

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKERS

Session 1

GLOBAL HEALTH DAY, 27.10.2026



Chair for session 1:

Håkon Angell Bolkan is an Associate Professor in Global Health at NTNU and consultant general and abdominal surgeon at St. Olavs Hospital. He is the founder and chairperson of [CapaCare](#), a non-governmental organization providing advanced surgical training to clinical officers and medical doctors nationwide in Sierra Leone since 2011 and Liberia since 2021. His research interest has been scalable solutions to increase access to quality surgical care in low-income countries.

Frode Aasgaard is a general and vascular surgeon and Head of the Vascular Surgery Section at St. Olavs Hospital, Trondheim, Norway. He received his medical education in Hungary and has worked as a physician for 25 years. He is a specialist in general surgery and vascular surgery, with extensive clinical experience in the management and surgical treatment of vascular disease. He is married and has six children.



Dr. Tej Prakash Sinha is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, working primarily out of the Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Centre. He specializes in emergency medicine, trauma surgery, and critical care. His research spans Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS) diagnostics, trauma and hemorrhage management, AI-driven triage systems, regional pain algorithms, and public CPR awareness outreach.

Solveig Svengaard has international experience from the Red Cross, NORWAC, CapaCare, and the Norwegian armed forces medical services. She is passionate about surgical preparedness, capacity building, and collaboration to strengthen healthcare services during crises and war.





Marcus Prescott is a surgical resident at St. Olavs Hospital and a former urgent care and emergency room nurse, with a background in tropical medicine (CTropMed). He currently works with the NGO Frontline Medics in eastern Ukraine, supporting Ukrainian military units with training, stabilisation-point care and medical evacuation.

Ole Terje Østrem is the Design Manager at Laerdal Global Health, a not-for-profit company committed to strengthening health systems in countries with the highest mortality. He leads a team of designers that are passionate about translating user needs into impactful products that empower healthcare teams to build skills, improve performance, and ultimately save the lives for mothers and newborns.



Bachelor nursing student on exchange to Namibia, We are 10 nursing students from NTNU Trondheim, Gjøvik and Ålesund who has been on exchange in Namibia. Here they complete 8 weeks of practical training at various hospitals, institutions and orphanages.

Terje Andreas Eikemo is Professor of Sociology at NTNU and leader of CHAIN – Centre for Health Equity Analytics. His research focuses is on global health inequalities and the social determinants of health, with particular emphasis on how inequalities can be measured, explained, and reduced. He is a Principal Collaborator with the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) study and a member of the WHO Health Inequality Monitoring Network. He now is the founding Editor-in-Chief of Alliance – Journal of the World Federation of Public Health Associations, a new global journal aiming to combine scientific excellence with relevance for public health policy and practice.



PRESENTATION OF SPEAKERS

Session 2

GLOBAL HEALTH DAY, 27.10.2026



Chair for session 2:

Jennifer J Infanti is Associate Professor in Global Health at the Department of Public Health and Nursing, NTNU. Her research focuses on gender-based violence, maternal and reproductive health, migrant health and health equity, with long-standing partnerships in Nepal and other collaborations across South Asia and Africa. She is Scientific Director at NTNU for the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master HumanResponse in coordinated humanitarian response, health and displacement, and Chair of the Board of the Norwegian Research School in Global Health for Sustainable Futures. She is also engaged in efforts to decolonise global health education.

Maung Maung Myint is the Representative of the National Unity Government to Norway and a founding member of the then Oslo-based Democratic Voice of Burma radio station. Originally from Myanmar and with a background as a journalist and pro-democracy activist, he has worked extensively on Myanmar-related issues over the last three decades. His long journalistic career includes positions as President of the Burma Media Association and a Jury Member of Reporters Without Borders. Maung Maung Myint is also a practicing specialist dentist working at the Lovisenberg Diakonal Hospital in Oslo.



Dr Cynthia Maung, herself a displaced person forced to flee her homeland in 1988, knows firsthand the challenges facing refugees and the displaced people in accessing health care, education and protection services. During the pro-democracy movement of the 1988, she joined villagers and students to bring about positive change in Myanmar. Dr Cynthia founded Mae Tao Clinic in western Thailand, along the Thailand-Burma border, which tirelessly provides critical medical care, education and protection services for the displaced and migrant people of Eastern Myanmar.

Aung Soe Htet is a global health researcher at NTNU specializing in NCDs, mental health, and epidemiology in low-income settings. A Scholar at Risk from Myanmar with a background in general medicine, he brings over 15 years of experience in population research and health governance, formerly serving as Deputy Director at Myanmar's Ministry of Health and Sports before the 2021 coup.



Dr. May Thwe Thwe Win is a highly motivated general surgeon with extensive experience in general surgery, including emergency and elective procedures, patient management, surgical education, and clinical leadership. She currently works as a Specialty Doctor in General Surgery at University Hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Foundation Trust. She has a proven ability to train and supervise junior doctors and medical students, together with a strong commitment to research, audit, and continuous quality improvement. With appropriate skills in laparoscopic surgery and a dedication to compassionate, evidence-based patient care, she aims to contribute meaningfully to surgical excellence.



Espen Bjertness is professor of epidemiology at the Department of Community Medicine and Global Health at the University of Oslo (UiO). He has led projects in capacity building in research and higher education in universities in low-income and conflict countries for 30 years, often in cooperation with health ministries. Countries include Palestine, Myanmar, Tibet (China), and North Korea. Research interests include health in conflict countries, NCDs, mental health, and domestic violence. He started to work in Myanmar in 2009 included training of several Myanmar master- and PhD students at UiO and partner universities. After the Military coup in 2021 he engaged in helping colleagues, who were on the run and wanted by the regime, to a safe university position outside Myanmar through the Scholars at Risk programme.

Moderators of panel discussion:

Poonam Rishal trained as a medical doctor in Nepal, before obtaining her master's and doctoral degrees in Norway. She is currently a visiting research fellow at NTNU. She has more than 15 years of experience in research on gender, gender-based violence and women's health, with a particular focus on the intersections of disability, gender, ethnicity, and violence. She was co-investigator in Nepal for the multi-country HERA (Healthcare Responding to Violence and Abuse) project and is currently a consultant for the World Health Organization. Her work emphasises co-design and survivor-centred, trauma-informed approaches. She also holds a further degree in inclusive and special needs education



Alberto Inzulza Galdames is a Dental Surgeon, holding a Master of Public Health from Harvard University and a Master in Public Management from UTEM, Chile. His career spans clinical practice, academia, and high-level public policy — united by an enduring commitment to reducing inequities in access to health. His international trajectory — field work in Mexico and Nepal, and academic engagement in Japan — enriches his perspective on comparative health systems and cross-cultural approaches to primary care. He served as Advisor to the Undersecretary of Public Health of Chile (2024–2026), contributing to national health policy at the highest levels of government.