Dr. Stefanie Sowinski, PhD.
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Other Activities
- Training of Bachelor’s, Master’s, PhD and Postdoctoral Fellows
- Sample repository with six -80°C freezers supported by a generator with a back-up generator in place
- Sample shipment

Strategic Partners/Collaborating Institutes
- Accordia Global Health Foundation
- BD Biosciences
- Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics
- Johns Hopkins University
- Makerere University Johns Hopkins University Core Lab
- Makerere University Walter Reed Project
- National Institutes of Health
- Rakai Health Sciences Program
- Uganda Virus Research Institute
- Trinity College of Dublin
- University of California San Francisco
- University of Liverpool
- University of Minnesota
- University of Turin
- University of Zurich
- University of Antwerp

Dr. Annette Nakimuli, MBChB, MMed, PhD.
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Location
Ground Level Clinical Research/ Dean’s building MakCHS.

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Strengthening translational research in Africa and beyond
**About the Lab**
- The Translational Research Laboratory is a partnership between the Dept. of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and the Infectious Diseases Institute, at Makerere University College of Health Sciences (MakCHS)
- Renovation/remodeling of the laboratory space was enabled by financial support of the University of California San Francisco-Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology Center for AIDS Research
- The lab supports basic and translational science projects at MakCHS
- The lab facilitates training of laboratory-based health scientists
- Six key areas of investigation (Immunology, Virology, Pharmacokinetics, Molecular Biology, Mycology, Diagnostics)
- Six full-time staff
- Eight active research projects underway
- Over 15 research collaborators

**Selected Key Research Outputs**

**Diagnostics:** Validation of PIMA® CD4 point-of-care machine facilitated to country-wide roll out

**Mycology:** Screening for cryptococcal infection (common HIV opportunistic infection) using a lateral flow assay (CovAg® LFA | IMMY), contributed to international (WHO) and national (Uganda) treatment guidelines modification

**Tests Performed**

**Immunology**
- Immunophenotyping of cells using a BD FACS Canto II (distinction of 8 colours)
- ELISA assays: Quantifieron-TB and Clearview-TB
- ELISPOT assay: Antibody response of B cells to vaccines
- Cell culture in CO₂ supplied Incubators

**Pharmacokinetics:**
- Determining drug levels in serum, plasma and saliva using high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)
- Assays to detect the following drugs are set up:
  - Nevirapine, Isoniazid/Pyrazinamide, Rifampin/cip, Ethambutol, Efavirenz/Atazanavir/Lopinavir

**Molecular Biology**
- GeneXpert: Detection of Mycobacterium tuberculosis and rifampicin resistance
- Real-time quantitative PCR: Detection and quantification of gastrointestinal parasites
- Real-time quantitative PCR: Pharmacogenetics studies
- DNA amplification via PCR Thermocycler

**Point-of-Care Diagnostics**
- Rapid Immunochromatographic Lateral Flow Assays (LFA): Lipidurabinomannan (LAM) LFA, Cryptococcal Antigen (CRAG) LFA and Trinity Point of Care Syphilis Assay
- TB-LAMP (Loop-mediated isothermal amplification) validation

**Microbiology**
- BACTEC blood culture system rapidly detecting microbial growth from blood specimen
- Fungal Culture: Yeasts and Moulds
- Fungal Serology

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