

PASCAR Seminar



PASCAR Clinical Research Training Task Force Seminar, Cape Heart Institute, University of Cape Town, 14 November 2022

The inaugural PASCAR Clinical Research Training Task Force one-day seminar was held in Cape Town and facilitated and supported by the Cape Heart Institute and University of Cape Town on 14 November 2022.

In-room international faculty included PASCAR Clinical Research Training Task Force co-chair Prof Mahmoud Sani (Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria) and Prof Ana Mocumbi (Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique) as well as local expert faculty from the Cape Heart Institute, University of Cape Town and South African MRC, namely PASCAR Clinical Research Training Task Force co-chair Prof Friedrich Thienemann, Prof Karen Sliwa, Prof Liesl Zühlke, Prof Andre Pascal Kengne, Prof Mark Engel, Antoneta Mashinyira and Dr Sandra Mukasa. The seminar accommodated 24 delegates from Namibia, South Africa, Congo, Tanzania, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and Mozambique.

The academic programme focused on research methods to conduct cohort studies in Africa. Cohort studies are the most important tool to understanding the natural history of disease, associated risk factors and current management practices. Four sessions covered the principles of developing a research question and hypothesis generation, open science, cohort study design, GCP and regulatory aspects, data collection, data analysis and critical evaluation, as well as funding opportunities and examples of pan-African cohort studies.

The target audience of the seminar were cardiologists, cardiology fellows, scientists, specialist physicians, and allied health professionals with a special interest in the clinical research. The presentations led to stimulating discussions where delegates and faculty could engage in high-impact learning, stimulating reflections and network across specialties.

We are overwhelmed by the exceptional feedback received from the delegates who rated the meeting, material and research examples presented by faculty as valuable. We aim to build on the success of this meeting with future educational engagements to continuously strengthen clinical research capacity in Africa



From left to right: Prof Friedrich Thienemann (University of Cape Town and University of Zurich) and Prof Mahmoud Sani (Bayero University Kano, Nigeria).

