

19 MARCH 2021

**AFRICAN INDIGENOUS VALUES GUIDING  
ALLOCATION OF COVID-19 VACCINES IN  
AFRICA AND BEYOND**

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS



THE  
GRADUATE  
INSTITUTE  
GENEVA

GLOBAL  
HEALTH  
CENTRE

## SPEAKERS

### AMES DHAI

Specialist Ethicist, South African Medical Research Council



Professor Ames Dhai is a leading authority in Bioethics. She is Founder and Past Director of the Steve Biko Centre for Bioethics at the Wits Faculty of Health Sciences (2007 – 2019), Visiting Professor of Bioethics and Health Law at the Wits School of Clinical Medicine, Specialist Ethicist at the Office of the President and CEO of the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) and member of the Academy of Science South Africa (ASSAf). She is Honorary Professor in the College of Human and Health Sciences, Swansea University, UK; Chairperson of the National Bioethics Committee of the UNESCO National Commission, and Chairperson of the SAMRC Bioethics Advisory Panel. She is also a Vice

Chairperson of the International Bioethics Committee of UNESCO. She is on the ASSAf Biosafety and Biosecurity Committee and has served on several consensus panels of the ASSAf, including the ASSAf Panel on Gene Therapies and Gene Editing ELSI. She also serves as Vice-Chair on the Ministerial Advisory Committee for COVID-19 Vaccines and member of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Unrelated Organ Transplants. She is Editor-in-chief of the South African Journal of Bioethics and Law and Associate Editor of the South African Medical Journal. She is a mediator with international accreditation through the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution, UK. She can be credited with entrenching bioethics and human rights as an integral aspect of health sciences in SA. Using an academic platform, Professor Dhai has taken a lead in health advocacy and activism locally and internationally and has published extensively in this field. Professor Dhai started off her career as a medical doctor, specialised as an obstetrician and gynaecologist and then moved into the disciplines of bioethics and health law.

### SRIDHAR VENKATAPURAM

Chair, Independent Resource Group for Global Health Justice (IRG-GHJ)



Sridhar Venkatapuram is Chair of the Independent Resource Group for Global Health Justice, a group of mainly political philosophers coming together to help identify the global justice aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic. Sridhar is also Deputy Director of King's Global Health Institute, and Associate Professor of Global Health and Philosophy at King's College London. Sridhar has been an academic-practitioner at the forefront of health ethics and global health for over 25 years. He was a pioneer of the health and human rights movement as the first researcher at Human Rights Watch to examine HIV/AIDS and other health issues, and at the age of 25 he was supported by the Ford Foundation to provide human rights training to the

first cohort of Indian HIV/AIDS organisations. He has worked as a consultant for a range of international organisations including the Open Society Institute, the Population Council, and Doctors of the World-USA, the Health Foundation (UK), and World Health Organization. He holds a number of degrees in a range of disciplines including international relations (Brown), public health (Harvard), sociology (Cambridge) and political philosophy (Cambridge).



THE  
**GRADUATE  
INSTITUTE  
GENEVA**

INSTITUT DE HAUTES  
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES  
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT

GRADUATE INSTITUTE  
OF INTERNATIONAL AND  
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES