguez, **C. Yah**, L.-G. Bekker. 2016. High prevalence of HIV and low awareness of HIV infection among young MSM and transgender women in Cape Town and Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Paper presented during the international AIDS Conference from 18-22 July, 2016, Durban South Africa
6. R. Zahn, K. Dominguez, T. Sanchez, N. Phaswana-Mafuya, L.-G. Bekker, S. Baral, R. Kearns, **C. Yah**, P. Sullivan. 2016. High prevalence of sexually transmitted infections in a cohort of South African men who have sex with men and transgender women from Port

Elizabeth and Cape Town, South Africa. Paper presented during the international AIDS Conference from 18-22 July, 2016, Durban South Africa

7. C. Wells, S. Schwartz, N. Phaswana-Mafuya, **C. Yah**, A. Lambert, Z. Kose, M. Mcingana, S. Ketende, S. Baral. 2016. Characterizing the patterns of HIV disclosure to clients among South African female sex workers in Port Elizabeth. Paper presented during the international AIDS Conference from 18-22 July, 2016, Durban South Africa
8. T. Sanchez, A. Siegler, L.-G. Bekker, P. Sullivan, S. Baral, K. Dominguez, R. Kearns, A.D. McNaghten, **C. Yah**, R. Zhan, R. Phaswanamafuya. 2016. Preference for variety of condom types in a cohort of South African MSM from Port Elizabeth and Cape Town. . Paper presented during the international AIDS Conference from 18-22 July, 2016, Durban South Africa
9. Phaswana-Mafuya N, Siegler A, Sullivan P, Bekker L-G, Sanchez T, Zahn R, Kearns R, **Yah C**, Dominguez K, Baral S. 2016. Developing and validating a multidimensional sexual identity stigma scale in South Africa. Paper presented during the Sub-Saharan Africa CFAR, Durban South Africa from 17-18 July, 2016. A Pre international AIDS Conference from 18-22 July, 2016, Durban South Africa

GRANTS/AWARDS

1. Wellcome Trust Travel awards, 2008: Liverpool-Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Programme at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital, Blantyre, Malawi: The Open Door Workshop: Working With Pathogen Genomes. Wellcome Trust Advanced Course.
 2. NIH and WHO Travel Awards, 2009: Fifth MIM Pan-African Malaria, Nairobi, Kenya.
 3. National Research Foundation (NRF) Nanotechnology flagship Fulbright Scholar December. 2008 - November 2010. University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, Postdoctoral Fellow, South Africa.
 4. D43 Fogarty Postdoctoral Fellow (January 2013-Dec 2015). D43 Fogarty AIDS International Training and Research Program/ HIV Key Populations Program, Center for Public Health and Human Rights, USA. Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH) in collaboration with Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) in the HIV/AIDS, TB & STIs (HAST) research programme of HSRC South Africa.
 5. Travel award from the University of the Witwatersrand School of Public Health to attend and present a paper at the 9th PHASA conference in association with the African Federation of Public Health Associations (AFPHA) was held in Cape Town from 24-27 September 2013.
- Completed Projects

Completed Research Projects

1. Nancy Refilwe Phaswana-Mafuya, Chirinda W, Kose Z, Maseko B, Tassiopoulos D, Davids A, Yah C, Ryan Z & country researchers across 10 countries. 2015. Effective

responses to HIV and AIDS at work: A multi-country study in Africa. International Labour Organization 2015 First published 2015. Funder ILO.
http://www.ilo.org/aids/Publications/WCMS_358170/lang--en/index.htm

2. Nancy Phaswana-Mafuya, Witness Chirinda, Batlile Maseko, Zamakayise Kose, Dimitri Tassiopoulos, Clarence Yah & Ryan Zahn. 2014. Rapid review of the selected retailers in implementing HIV and AIDS workplace and outreach programme. International Labour Organization 2015. <http://www.hsrc.ac.za/en/research-data/view/7268>: Funder ILO
3. Stefan Baral, Nancy Phaswana-Mafuya Zamakayise Kose, Sheree Schwartz, Mfezi Mcingana, Claire Holland, Stephanie Sweitzer, Andrew Lambert, Batlile Maseko & Clarence Yah. 2015. Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV among Female Sex Workers (FSW) in the Eastern Cape of South Africa: Funder MAC AIDS
4. Phaswana-Mafuya, N., Chirinda, W., Kose, Z., Maseko, B., Yah, S.C., Tassiopoulos, D., Zahn, R. & Davids, A.S. (2016) What works to achieve good outcomes in HIV and AIDS Workplace Initiatives: Namibia country report. (Commissioned by the International Labour Organization, Geneva, November. 2016. Funder ILO

Ongoing Research Projects

1. Comprehensive HIV Prevention Package (MP3) for MSM in Port Elizabeth: Sibanye Health project. www.sibanyeproject.org: Funder NIH and CDC
2. Leveraging community and peer-based approaches to enhance the continuum of HIV care from awareness of HIV status to viral suppression among MSM living with HIV in South Africa (Key Population Implementation Science-KPIS- South Africa): Funder CDC
3. Girls Achieve Power (GAP) Year Program - Building Health, Social and Educational Assets for Empowering Girls at Critical Time of Adolescent Transition: Funder Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS

- Member: American Society for Microbiology (ASM). No. 55985220
- Member: The International Society for Computerization Biology (ISCB).
- Member: South African Society for Microbiology (SASM). No. 632
- Member: Public Health Association of South Africa(PHASA).

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Experienced with MS Word, Power point, Excel, Adobe photoshop and statistical techniques using STAT, Epidata, RedCap, RDSat and Epi Infor soft wares.
- Experienced user of web-based search engines and scientific databases and basic knowledge in integrated database management using Access (SQL).

LANGUAGES

- English (fluent)

REFERENCES

1. Dr Saiqa Mullick: Director of Implementation Science. WITS Reproductive Health & HIV institute, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa c: +27 72 455 7332 | t: +27 11 358 5677 | e: smullick@wrhi.ac.za | w: www.wrhi.ac.za
2. Nicolette Naidoo. Technical Head Implementation Science. WITS Reproductive Health & HIV institute, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa c: +27 82 490 1214 | t: +27 11 358 5300 | e: nnaidoo@wrhi.ac.za | w: www.wrhi.ac.za
3. Prof Geoffrey S. Simate, School of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. Private Bag 3, Wits 2050, South Africa geoffrey.simate@wits.ac.za Phone: +27761126959. Office: 27 (0) 11 717 7570: Fax: 27 (0) 11 717 7599
4. Prof Karl Rumbold: School of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Private Bag 3, Wits 2050, Johannesburg, Email: karl.rumbold@wits.ac.za Phone: +27117176327; Fax; +27 11 717-6351