

## 2025 Update Course Speaker Bios



**Aisha Khatib, MD, CCFP(EM), DTM&H (Course Co-Chair)**

***Received a CTropMed® Certificate***

Dr. Aisha Khatib is an Assistant Professor with the Department of Family & Community Medicine at the University of Toronto. She trained in family and emergency medicine from the University of Toronto and McGill University and completed an Infectious Diseases fellowship in Clinical Tropical Medicine at the University of Toronto. She holds certification in Travel Medicine from the University of Otago in New Zealand, and a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from the Gorgas Course in Peru. She has done global health work in India, Haiti, and Nepal, with certification in global health through the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto and Disaster Response and Humanitarian Relief training through Harvard School of Public Health. She worked as a Travel Doctor in New Zealand for five years before returning to Canada. She is currently the Clinical Director of Travel Medicine at Medcan and staff physician at Immigrant Women's Health Centre in Toronto, Canada. She is a member of CATMAT, the Committee to Advise on Tropical Medicine and Travel, an external advisory body to the Public Health Agency of Canada. Her recent research focused on the safety of air travel during the pandemic, as well as climate change and travel.



**German Henostroza, MD (Course Co-Chair)**

Dr. German Henostroza is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He serves as President of the ASTMH Clinical Group, Director of the Gorgas Institute for Geographic Medicine and Director of Gorgas Courses in Clinical Tropical Medicine. He has lived and work in Zambia for almost eight years. Primary interests have included understanding the epidemiology and pathology of TB-HIV co-infection through building, studying and evaluating a cohort of patients in Africa and in prison populations. He also has participated in multiple diagnostic and clinical trials of novel TB diagnostics, drugs and vaccines.



**Bhawana Amatya, MBBS, MD, CTH™, FJNMA**

Dr. Bhawana Amatya has been a consultant General Practitioner and Travel Medicine expert at CIWEC Hospital and Travel Medicine Center, Kathmandu, Nepal, since 2016. She is the site director of the Kathmandu GeoSentinel site. She obtained her MD General Practice degree from Tribhuvan University Institute of Medicine (TU-IOM) Maharajgunj Medical Campus, Kathmandu, Nepal in 2016, and her MBBS degree from TU-IOM National Medical College, Birgunj, Nepal in 2011. She also has the title of Certificate in Travel Health™ from the International Society of Travel Medicine, and the research title of Fellow of the Journal of Nepal Medical Association (FJNMA).

She served in the Scientific Program Committee of the Conference of the International Society of Travel Medicine (CISTM19) held in New Orleans in 2025 and is also in the SPC of the upcoming Asia Pacific Travel Health Society conference. She has worked as an editor in the WHO Green Book and is a member of the Guideline Development Group of the WHO International Travel and Health. She is the lead and Principal author in the diarrheal disease group for the analysis of worldwide GeoSentinel diarrhea data. She has been awarded a full scholarship for the short course "Outbreak Analytics with R" by the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. She has been a speaker at national and international conferences, has published scientific articles, and is a peer reviewer in various national and international journals.

Her research interests include diarrheal diseases, altitude illnesses, tropical diseases such as dengue, and outbreaks.



**Lucas Blanton, MD**

Lucas Blanton is an associate professor of medicine in the Department of Internal Medicine – Division of Infectious Diseases at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas. His research interests include the study of rickettsial diseases. He has worked in the field of rickettsiology since 2009. In 2012, he helped recognize the reemergence of murine typhus in Galveston, Texas – a disease that had disappeared from the area since the late 1940s. Since then, much of his research has focused on describing the ecology, epidemiology, and clinical aspects of murine

typhus.



**Sumontra Chakrabarti, MD, FRCPC, DTM&H**

Dr. Chakrabarti was born in Sarnia Ontario, attended medical school at University of Western Ontario and then did his Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases training at University of Toronto. He became interested in tropical medicine early in his residency and was introduced to the late Dr. Jay Keystone who cultivated my interest after this. These days his main interest lies in post-travel and imported infections. Dr. Chakrabarti practices at Trillium Health Partners in Mississauga which serves a large population that originates from various tropical/subtropical regions around the world.

Tropical infections ranging from rashes post-travel all the way to hydatid disease keep me busy in my clinical practice. Outside of medicine, Dr. Chakrabarti is happily married and has 3 little girls who keeps him on his toes. He is a huge Blue Jays fan (long before the 2015 bandwagon) and yes, he knows this is bad to say in Toronto, but Go Habs! :)



**Lin Chen, MD, FACP, FASTMH, FISTM**

Dr. Chen is Associate Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School and Travel Medicine Consultant in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She directed the Travel Medicine Center at Mount Auburn Hospital, for over 2 decades. She is a Past President of the International Society of Travel Medicine (ISTM), a former member of the CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), a section editor of the *CDC*

*Health Information for International Travel 2026*, and co-editor of *Routledge Handbook of Infectious Diseases: A Geographical Guide*.

At ASTMH, she served in the past on the Education Task Force and on the CTropMed Examination Committee and also was a Councilor in the American Committee on Clinical Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health (Clinical Group). She has served on the Executive Board of ISTM and committees on

education/courses, research, and Scientific Programs. Prior to her 2024 ACIP appointment, she had served as the Chair of the ISTMH Development and Planning Committee.

Dr. Chen served as a site director for the GeoSentinel Surveillance and Research Network as well as the Global Travel Epidemiology Network. Her clinical research has focused on vector-borne diseases, vaccines, and emerging infections.



**Rebecca Chancey, MD, DTMH**

Dr. Chancey is a pediatrician currently serving as a medical officer and epidemiologist in the Parasitic Diseases Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia. She received her medical degree from Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, completed Pediatric Residency at Duke University, and received a Diploma of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene through the Gorgas Course in Lima, Peru. She received the Certificate in Tropical Medicine (CTropMed) in 2014. She completed the Epidemic Intelligence Service Fellowship in the Parasitic Diseases Branch at CDC and currently serves as Chief of the Parasitic Diseases Drug Service and parasitic diseases subject matter expert. She has lived and worked extensively internationally. She is also adjunct faculty at Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia and a Commander in the United States Public Health Service.



**Ralph Huits, MD PhD DTMH FISTM**

Ralph Huits is an infectious disease physician and researcher at the Sacro Cuore Don Calabria hospital in Negrar di Valpolicella, Italy. Dr. Huits is a Co-Principal Investigator (Research lead) of GeoSentinel, the international emerging infectious diseases network of the International Society of Travel Medicine (ISTM) and the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He has extensive experience working as an ID consultant in various settings in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.

Dr. Huits holds a PhD from the KU Leuven (Belgium) on emerging arbovirus infections.

His research focuses on the (molecular) epidemiology, clinical presentation, diagnosis, and management of infectious diseases in travellers and endemic populations. Dr. Huits is leading several international multicentre studies, including GeoSentinel's SUMMIT (SURveillance of Molecular epidemiology of Malaria in Travelers) that aims to build a platform for 'real time' reporting on the genomic epidemiology of travel-related malaria. He is also interested in applying data science methods to improve outbreak detection.

Dr. Huits is a councilor on the American Committee on Clinical Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health (ASTMH Clinical Group). He serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Travel Medicine, Tropical Medicine and Infectious Disease, and Open Forum Infectious Diseases. He is a regular reviewer for the major journals in infectious diseases, and a Scientific Program Committee member for ASTMH and for the Conference of the ISTMH.



**Maame Fremah Kotoh-Mortty, BSc, MBChB, MGCP, MWACP**

Dr. Maame Fremah Kotoh-Mortty is a paediatrician and physician leader with over seven years of clinical experience. She currently serves as Director and Head of the Paediatrics Department at Presbyterian Hospital, Agogo, a secondary-level referral facility in the Ashanti Region of Ghana. She holds membership with both the Ghana College of Physicians and the West African College of Physicians.

Her work focuses on child health and infectious diseases in resource-limited settings, particularly malaria and retroviral infections. Dr. Kotoh-Mortty is a sub-investigator at the Malaria Research Centre in Agogo, where she contributes to several clinical trials on paediatric infectious diseases. She also collaborates with the Kumasi Centre for Collaborative

Research (KCCR) as a Study Physician on projects based in Agogo.

In March 2023, she was honoured with a national award by the President of Ghana in recognition of her service and contributions to patient care during the COVID-19 pandemic.

At Presbyterian Hospital, she leads a multidisciplinary team, strengthens clinical protocols, and mentor's junior medical staff. She is actively involved in national public health initiatives and paediatric capacity building.



**Kristina Krohn, MD**

Kristina Krohn ([kroh0040@umn.edu](mailto:kroh0040@umn.edu)): Dr. Krohn is an internal medicine and pediatric hospitalist and Associate Professor at the University of Minnesota (UMN). She completed the Stanford University - NBC News Fellowship in Global Health and Media in 2013 and spent two years working with Health Frontiers in Laos, teaching in the country's internal medicine and pediatric residency programs. As the Director of Online Content for UMN's Global Medicine Program, Dr. Krohn works to ensure that providers know how to care for people from diverse backgrounds including underrepresented minorities, immigrants, and refugees in Minnesota.



**Francesca F. Norman, MBBS, BMedSci, PhD, FISTM**

Dr. Norman graduated from St Bartholomew's and the Royal London School of Medicine in London (1997) and obtained an intercalated degree (BMedSci) in Medical Science. After house officer/senior house officer training in London and passing the MRCP (UK), Dr Norman completed specialist training in Internal Medicine and a Master's degree in Tropical Medicine and International Health in Madrid, Spain. Since 2007, has worked as a clinician at the National Referral Unit for Tropical Diseases, Ramón y Cajal University Hospital in Madrid, with special research interests focusing on emerging and neglected infections, travel medicine and migrant health.

Dr. Norman has participated as a lecturer for the Master's degree in Infectious Diseases, Universidad de Alcalá, Madrid (2020-2025), the Master's Degree in Immunological Research, Universidad Complutense, Madrid (2020-2024) and for the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) "Formação em Microbiologia Clínica e Doenças Infecciosas" Courses in Mozambique (2018-2020), among others. Other contributions include participation in the development of National guidelines: Guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of Imported Infectious Diseases in Travelers and Migrants (Spanish Ministry of Health); Selection criteria for solid organ donors in relation to infectious diseases (SEIMC-National Transplant Organization); Executive summary of imported infectious diseases after foreign travel; Recommendations for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of the pregnant woman and child with Chagas disease (SEIMC); Diagnosis and treatment of imported eosinophilia in travellers and immigrants (SEMTSI); National Plan for Vector Borne Diseases (Spanish Ministry of Health).



**Carlos Seas, MD, FIDSA**

Dr. Carlos Seas is a Gorgas Course Director. He is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Subdirector of the Alexander von Humboldt Tropical Medicine Institute at Cayetano Heredia University. His research interests include tuberculosis, cholera, shigellosis, hospital-acquired infections, HIV/AIDS, skin and soft tissue infections, infections in travelers, antimicrobial resistance, and S. aureus bacteriemia.



**Kayoko Shioda, PhD, DVM, MPH**

Dr. Kayoko Shioda is an infectious disease epidemiologist and veterinarian whose work lies at the intersection of global health, One Health, and vaccine epidemiology. Her research integrates veterinary medicine, epidemiological methods, mathematical modeling, Bayesian approaches, and causal inference techniques to address key challenges in infectious disease epidemiology. Her work focuses on two primary areas: (1) One Health in the context of climate change, and (2) vaccine epidemiology.

In the One Health domain, Dr. Shioda's overarching objective is to propose climate-resilient strategies for controlling zoonotic pathogens by advancing the understanding of transmission dynamics among humans, animals, the environment, and climate factors in resource-limited settings. In her vaccine epidemiology work, she develops innovative analytic methods to evaluate interventions, particularly in settings where public health data may be incomplete, biased, or otherwise challenging to interpret—ultimately aiming to inform evidence-based vaccine policy. Dr. Shioda has collaborated with local, state, federal, and international organizations and has conducted research in more than 30 countries. She received her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) from the University of Tokyo in 2012, her Master of Public Health (MPH) in Epidemiology from Emory University in 2014, and her PhD in Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases from Yale University in 2020.



**Adrienne Showler, MD, ScM,, FRCPC, DTM&H**

Dr. Adrienne Showler is an Associate Professor in the Division of Infectious Disease and the Director of Tropical Medicine at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, DC. She is co-appointed at the US National Institutes of Health as an attending physician on the Clinical Parasitology Service. Dr. Showler completed her infectious disease fellowship at the University of Toronto in Canada, and a Diploma of

Tropical Medicine and Hygiene at the Gorgas Course in Lima, Peru. She holds a Masters in Clinical Epidemiology from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her clinical research focuses on neglected tropical diseases in US populations and illness in returned travelers.



**Stephen D. Vaughan, MD, DTMH, FRCPC**

Dr. Vaughan is a Clinical Associate Professor of Infectious Diseases at the University of Calgary, Cumming School of Medicine and is Adult ID Residency Program Director. He has served on the Canadian Committee to Advise on Tropical Medicine and Travel (CATMAT), is the GeoSentinel Site Lead for Calgary and is the founder of the Canadian National Tropical Medicine Rounds. Dr. Vaughan's research interests include Tropical Infectious Diseases and Phage Therapy, and he has won countless clinical teaching awards.