



ichg2022.com

**THE INTERNATIONAL
FEDERATION OF HUMAN
GENETICS SOCIETIES
PRESENTS:**

International Symposium on Human Genetics 9 & 10 March 2021

Tue 9 March 2021 3pm - 5pm

Wed 10 March 2021 9am - 11 am

Times are listed in SAST

Virtual Conference Platform

The 14th International Congress of Human Genetics was postponed by almost a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the LOC has decided to host a Symposium in 2021 as a taster of what will be expected at the Congress in 2022.

We are bringing together exceptional speakers for two sessions on topics that are highly relevant to human geneticists and these discussions will be picked up again at the main meeting in 2022.

DAY 1:

The shaping of modern human genomes: migration, admixture & ancient genomic introgression

DAY 2:

Infectious diseases and our genome

Programme:



TUESDAY, 9 MARCH 2021

15:00 - 17:00 SAST (GMT+2)

The shaping of modern human genomes: migration, admixture and ancient genomic introgression - *Chaired by Charles Rotimi & Michele Ramsay*

Since the emergence of modern man in Africa between 400,000 and 600,000 years ago, evolutionary forces have been shaping the human genome. Studies on the genomes of people living today and some who died thousands of years ago provide clues to our past and we begin to unravel a story of migration, admixture and adaptation. In this session we start with African population genomics, then adaptive signatures and introgression from extinct hominids to the peopling of Asia.

Topics to be covered:

- Significance of the modern human origins and evolutionary processes (*Charles Rotimi, USA & Michele Ramsay, South Africa*)
- H3Africa population genomics studies – selection and adaptation (*Ananyo Choudhury, South Africa*)
- Genetic selection: Skin colour and lactase persistence (*Sarah Tishkoff, USA*)
- Ancient DNA studies – Neanderthal introgression (*TBC*)
- Genome Asia (*Partha P Mujumder, India*)

WEDNESDAY, 10 MARCH 2021

09:00 - 11:00 SAST (GMT +2)

Infectious diseases and our genome - *Chaired by Ambroise Wonkam, South Africa & Poh San Lai, Singapore - Raj Ramesar, South Africa, to join the panel discussion*

Since the origin of modern man, people have been plagued by pathogens, threatening their health and causing premature death in hundreds of thousands of people over short time periods. Malaria and trypanosomiasis continue to cause high morbidity and mortality in Africa and the world is staggering under the COVID-19 pandemic. What have we learned about human adaptation, our immune responses and how vulnerable or resilient do variations in our genomes make us?

Topics to be covered:

- Significance of infections in shaping the human genome and adaptation strategies (*Ambroise Wonkam, South Africa & Poh San Lai, Singapore*)
- Malaria and sickle cell disease in Africa (*Solomon Ofori-Acquah, Ghana*)
- The role of host genome variation in the time of COVID-19 (*George Gao, China*)
- Host-pathogen interactions of a number of infectious diseases including tuberculosis, malaria and enteric fever (*Sarah Dunstan, Australia*)
- Immune deficiency and susceptibility to infections (*Mihai Netea, The Netherlands*)

Cost: No charge

Congress secretariat:

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[Register](#)

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