



Inaugural Placental Biology Workshop

The Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research – University of Ghana (NMIMR-UG), in collaboration with colleagues from the University of Cambridge, and the Action on preeclampsia Ghana is organising a three-day workshop on placental research capacity building.

Theme: Enhancing Maternal Health in Ghana Through Placental Research

Dates: 4th to 6th December, 2023.

Venue: Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, University of Ghana

Registration opens: 1st November, 2023 || **Registration closes:** 27th November, 2023.

Notification date: 30th November, 2023. || **NB:** *Only selected applicants will be contacted.*

Workshop Context:

The sustainable development goal 3 (SDG3) seeks to ensure good health and well-being for-all at all ages with the aim of reducing maternal and infant deaths. Significant gains have been made in reducing maternal mortality however, Ghana is falling short of attaining the SDG3 target by 2030. Strengthening health systems has contributed significantly to reducing maternal and infant deaths. However, in several key areas our understanding of the biological processes contributing to maternal and infant mortality remains poor. In particular, how the unique temporary organ, the placenta, supports pregnancy, and growth of the developing baby in healthy pregnancy and how this can go wrong in pregnancy complications remains poorly understood. Improved understanding of placental biology and function will inform future targets for diagnosis, risk prediction, vaccines and therapeutics.

The goal of the Placental Research Workshop is to bring together individuals engaged in placental or related research activity as well as people with placental research interests to share knowledge, skills and best practices in placental research. This will also set the agenda to understand key gaps in placental research in Ghana and build relevant collaborations for research impact.



Scope of this workshop:

The focus will be on enhancing theoretical knowledge and practical skills in placental research:

- Introduction to the biology of the placenta and placental abnormalities associated with pregnancy complications.
- Basic and clinical aspects of placental research
- Research advocacy and engagement in placental research
- Journal club
- Practical sessions on placental sampling, cell isolation and analysis using latest techniques.

NB: Workshop facilitation will be both virtual and in person.

Expected Outcome and Impact

The aim of the workshop is to establish a collaborative network of individuals with placental research interests in Ghana and identify new and improved approaches to the study of placental function and pregnancy complications to improve pregnancy outcomes in Ghana.

Application process:

Interested individuals should complete the online application form ➡ [Placental biology workshop](#) by 27th November, 2023. You will be required to upload a single paged application letter. In your letter, include a brief scientific outline of your current research activities, justification for attending the workshop and how you plan to apply the knowledge gained from the workshop in your current or future research activities.



Target Participants:

Target participants include placental, maternal, and perinatal health researchers, health practitioners and students, who have the aim of applying the knowledge and skills learnt from the workshop to enhance their current or-future research activities.



NB: Priority will be given to individuals currently working on placental studies, who plan to apply the knowledge sooner rather than later.

Prerequisite:

No prerequisites. However, selected participants would be required to go through preparation materials and resources prior to the workshop to ensure full participation and maximum benefit from the workshop.

Workshop Fee, Lodging and Transportation:

The workshop will be provided free of charge for the selected applicants. However, it will be non-residential; participants are responsible for their lodging and transportation. Lunch will be provided throughout the workshop.

Funder:



For further enquiries, contact: dobiri@noguchi.ug.edu.gh