

## Robert Kalyesubula



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### Short Bio/CV

**Dr Robert Kalyesubula** is senior lecturer, nephrologist and a kidney researcher. He is the head of department Physiology at Makerere University College of Health Sciences (MakCHS). Dr Kalyesubula completed a medical degree and a masters of internal medicine from Makerere MakCHS and did part of his residence training in McMaster University in Canada. Kalyesubula completed nephrology training from Yale University in USA under the mentorship of Profs Asghar Rastegar and Mark Perazella. He earned a PhD in epidemiology of NCDs from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He has worked on kidney disease and hypertension in resource limited settings for the last 12 years and is a member of the WHO supported NCD working committee in Uganda. He was enacted as Fellow of the Royal College of London (FRCP) in 2023.

Dr Kalyesubula is the founder and Emeritus president of Uganda Kidney Foundation, a researcher and mentor with 130 peer reviewed publications with an H-index of 30 which is a high rank of researchers worldwide. He is an adjunct Asst Prof. at Yale University, University of Vermont, both in USA, Charity University in Germany and McMaster University in Canada which gives him a wide exposure to experts and resources from across the world. He is the current president of the Uganda Society for Health Scientists and is the Education Director, for the **African Association of Nephrology (AFRAN)**. He has served an active nephrologist in Mulago National Referral Hospital, helping to pioneer nephrology practice within the country and within Africa. His leadership was very critical in ensuring that dialysis services got into Uganda, advocating for an increase from 5 dialysis machines in 2012 to over 202 dialysis machines covering key regions in the country. His leadership was key in ensuring that the first kidney transplant got performed in Uganda in 2023. He has supported the training of 13 new nephrologists up from only 2 in a country of 46 million people.

Dr Kalyesubula has been a member of **ISN** for 13 years. He is an ISN Fellow and was a member of the **Young nephrologists** (2015-2019). He has served the Africa ISN regional board for 6 years. He was also in the first cohort of ISN Emerging Leader's Program where he has worked with other members to support several ISN activities. In particular, he was part of the lead team that developed the ISN AKI Toolkit. In addition, he has represented ISN as the ISN representative at International conferences. He was a lead editor on the ISN infections conference proceedings that were published in seminars of dialysis where they published over 16 articles coordinating a team of over 39 international nephrologists. He is currently a World Congress of Nephrology (**WCN**) 2025 theme co-chair. Dr Kalyesubula reviews for the Kidney International Journal and is an editor for 6 international journals including the Indian Journal of Nephrology and the African Journal of Nephrology. He is an active participant in Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (**KDIGO**) where he supports development of international guidelines.

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### Candidate's Statement

It is a great honor to be considered for the ISN Africa Regional Board Deputy Chair/Councillor. I am an experienced leader who has held a wide range of roles at ISN since I first became a member in 2011. Having grown up from very humble beginnings as an orphan in Africa, I know first hand the needs from less privileged members on the continent. I am excited about working with ISN leaders and teams from across Africa to

ensure equitable and inclusive access to kidney health services in Africa. I plan to harness my vast network of nephrologist from across the world to highlight the special needs of the Africa region, work on strengthening existing partnerships while creating more opportunities to train more nephrologists for Africa. I am also planning to ensure that patient perspectives become increasingly heard and I will work hard to ensure that many more members join the ISN from Africa to have greater impact.

I want to thank you for taking time to read my submissions and I look forward to working with you to improve the face of kidney health in Africa and across the world.