

11th ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE 2026

ECSACOP • Ciêla Resort, Lusaka • Conference 17–19 September 2026 • Arrival and registration 16 September 2026

AUGMENTING CLINICAL EXCELLENCE:

Leveraging AI and Digital Innovation to Strengthen Evidence-Based Practice, Training, and Equitable Care in Africa

PROGRAMME INTENT Friday carries the conference theme from strategic framing to clinical application and responsible adoption. Saturday uses parallel, system-led clinical tracks before all delegates reconvene for the poster session, closing plenary and conference resolutions.

Conference Overview

DAY	DATE	FOCUS
Pre-conference	Wednesday, 16 September	Arrival and registration
Day 1	Thursday, 17 September	• Interactive Workshops • Trainee and early-career development
Day 2	Friday, 18 September	• Opening Theme Plenaries • AI-enabled clinical excellence
Day 3	Saturday, 19 September	Parallel clinical tracks • Posters • Responsible innovation • AGM

**PRE-
CONFERENCE****Wednesday, 16 September 2026**
Arrival and registration

TIME	TYPE	PRESENTATION / ACTIVITY
10:30 onwards	Registration	Arrival of delegates; registration desk opens

Thursday programme

TRAINEE AND EARLY-CAREER PROGRAMME — CHAIR: Dr Kondwelani John Mateyo

DAY 1**Thursday, 17 September 2026**

Interactive workshops • trainee and early-career focus

FORMAT Parallel tracks operate in the morning. Delegates select one track

TIME	TYPE	PRESENTATION / ACTIVITY
07:30–08:30	Registration	Registration desk re-opens
08:30–10:30	Track A • Main Hall	AI literacy for physicians-University of Zambia, Department of Computer Science
08:30–10:30	Track B • Side Room	Diagnostics and AI; hands-on POCUS training-Dr Joseph Chikuluma
10:30–11:00	Break	Networking tea
11:00–13:00	Track A • Main Hall	From Concept to Clinic: Practical Applications of AI in African Healthcare-Ethiopian Artificial Intelligence Institute (EAI)
11:00–13:00	Track B • Side Room	Spirometry and sleep studies for practising doctors-Dr. Sarah Chipo Chabauni/Dr.Afzal Waghat/ Ms. Ilze Janse van Rensburg
13:00–14:00	Break	Lunch
14:00–14:45	Trainee forum	Clinical Skills in the Digital Era: Preserving Bedside Excellence-Dr Mike Mackenzie (RCPE)
14:45–15:30	Trainee forum	Geriatric Medicine: Preparing for the Future-Dr Liz Macdonald (RCPE)
15:30–16:30	RCP workshop • Main Hall	Medical Leadership in the World of AI-Dr Emma Vaux, Royal College of Physicians (RCP)
16:30–17:00	Workshop discussion	Questions and discussion

DAY 2**Friday, 18 September 2026**

Theme day • from promise to responsible clinical impact

Opening ceremony and graduation**OPENING CEREMONY — CHAIR: Dr Nsokolo****GRADUATION CEREMONY — CHAIR: Dr Tamara Phiri**

TIME	TYPE	PRESENTATION / ACTIVITY
07:30–08:30	Registration	Arrival and morning registration
08:30–08:35	Housekeeping	Programme outline and housekeeping-Dr Patrick Lungu, Chair, Scientific Committee
08:35–08:40	Ceremonial opening	Processional and National Anthem-instrumental music
08:40–08:43	Opening prayer	Opening prayer-ZACOPH
08:43–08:50	Welcome	Welcome remarks-Dr Duncan Chanda, ZACOPH President
08:50–09:00	Remarks	Remarks-Dr Emma Vaux, Global Vice President, Royal College of Physicians
09:00–09:10	Remarks	Address-Dr Christopher Pasi, ECSACOP President
09:10–09:30	Goodwill messages	Goodwill messages-ECSA, IDI, RCPE, West African College of Physicians and Zambia Medical Association (approximately 4 minutes each)
09:30–09:40	Address	Address by the WHO Country Representative on behalf of the WHO Regional Director for Africa
09:40–09:45	Introduction	Introduction of the Guest of Honour-Dr Duncan Chanda
09:45–10:05	Official opening and keynote	Official opening and keynote address-Guest of Honour (Permanent Secretary: Zambian Ministry of Health)
10:05–10:25	Graduation ceremony	Presentation of Fellowship Certificates-ECSACOP Registrar
10:25–10:30	Vote of thanks	Vote of thanks-Prof Omondi Oyoo, ECSACOP Vice President
10:30–10:40	Photograph	Group photograph and launch of exhibition-all delegates
10:40–11:00	Break	Networking tea

DAY 2**Friday, 18 September 2026**

Theme Plenary I • Africa's pathway to AI-enabled clinical excellence

Theme Plenary I • Africa's pathway to AI-enabled clinical excellence**CHAIR: Prof Irene Andia | CO-CHAIR: Dr Fred Semitala**

TIME	TYPE	PRESENTATION / ACTIVITY
11:00–11:20	Invited talk • WHO AFRO	From Data to Decisions: Digital Innovations for Better Patient Outcomes-Derrick Muneene-Capacity Building and Collaboration unit
11:20–11:40	Invited talk • EAll	The Future of Healthcare in Africa: AI, Digital Platforms and Innovation-Ethiopian Artificial Intelligence Institute (EAll)
11:40–12:00	Talk	Artificial Intelligence in Clinical Decision-Making-Prof Peter Mwaba
12:00–12:20	Talk	AI and the Future of Health Research in Africa-Dr Sheila Achieng
12:20–12:40	Theme keynote	From Bedside to Algorithm: Our Journey Towards AI-Enabled Point-of-Care Lung Ultrasound for TB Screening-Dr Kondwelani John Mateyo
12:40–13:00	Panel discussion	What should responsible, equitable AI-enabled clinical care look like in Africa?
13:00–14:00	Break	Lunch

DAY 2**Friday, 18 September 2026**

Theme day • applied innovation, training and evidence

Theme Plenary II • AI in training, evidence and clinical practice**CHAIR: Prof Ndazona Banda | CO-CHAIR: Dr Isaac Chirwa**

TIME	TYPE	PRESENTATION / ACTIVITY
14:00–14:15	Talk	Rethinking Medical Education: An AI-Assisted Approach to Developing and Updating Medical Content-Dr Oscar Mugerwa
14:15–14:30	Talk	Reimagining Rheumatology Education in the Age of AI-Prof Omondi Oyoo
14:30–14:45	Invited talk • RCP	Transforming Physician Training in the Digital Era-Prof Dzifa Dey
14:45–14:55	Oral O09	Leveraging AI to Strengthen Maternal Death Surveillance and Response-Joy Kaluba
14:55–15:05	Oral O08	Time to Go Digital: TB Management System-Maxwell Mwalukanga
15:05–15:15	Oral O05	Leveraging Virtual Education: The Southern African Regional ECHO-Dr Neil Naik
15:15–15:35	Discussion	From promising tools to better-trained clinicians and stronger systems
15:35–15:50	Break	Refreshments / transition

DAY 2**Friday, 18 September 2026**

Clinical excellence • cardiovascular and metabolic plenary

Clinical Plenary • Cardiovascular and metabolic disease**CHAIR: Dr Susan Nakireka | CO-CHAIR: Prof Omondi Oyoo**

TIME	TYPE	PRESENTATION / ACTIVITY
15:50–16:00	Oral O02	Integrating HIV and Hypertension Care Improves Blood Pressure Control in Uganda-Dr Fred Semitala
16:00–16:10	Oral O10	Decentralizing Cardiovascular Diagnostic Services in Zambia Through Primary Care Training- Dr. Anchindika Tabo Mugala
16:10–16:20	Oral O16	Adverse Drug Reactions in Cardiology Practice: A 17-Year Observational Study-Dr Anthony Bamwine
16:20–16:30	Oral O17	Atrial Fibrillation: Trials and Tribulations Through a Lifetime-Dr Martha Sekitto Nakitto
16:30–16:40	Oral O18	Inflammatory-Fibrosis Burden and Early Left Ventricular Remodelling in Adults With and Without HIV- Dr. Katongo Hope Mutengo
16:40–16:50	Oral O19	Heart Failure Management and Outcome-Prof Paul George M. D'Arbela
16:50–17:00	Oral O20	Aortic Valve Peak Velocity as a Better Predictor of Left Ventricular Thrombus than Ejection Fraction- Innocent Ndambakwe
17:00–17:20	Discussion	Moderated discussion
17:20 onwards	Social programme	Free evening

DAY 3

Saturday, 19 September 2026

Parallel clinical tracks • posters • responsible innovation • closing • AGM

PARALLEL FORMAT

Both tracks run concurrently from 08:00 to 10:30. Each oral abstract receives 10 minutes, with protected discussion and synthesis time. Delegates reconvene at 10:30 in the dedicated poster area.

08:00–10:30 • Parallel Track A**RESPIRATORY, INFECTIOUS DISEASES & IMMUNOLOGY**

CHAIR: Dr Lydia Nakiyingi | CO-CHAIR: Dr Joseph Ogavu

TIME	TYPE	PRESENTATION / ACTIVITY
08:00–08:10	Briefing	Chair's introduction and track framing
08:10–08:25	Invited talk • WHO AFRO	Emerging Infectious Threats: Role of AI in Modelling and Predicting Health Emergencies-WHO AFRO
08:25–08:40	Talk	Emerging Hantavirus Infections: Lessons for Internists in Africa-speaker to be confirmed
08:40–08:50	Oral O06	Diagnostic Accuracy of Urine LAM for TB Diagnosis in HIV-Negative Individuals with Other Causes of Immunosuppression-Dr Moses Banda
08:50–09:00	Oral O07	HIV-Induced Autoimmune Disease: Emerging Clinical and Immunological Perspectives-Prof Ian C. Chikanza
09:00–09:10	Oral O11	Feasibility of a Controlled Human Infection Model with Intradermal BCG Injection in Malawi- Dr Gareth Lipunga
09:10–09:20	Oral O12	Vaccine Prevention of Pneumococcal Carriage Using PnuBioVax and PCV-Anthony Emeritus Chirwa
09:20–09:30	Oral O13	Liver Steatosis and Fibrosis in Adults with HIV Infection in Northwestern Tanzania-Igembe Nkandala
09:30–09:50	Discussion	Moderated discussion
09:50–10:10	Expert synthesis	Implications for clinical practice, surveillance and research-led by the Chair and Co-chair
10:10–10:30	Transition	Move to poster area

DAY 3**Saturday, 19 September 2026**

Parallel Track B • multidisciplinary clinical care

08:00–10:30 • Parallel Track B**CRITICAL CARE, GI/RENAL, NEUROLOGY & WHOLE-PERSON CARE****CHAIR: Dr Ezra Nnunda | CO-CHAIR: Dr David Muyanja**

TIME	TYPE	PRESENTATION / ACTIVITY
08:00–08:10	Briefing	Chair's introduction and track framing
08:10–08:25	Invited talk • ECSA-HC	Regional Training Programmes: Opportunities and Barriers to Implementation of Regional Training Programmes-ECSA Health Community
08:25–08:40	Invited talk • NHRA	Future-Proofing Africa's Health Workforce: Harnessing AI and Digital Innovation for Excellence in Healthcare Education and Training-Prof Sody Munsaka
08:40–08:50	Oral O01	Family Satisfaction with Critical Care Services in a Tertiary Teaching Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya-Dr Ahmed Said Ali
08:50–09:00	Oral O04	Psychological Effects in Gastrointestinal Cancer Patients or Survivors: A Systematic Review- Dr Pharidah Rajan Omar Sundi
09:00–09:10	Oral O14	Diuresis-Induced Bartter-Like Syndrome with Severe Hyponatraemia in a Low-Resource Setting-Dr Sarah Sibande
09:10–09:20	Oral O15	Demographic and Clinical Characteristics of Patients with Oesophageal Cancer at UTH, Lusaka-Dr Ronah Vwapa
09:20–09:40	Discussion	Moderated discussion: translating evidence into multidisciplinary care
09:40–10:15	Expert synthesis	Cross-system clinical reasoning, evidence appraisal and implementation challenges-led by the Chair and Co-chair
10:15–10:30	Transition	Move to poster area

DAY 3**Saturday, 19 September 2026**

All delegates reconvene • dedicated poster area and closing plenary

10:30–11:30 • Official moderated poster session and networking tea**MODERATOR:** Dr Oscar Mugerwa | **CO-MODERATOR:** Dr Caroline Laibutch

Posters remain displayed throughout Friday and Saturday in the separate poster area. The official session is programme-protected: no competing talks, presenters must stand by their posters, and at least two judging routes should run simultaneously for 18 posters.

Plenary • Governance, equity and accountable adoption**CHAIR:** Prof Kenneth Luzinda | **CO-CHAIR:** Dr Tafadzwa Chipfuva

TIME	TYPE	PRESENTATION / ACTIVITY
11:30–11:40	Oral O03	Ethical Oversight Capacity in Tanzania: System-Level Challenges and Policy Implications for Health Research Governance- Dr Lazaro Haule
11:40–11:55	Talk	Small Partnerships: Lasting Change for Global Health in a Post-Aid World-Dr Joanna Herman
11:55–12:30	Governance roundtable	AI ethics, law and accountable adoption in African healthcare-panel: regulators, clinicians, legal experts, technologists and patient/public voice
12:30–12:45	Implementation synthesis and delegate feedback	From Discussion to Action: Delegate Priorities for the Lusaka Declaration-facilitated by the Scientific Programme Committee, with recommendations captured by a designated rapporteur
12:45–12:50	Conference output	Confirmation and handover of consolidated recommendations to the Lusaka Declaration drafting group
12:50–13:20	Break	Lunch / judging finalization

Closing session**CHAIR:** Dr Patrick Lungu

TIME	TYPE	PRESENTATION / ACTIVITY
13:20–13:40	Awards	Scientific and poster awards
13:40–13:50	Rapporteur's synthesis	Conference synthesis and key recommendations-Conference Rapporteur
13:50–14:10	Declaration	Presentation and adoption of the Lusaka Declaration on Responsible AI and Digital Innovation for Equitable Healthcare in Africa
14:10–14:20	Closing remarks	Conference Chair
14:20–14:30	Vote of thanks	Closing resolutions and sponsor acknowledgements-ECSACOP Vice President
14:30–16:00	Annual General Meeting	ECSACOP Annual General Meeting-Chair: ECSACOP President
18:00 onwards	Social programme	Cultural gala dinner and entertainment

CONFERENCE PARTNERS

ECSACOP gratefully acknowledges the organisations supporting the 11th Annual Scientific Conference. Their partnership strengthens this regional platform for learning, collaboration and better patient care.



CONFERENCE PARTNER

AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) Zambia

AHF Zambia is proud to support ECSACOP 2026 and its commitment to equitable, evidence-based care. Since 2007, AHF has worked with the Government of Zambia to expand access to HIV prevention, treatment and wellness services while strengthening health systems through workforce development, infrastructure and essential supplies.



CONFERENCE PARTNER

Troikaa Pharmaceuticals

Troikaa Pharmaceuticals is pleased to support ECSACOP 2026. Guided by its commitment to imagine and innovate, Troikaa joins physicians from across the region in advancing clinical learning, responsible innovation and better outcomes for patients.



CONFERENCE PARTNER

University Teaching Hospitals HIV/AIDS Programme

The University Teaching Hospitals HIV/AIDS Programme is proud to support ECSACOP 2026. Through service, training and partnership, the Programme remains committed to strengthening the health workforce and advancing equitable, patient-centred HIV care.



CONFERENCE PARTNER

Vertice Mobile Healthcare

Vertice Mobile Healthcare is pleased to support ECSACOP 2026 and its focus on clinical excellence, digital innovation and equitable care—innovation that saves lives.

Thank you for partnering with ECSACOP to advance clinical excellence across Africa.

SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATION INDEX

Accepted oral presentations

ID	PRESENTER	TITLE
O01	Dr Ahmed Said Ali	Family Satisfaction with Critical Care Services in a Tertiary Teaching Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya
O02	Dr Fred Semitala	Integrating HIV and Hypertension Care Improves Blood Pressure Control in Uganda
O03	Dr Lazaro Haule	Ethical Oversight Capacity in Tanzania: System-Level Challenges and Policy Implications for Health Research Governance
O04	Dr Pharidah Rajan Omar Sundi	Psychological Effects in Gastrointestinal Cancer Patients or Survivors: A Systematic Review
O05	Dr Neil Naik	Leveraging Virtual Education: The Southern African Regional ECHO
O06	Dr Moses Banda	Diagnostic Accuracy of Urine LAM for TB Diagnosis in HIV-Negative Individuals with Other Causes of Immunosuppression
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O19	Prof Paul George M. D'Arbela	Heart Failure Management and Outcome
O20	Innocent Ndambakwe	Aortic Valve Peak Velocity as a Better Predictor of Left Ventricular Thrombus than Ejection Fraction

Accepted poster presentations

ID	PRESENTER	TITLE
P01	Dr Morgan Muchemi	Effect of an Acute Coronary Syndromes E-Learning Strategy on Knowledge and Attitudes Towards Thrombolysis
P02	Dr Teddy Kajimoto	Neuroimaging Features and Clinical Outcomes Among Adults with Neurocysticercosis at UTH, Lusaka
P03	Dr Kennedy Makumbi	AI Language Model Usage Among Medical Students at the University of Zambia
P04	Dr Edith Yikona	Factors Associated with the Side Effects of Enalapril Among Adults Attending Tertiary Hospitals in Lusaka
P05	Dr Amir Kanji	MRI Patterns and Determinants of Cervical Disc Degeneration in Atraumatic Neck Pain Patients
P06	Dr Yusra Shakil	Tuberculosis Among Cancer Patients in Zambia: Prevalence, Treatment Outcomes and Associated Factors
P07	Dr Teresa Mbewe	Digital Innovation for Equitable Maternal Mental Healthcare Among Adolescent Mothers in Malawi
P08	Bernadette Akwii Atupu	Incidence and Associated Factors of Post-Stroke Seizures Among Adults with Acute Stroke
P09	Tanyaradzwa Mabwe	Validation of an AI-Based CAD4Silicosis System Among Zambian Underground Ex-Miners
P10	Chishala Mirriam Kapambwe	The Burden of Missing Data: The Paper-Based TB Management System
P11	Dr Clive Banda	Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Consumption Among Healthcare Workers in Southern Province, Zambia
P12	Grace Chishiba	Burden, Clinical Characteristics and One-Week Mortality Among Adults with Acute Kidney Injury
P13	Dr Kalasa Mwanda	HIV Index Case Testing and Partner Notification by Self-Testing
P14	Dr David Lyelu	Low Utilization and Barriers to Physiotherapy After Stroke in Zambia
P15	Dr Ivan Kisuule	Non-Compliance with Renewal of Annual Practising Licences by Registered Doctors in Uganda
P16	Katongo Hope Mutengo	Digital Strain Imaging Detects Impaired Myocardial Deformation Despite Preserved Ejection Fraction
P17	Innocent Sulani	Epidemiology, Clinical Practices and Outcome of Patients with Hypoxemia in Five Referral Hospitals
P18	Julius Mwita	Prevalence of Rheumatic Heart Disease in Children and Young Adults in Botswana