



Caribbean  
Association for  
Rheumatology

**NASKHO**  
*Netherlands-Caribbean Foundation  
for Clinical Higher Education*

# 10<sup>th</sup> Annual CAR meeting

May 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 2019

Renaissance Curacao Resort & Casino  
Curacao



The Caribbean Association for Rheumatology is delighted to host its 10<sup>th</sup> annual scientific meeting in the beautiful and unique island paradise of Curacao and is privileged to once again partner with **NASKHO** in educating the medical community.

The Caribbean Association for Rheumatology started this journey with a mission to advance rheumatology in the region, and through collaboration, education, research and advocacy, improve the care of Caribbean people with rheumatic disease.

Our meeting promises to be informative, interesting and enjoyable. We will traverse a diverse range of topics relevant to the region that will assist in improving proficiency in managing our patients. We are delighted to host eminent regional and international faculty who share our passion for education and bring their expertise to the meeting.

The Scottish Rheumatology Ultrasound Group also joins us again for the 3<sup>rd</sup> musculoskeletal ultrasound course with an aim to enhance our diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities.

We look forward to interacting with you all, learning, sharing and growing together. We celebrate the friendships made over the last 10 years. As we celebrate this milestone anniversary we are filled with gratitude for all the rewarding experiences that have come with being a part of this community.



## Dr. Amza Ali - Keynote speaker

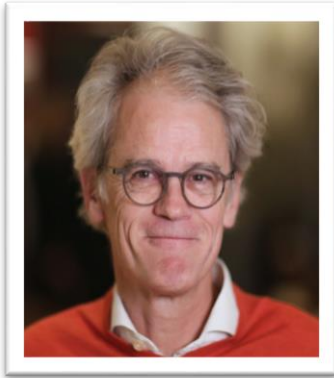


Dr. Ali trained in Medicine at the University of the West Indies (UWI). He completed the DM in Internal Medicine at UWI and trained in Neurology at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London. He is specialist certified in Neurology by the Federation of Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom. He then completed a clinical fellowship in Epilepsy in New York at the Neurological Institute, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, and is board certified by the American

Board of Clinical Neurophysiology (ABCN). He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London, the American College of Physicians, the American Academy of Neurology and the American Epilepsy Society.

He has received several awards locally and internationally for his work, including the Donald M. Palatucci Award for Neurology in 2009 from the American Academy of Neurology. In 2011 he was recognised by Yale University with the Swebilius Lectureship and Award for his “lasting achievements in the field of epilepsy”. His work has been featured in *Neurology Today*, the official organ of the American Academy of Neurology (AAN). In 2011 and again in 2012 he was chosen as AAN Ambassador to the Caribbean region. In 2015 he was honoured by the Association of Consultant Physicians of Jamaica (ACPJ) for his local, regional and international work in Neurology and Epilepsy. In March 2017 he was selected as one of 3 physicians globally chosen for the International Award for Excellence in Patient Care from the Royal College of Physicians of London, UK. In 2019 he was chosen as Ambassador for Epilepsy by the International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE) and the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE), the first time this honour has been conferred on a physician of Caribbean origin. He is a Senior Consultant in Medicine and Neurology at the KPH and is also a Senior Associate Lecturer in Neurology at UWI. In February 2016 he was appointed Visiting Professor to the Department of Neurology, Yale University School of Medicine.

## Dr. Maarten Boers - Keynote speaker



Maarten Boers is Professor of Clinical Epidemiology. Until 2007 he was Chair of the Department (of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, now renamed 'Epidemiology and Biostatistics') he founded at VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam in '97. From '90 to '97 he worked as Associate Professor of Rheumatology at the University of Maastricht, Netherlands. Training: MD ('80), Internal Medicine ('86), Rheumatology ('88); PhD ('89; renal disorders in

rheumatoid arthritis): University of Leiden, Netherlands; MSc in Clinical Epidemiology: McMaster University, Ontario, Canada ('90). Research interests include early intervention and combination therapy in rheumatoid arthritis (principal investigator of the COBRA trial and its recently published follow-up study), outcome measures in rheumatology (with Peter Tugwell, co-initiator of the OMERACT (Outcome Measures in Rheumatology) consensus initiative active since 1992; [www.omeract.org](http://www.omeract.org)), impact of diagnostic studies on patient outcome, generic health status measurement, health economics and health technology assessment. He has (co)authored over 400 papers on topics both in- and outside of rheumatology. He is initiator and principal investigator of the GLORIA project (funded by EU-Horizon 2020) that started recruiting in 2016: it comprises an international pragmatic trial of low-dose prednisolone in 800 elderly RA patients.

He regularly participates in governmental, charity, and industry (inter)national advisory boards mostly focusing on trial design and analysis, efficacy, safety and economic issues. He was also member of the board of a company managing clinical trials. In 2010 he started a small company (Epiconsult BV) to host his consulting activities and to allow the development of specialized training courses, including one on data visualization. In addition, he still sees patients as a staff rheumatologist in the Reade Institute in Amsterdam. In education he has had several teaching roles at the medical faculty in Maastricht. In Amsterdam he advised the faculty on improving science education for medical students. He coordinated the design of the science education program in the new medical curriculum of VUmc, and in 2000 founded the Honours Programme that gives extensive science training to talented students. He regularly organizes and participates in postgraduate training courses on topics covering Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Rheumatology, and data visualization.

Friday May 3 <sup>rd</sup> Pre-conference Meetings		
9:30 – 11:30 am	<b>CAR Annual General Meeting</b>	
11:30 – 5:30 pm	Registration	
12:30 – 3:00 pm	Ultrasound Workshop	Scottish Rheumatology Ultrasound group (SRUG)
4:30 – 5:30 pm	<b>Welcome Reception</b>	
Friday May 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Rheumatology Meeting 2019		
Session Chairperson: Dr. Amanda King		
5:15 – 5:30 pm	<b>Opening Remarks</b>	
5:30 – 6:00 pm	Immunology & Rheumatology, what is new?	Prof Ashley Duits, Curacao
6:00 – 6:30 pm	Role of Interleukin 6 in Rheumatoid arthritis	Grace Wright, USA
6:30 – 7:00 pm	Understanding Biosimilars	Jose Herrera, Panama
7:00 – 7:15 pm	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
7:15 – 7:45 pm	Rheumatic diseases induced by cancer immunotherapy	Aurore Fifi-Mah Canada
7:45 – 8:30 pm	Debating long term use of steroid therapy Keynote Speaker	Prof. Maarten Boers The Netherlands

Saturday May 4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Rheumatology Meeting 2019		
Chairperson	Dr. Sharon Dowell	
8:15 am	<b>Welcome and Introductory remarks</b>	
8:30 – 9:00 am	High Risk HPV infections in women with SLE and other systemic autoimmune disease	Nadege Cordel Guadeloupe
9:00 – 9:30 am	SLE in St. Lucia	Amanda King St. Lucia
9:30 – 10:00 am	Experience in Martinique with SLE nephritis	Christophe Deligny Martinique
10:00 – 10:15 am	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
Chairperson	Dr. Gail Kerr	
10:15 – 10:45 am	Pregnancy in Rheumatic diseases	Rashidi Rellum, Aruba
10:45 – 11:15 am	Rheumatologic care in the geriatric population- is it different?	Joris Schakel, Curacao
11:15 – 12:00 pm	<b>Eon Harris Lecture</b> Rheumatology, Neurology and the antiphospholipid syndrome- united by inflammation?	Amza Ali, Jamaica
12:00 – 1:00 pm	<b>Lunch</b>	
Chairperson	Dr. Rob de Lannoy	
1:00 – 1:30 pm	Uveitis	Monica Evans
1:30 – 2:00 pm	Psoriasis in the Caribbean	Suleman Bhamjee, Barbados
2:00 – 2:30 pm	Psoriatic Arthritis in Trinidad	Haramnauth Dyanand, Trinidad
2:30 – 3:00 pm	Remission in rheumatoid arthritis	Maarten Boers, Netherlands
3:00 – 3:15 pm	<b>Coffee break</b>	
Chairperson	Dr. Steuart Richards	
3:15 – 3:45 pm	JAK inhibitors	Violeta Rosario Dominican Republic
3:45 – 4:15 pm	Experience with Biosimilars in the Dominican Republic	Ivonne Canto Dominican Republic
4:15 – 5:00 pm	Instructive cases in Rheumatology	Cindy Flower, Barbados Nicole Johnson, Canada
7:00 pm	<b>Dinner</b>	

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## Special thanks to our sponsors



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## Special thanks our kind supporters

### Jade Mountain Resort, St. Lucia



## Acknowledgements

On behalf of the planning committee of CAR 2019 and the local organizing committee, we would like to express our sincerest gratitude to the staff of Renaissance Curacao and our kind sponsors. A special mention must be made of our collaborator-NASKHO with Ms. Ella Engelhardt and Ms. Luigia Baerecke working tirelessly to make this meeting in Curacao come to fruition. We would like to specially thank all our dedicated speakers for sacrificing time and travelling great distances to share the different experiences and knowledge in a field that we all share a passion.

Thank you to our attendees for the support! To keep up to date on information on our next CAR meeting in the Dominican Republic, 2020- please check our website: [www.caribrheum.org](http://www.caribrheum.org).

Kind regards,

CAR Executive Committee and Board of Directors

*Thank  
You*