

Dr. Owen Gabriel was born and raised in Castries, Saint Lucia. He attended the St Mary's College where was Student of the Year. Later at the Sir Arthur Lewis College, Dr. Gabriel was awarded the prize for Biology. He received his MD with top honours at the Carlos J Finlay Institute of Medical Sciences in Camaguey in 1998. After this, he was offered a scholarship to do his DM in Oncology at the University of Havana - National Institute of Cancer which he completed in 2003. His thesis on **Strategies for Prevention and Control of Cancer in Saint Lucia**, was published in the Journal of Oncology and Radiotherapy of Cuba. He is the principle investigator and author of the regional research effort coordinated by CAREC and PAHO on **Estimating the Burden of Acute Gastrointestinal Illness: A Pilot Study of the Prevalence and Under-Reporting of Gastrointestinal Illness in Saint Lucia** published in the Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition. He co-authored **Advancing Cancer Control Through Research and Cancer Registry Collaboration**, published in Cancer Control Journal. He was Saint Lucia country coordinator of the University of Laval (Canada) and St Georges University (Grenada)/UWI research study of **Persistent Organic Pollutants in Pregnant Women in 2009**. He is the only native, resident oncologist in the OECS. As a consultant cancer specialist he provides part-time services in the public sector at Victoria Hospital in Castries, the St. Jude Hospital in Vieux Fort and at the private Tapion Hospital. He continues to provide services and support in specialist oncology care to the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital in St Vincent gratis since 2012. However, he has successfully operated his own facility – The Oncology Centre located at Tapion Ridge in Castries, since 2004. This centre was nascent from the non-existence of on island specialist cancer care and the consequent ordeal that cancer patients faced from having to travel to countries in the region, North America and the UK for essential but expensive care. Given the trends on cancer in Saint Lucia and the region, Dr. Gabriel has concrete plans to provide and facilitate cost effective specialist cancer services to accommodate the private and public sectors on island and in the region. He served as the National Cancer Control Coordinator and the National Laboratory Director of the Ezra Long Laboratory between 2004 to 2011. He has assisted the Ministry of Health of Saint Lucia in the collation of cancer data and participated in several committees seeking to develop hospital and population based cancer registries in Saint Lucia and the region. He has collaborated with regional bodies in the implementation of Regional and National Surveillance programs for control of Malaria, Dengue, Bird Flu and other emerging infectious pathogens. He served on the Board of the Bureau of Standards during 2005 to 2007. He has represented Saint Lucia at meetings of PAHO and the Caribbean Research & Epidemiology Centre (CAREC) for the development of policy for regional programs. His interest in cancer epidemiology and research has allowed him to present papers at the Caribbean Association of Research on Cancer in Fort de France, Martinique, the Sir Arnot Cato Memorial Lectures in St. Vincent and

at he Belmont Clinic in Antigua and Barbuda. Dr. Gabriel currently sits as the vice chair of the Medical and Dental Council in Saint Lucia. He was the vice-president of the Saint Lucia Cancer Society from 2004 to 2017 and has been affiliated with other cancer survivor and support groups like Faces of Cancer. In these groups, his mainly focuses on Education and Health Promotion towards screening and early detection. He continues to work with the Faces of Cancer in Saint Lucia and S.C.O.P.E in St Vincent in support of Cancer Survivors and patient currently undergoing treatment.