

## Dr. Rodi Omondi Ojoo

### **Contacts:**

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### **Education:**

Ph.D. Veterinary Anatomy (Reproductive Biology ), University of Nairobi,  
Kenya, 2006.  
M.Sc. Veterinary Anatomy (Reproductive Biology), University of Nairobi, 1996.  
B.V.M. University of Nairobi, 1990.

### **Positions held:**

1996- 2014: Lecturer in Department of Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology,  
University of Nairobi

1990-1996: Assistant lecturer in Department of Veterinary Anatomy of University  
of Nairobi.

1985-1986: Research assistant for 7 months at the Biomedical Research Centre of  
the Kenya Medical Research Institute.

### **Professional affiliations:**

Member of the Kenya Veterinary Association

Veterinary Surgeon registered by the Kenya Veterinary Board as No. 1289

**Duties:**

Lectures and examination (Veterinary Anatomy) of Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and BSc. Wildlife Management, undergraduate students.

Lectures and examination of Reproductive biology to postgraduate students

Have been member of boards for examination of a number of MSc. Students.

Have been internal examiner of MSc. Thesis

**Other responsibilities:**

- Chairman, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Biosafety, Animal use and Ethics Committee
- Reviewer for the Kenya Veterinarian, a Journal of the Kenya Veterinary Association

**Publications:****Theses:**

1. **Ojoo, R.O.** (2006) Comparison and characterisation of specific fertilisation proteins in human (*Homo sapiens*) and baboon (*Papio anubis*) spermatozoa. Ph.D thesis , University of Nairobi.
2. **Ojoo, R.O.** (1995) A morphological and endocrinological study of the male reproductive system of the male reproductive system of the thick-tailed bush baby (*Galago garnetti*). M.Sc. Thesis, University of Nairobi.

**Publications in Refereed journals:**

1. Papah M.B., Onyango, D.W., Kisia, S.M., **Ojoo, R.O.**, Makanya A.N., Wood, C.M., Kavembe, G.D., Maina, J., Johannsson, O.E., Bergman, H.L., Laurent, P.,

- Chevalier, C., Bianchini, A. & Bianchini L.F. (2013) Morphological Evaluation of Spermatogenesis in Lake Magadi Tilapia (*Alcolapia grahami*): A Fish Living on the Edge. *Tissue and Cell* **45**(6):371-382
2. Wood C.M., Nawata, M., Wilson, J.M., Laurent, P., Chevalier, C., Bergman, H.L., Bianchini, A., Maina, J.N., Johannsson, O.E., Bianchini, L.F., Kavembe, G.D., Papah, M.B. & Ojoo, R.O (2012) Rh proteins and NH<sub>4</sub> activated Na<sup>+</sup>-Atpase in the Magadi tilapia (*Alcolapia grahami*), a 100% ureotelic teleost fish. *Journal of Experimental Biology* **216** (Pt 16): 2998-3007
3. Wood, C.M, Bergmann, H.L., Bianchini A., Laurent, P., Maina, J., Johannsson, O.E., Bianchini, L.F., Chevalier, C., Kavembe, G.D., Papah, M.B. & Ojoo, R.O. (2012) Transepithelial potential in the Magadi Tilapia, a fish living in extreme alkalinity. *Journal of Comparative Physiology B* **182**:247-258.
4. Ojoo, R.O., Otiang'a-Owiti, G.E, Oduor-Okelo, D. & Onyango, D.W. (2005) Frequency of stages of the seminiferous cycle in the thick-tailed bush baby (*Otolemur garnetti*), a prosimian primate: possible phylogenetic implications? *Anatomy and Embryology* **209**:381-389.
5. Ojoo, R.O., Otiang'a-Owiti, G.E, Oduor-Okelo, D & Wango, E.O. (1994) Daytime variations of serum testosterone and luteinizing hormone in captive thick-tailed bush babies (*Galago garnetti*) *Primates* **35**(2):211-217.
6. Khan, B., Brandling-Bennett, A.D., Watkins, W.M., Oloo A.J., Ojoo, P. & Koech D.K. (1991). *Plasmodium falciparum* sensitivity to erythromycin and 4-aminoquinoline combinations *in vitro*. *Annals of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology* **85**(2): 215-222.

### **Publications in Press**

1. Johannsson, O.E, Bergman, H.L., Wood, C.M., Laurent, P., Kavembe, D.G., Bianchini, A., Maina, J.N., C. Chevalier, Bianchini, L., Michael, P.B. and **Ojoo, R.** (2014) Air Breathing in the Lake Magadi tilapia *Alcolapia grahami*, under Normoxic and Hyperoxic Conditions, and the Association with Sunlight and ROS. *Journal of Fish Biology (in press)*

### **Short Communications and Scientific Conference Presentations:**

1. **Ojoo, R.O.**, Kisipan, M.L., DeBoeck, G., Wood, C.M., Bianchini, A., Maina, J., Johannsson, O.E., Brix, K., Otiang'a-Owiti, G., Bianchini, L., Kavembe, D.G., Bergman, H.L. & Papah, M.B. (2013) The Magadi Tilapia (*Alcolapia grahami*): a fish thriving in adversity. **Soda lakes Workshop, KWSTI Naivasha, Kenya**
2. Papah, M.B., Kisia S.M., **Ojoo, R.O**, Makanya , AN. & Onyango D.W. (2012) Spermogenesis and sperm ultrastructure of Lake Magadi Tilapia, *Alcolapia grahami* (Teleostei, Perciformes, Cichlidae) **Joint FVM-KVA Scientific conference, Safari Park Nairobi.**
3. Johannsson, O.E., Wood, C.M., Kavembe , G.D., Bergman , H.L., Bianchini, A., Laurent P., Maina , J., Bianchini, L.F., Chevalier, C., Papah, M.B. & **Ojoo, R.O.** (2012) Characteristics of Air Breathing in Lake Magadi Tilapia: is there a relationship with Diel Patterns in Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) in the Lake? **Canadian Society of Zoologists Meeting, Mount Allison University, Canada.**
4. Papah, M.B., Kisia S.M., **Ojoo, R.O**, Makanya , AN., Wood, C.M., Kavembe , G.D., Maina , J., Johannsson, O.E., Bergman , H.L., Bianchini, A., Laurent P., Bianchini, L.F., Chevalier , C., & Onyango, D.W (2012) The Structure of the male reproductive organs in Lake Magadi Tilapia (*Alcolapia grahami*); A fish living on the edge. **TWAS BVA-NXT Conference, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria, Egypt.**
5. Wilson, J.M., Wood, C.M., Laurent, P., Chevalier C., Bergman, H.L., Bianchini,A., Maina, J.N., Johannsson, O.E., Bianchini, L.F., Kavembe, G.D., Papah, M.B. & **Ojoo, R.O.**

(2012) Immunohistochemical approach to understanding branchial ion regulation in the tilapia of Lake Magadi (pH10). **Society for Experimental Biology, Salzburg, Austria.**

6. Wood,C.M., Nawata,C.M., Wilson, J.M., Bergman, H.L., Bianchini, A., Laurent,P., Maina, J.N., Johannsson, O.E., Bianchini, L.F, Chevalier C., Kavembe, G.D, Papah, M.B. & **Ojoo, R.O** (2012) The Magadi Tilapia- Coping with Extremity. **Tropical fish Symposium of the fish biology congress (American Fisheries Society), Madison, Winconsin, USA.**

7. Wood,C.M., Nawata,C.M, Bergman, H.L., Bianchini, A., Laurent,P., Maina, J.N., Johannsson, O.E., Bianchini, L.F, Chevalier C., Kavembe, G.D, Papah, M.B. & **Ojoo, R.O** (2012) Responses to Ammonia Loading in the Magadi Tilapia, a Completely Ureotelic Teleost Fish. **Canadian Society of Zoologists Meeting, Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB Canada**

8. Al-Eisa, N., **Ojoo, R.O.**, & Moore, H. D. M. (2001) Characterisation of Human Sperm Antigens Exposed After the Acrosome Reaction That May Participate In Gamete Fusion. In: *Andrology in the 21st Century; Proceedings of the VIIth International Congress of Andrology.* (eds. B. Robaire, H. Chemes and C.R. Morales), pp.89-94, Medimond Inc

### **Thesis Supervised:**

1. Papah, M.B. (2012) The structure of male reproductive organs in Lake Magadi tilapia (*Alcolapia grahami*). MSc. Thesis, University of Nairobi.

### **Study Visits:**

2000-2001: Sheffield University (UK) as part of Ph.D studies.

1993-94: University of Saarlandes in Germany as part of M.Sc. studies

1992: University of St. Andrews (UK)

**Fellowships/Grants:**

2008: Grant (with others) from Commission for Higher Education; livestock health and Water management under climatic variability and change: Disaster management in Kajiado District, Kenya.

1999-2001: WHO Career Development Fellowship (H9/181/R405) from Department of Reproductive Health and Research

1992: British Council travel grant for study visit in UK.

1991-1992: Fellowship from German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for MSc. studies at University of Nairobi.

**Research Interests:**

1. Characterisation of fertilisation proteins involved in Gamete interactions in different species.
2. Studies on gamete development and morphology.
3. Influence of the epididymal environment on gamete maturity and function.
4. Protein chemistry and applications.
5. Characterisation of proteins expressed in the course of development.
6. Fish physiology and development.

**Referees:**

1. Prof. Dominic Oduor-Okelo

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2. Prof. Seth M. Kisia

Chairman

Dept. of Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology

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3. Prof. G.E Otianga-Owiti

Principal

Kenya Wildlife Service Institute

P.O. Box 842, Naivasha, Kenya

4. Prof. Harry Moore

Centre for Stem Cell Biology

University of Sheffield

Sheffield S10 2TN, UK