

2026 NHRC

NATIONAL HEALTH RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Building a Healthier Nation through
Innovation, Research and Collaboration

NOVEMBER 17, 2026

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2026 National Health Research Conference to Spotlight Patient-Focused Healthcare and Honour Research Leaders

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad and Tobago — Healthcare professionals, researchers, academics and policymakers will gather at the Hyatt Regency Trinidad on Tuesday, November 17, 2026, for the seventh annual National Health Research Conference (NHRC), featuring a presentation on patient-focused healthcare transformation and recognition of two researchers for their contributions to health research.

Held under the theme **“Building a Healthier Nation through Innovation, Research and Collaboration,”** the conference will provide a forum for sharing research findings and discussing how evidence can inform healthcare policy, practice and service delivery in Trinidad and Tobago.

The programme will feature oral research presentations and digital posters covering areas such as infectious and emerging diseases, chronic non-communicable diseases, mental health, clinical and laboratory studies, and veterinary health. Participants will also have opportunities to connect with colleagues across disciplines and institutions.

Featured Presentation



Dr. Geoffrey A. Silvera, Associate Professor of Health Services Administration and Director of Graduate Programs in Healthcare Quality and Safety at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, will deliver the featured presentation, **“Beyond Better: Patient-Focused Health Care Transformation,”** during the opening ceremony.

A scholar and healthcare management specialist, Dr. Silvera’s work spans patient experience, healthcare quality and safety, health equity, and organisational leadership. His presentation will consider the transformation of healthcare systems, with emphasis on patient experience and the delivery of responsive healthcare services.

Honouring Lifetime Contributions to Health Research

The conference will also recognise Professor Donald T. Simeon and Professor Hariharan Seetharaman with Research for Health Lifetime Achievement Awards.

For the first time, the awards will be presented in two categories: citizen and non-citizen. Professor Simeon is the 2026 recipient in the citizen category, while Professor Seetharaman is the recipient in the non-citizen category.

A Caribbean public health scientist, biostatistician, nutritionist and educator, **Professor Simeon** has dedicated more than three decades to advancing health research, strengthening research capacity and promoting evidence-informed policymaking across the region. A professor at the University of Guyana, he previously served as founding Director of the Caribbean Centre for Health Systems Research and Development at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. His work includes mentorship of emerging researchers and leadership in regional initiatives, including the National Health Research Conference.





Originally from Tamil Nadu, India, **Professor Seetharaman** is an academic, clinician and researcher whose contributions span medical education, clinical practice and health research in Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean. He serves as Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences at The University of the West Indies, where he is also Professor of Anaesthesia and Critical Care Medicine, and is an Honorary Consultant at the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex.

A Collaborative National Initiative

The NHRC is hosted through a partnership involving the Ministry of Health; the Tobago House of Assembly; the Faculty of Medical Sciences and the Caribbean Centre for Health Systems Research and Development at The University of the West Indies; the University of Trinidad and Tobago; the University of the Southern Caribbean; the Regional Health Authorities; and the Trinidad and Tobago National Nursing Association.

Sponsors of the 2026 conference include Bryden pi Ltd., RioMed Limited, EBSCO Information Services and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

Join Us!

The conference will run from **8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.** Delegate registration is currently open but a **late registration fee** goes into effect after **November 2, 2026**. Further details are available at www.healthresearchconferencett.com

REGISTRATION CLOSING NOVEMBER 8TH, 2026.

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