

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name Lydia Wanjiru Njihia  
Date of birth 23/07/1990  
Gender Female  
Marital status Single  
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Languages English, Swahili, Kikuyu

## PERSONAL PROFILE

I consider myself as a self-driven, ambitious, fast learner, result driven and a team player with good interpersonal skills. I strongly believe in honesty, discipline and being reliable. I desire to work with other people especially innovative and professionals towards achieving a certain goal that lead to both personal and organizational growth to international standards. I have good oral and written language communication skills and reliable in making well informed decisions. I am patient and persistent in dealing with difficult and complicated issues. I have substantial knowledge and skills in field data/sample collection, laboratory research techniques and molecular diagnostic techniques. I have a strong ability to plan and direct studies on varied issues and have interest towards research inclined towards virology, bacteriology, immunology and vaccinology. I have moderate analytical skills in bio-informatics, R, QGIS, GeoDa and Mathematical modelling of infectious diseases.

## EDUCATION

01/03/2023- to PhD in Pathobiology (Virology Option); University of Nairobi.  
date

2016 - 2022 Masters in Applied Microbiology (Virology Option): University of Nairobi  
Molecular characterization of Foot and Mouth disease virus serotypes  
between 2019 and 2020 in Kenya in relation to the vaccine.

2011 - 2016 Bachelor's degree in Veterinary Medicine (BVM)  
University of Nairobi

2006- 2009 Kenya certificate in secondary education  
Attained B+ 73 points  
Gitugi girls' high school

1998- 2005 Kenya certificate of primary education  
Attained 341 marks out of 500 marks  
Miiri primary school

## WORK EXPERIENCE

April 2023- to date	Research/Tutorial fellow University of Nairobi	<b>Responsibilities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Conducting research on infectious and zoonotic viral and bacterial diseases.</li> <li>✧ Teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students in Microbiology (Virology, Immunology, Vaccinology and Bacteriology)</li> <li>✧ Conducting tutorials and student practicals</li> <li>✧ Conducting diagnostic procedures</li> <li>✧ Conducting exams (written, practicals and orals)</li> <li>✧ Spear heading departmental committee on Quality Assurance</li> </ul>
April 2021- April 2023	Graduate Assistant University of Nairobi	<b>Responsibilities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Teaching</li> <li>✧ Conducting tutorials and student practicals</li> <li>✧ Conducting research on infectious and zoonotic diseases</li> <li>✧ Assist in teaching and preparation of teaching materials</li> <li>✧ Conducting diagnostic procedures</li> <li>✧ Conducting exams (written, practicals and orals)</li> <li>✧ Invigilating, marking exams and attachment reports.</li> </ul>
August 2018 to April 2021	Doctor at Andys Veterinary Clinic	<b>Responsibilities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Clinical practice including treatment of different animal species</li> <li>✧ Disease prevention and control</li> <li>✧ Conducting surgical procures including spays, castrations, wound repair surgeries, bone repair surgeries and many others.</li> <li>✧ Office administration (front office, accounting, stock management, cash collection and reconciliation)</li> <li>✧ Ambulatory services and house visits</li> <li>✧ General office management and supervision of activities</li> <li>✧ Post mortem and laboratory procedures</li> <li>✧ Training students on attachment, work placement and internship</li> <li>✧ Conducting diagnostic procedures.</li> <li>✧ Animal breeding services</li> </ul>

2017- July 2018	Intern clinician at Andys Veterinary Clinic	Responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Assisting in surgical procedures</li> <li>✧ Assisting in medical procedures</li> <li>✧ Assisting in office administration</li> <li>✧ Assisting in laboratory diagnostic procedures and post mortems</li> <li>✧ Assisting in ambulatory services and extension services</li> </ul>
August to September 2016	Clinician at Kiambu road veterinary Clinic	Responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Handling medical and surgical cases</li> <li>✧ Vaccination and management of mainly small animals</li> <li>✧ Post mortem and diagnosis</li> <li>✧ Sale of animal feeds</li> <li>✧ Animal breeding services</li> <li>✧ Supervising general activities in the entire clinic</li> </ul>
July- August 2016	Intern, Kenya Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program (FELTP).	Responsibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Participated in rabies control and prevention.</li> <li>✧ Participated in disease surveillance on rabies and cases of dog bites in Machakos County.</li> <li>✧ Data collection on human dog bites and management, analysis and reporting.</li> </ul>

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- ✧ Gitao C.G., Njihia L. W., Lamuka P. 2021. Prevalence and risk of milk-borne microbes from camels. Potential microbes from camel milk in Isiolo County, Kenya. Lap Lambert Academic Publishing a trademark of Omni scriptum S.R.L Publishing group ISBN- 978-620-3-93087-0.

## **AWARDS**

- ✧ Recognition for the best Masters student (Thesis), Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Nairobi.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2022 ✧ African scholar at Iowa State University, United States of America, funded by United States Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Services (USDA-FAS).
- 2022 ✧ Analysis of atypical clinical isolates of Moraxella species from goat nasal swabs using 16S gene and species involvement in lower respiratory disease.
- 2022 ✧ Metagenomics of bacteria from goat nasal cavity and lungs.
- 2022 ✧ Trained as an instructor in teaching and learning in Veterinary Medical Education, curriculum development and review.
- 2021 ✧ Participated in field and laboratory research under ‘Building laboratory diagnostic capacity for zoonotic bacterial and viral diseases, risk

- mitigation in undeserved arid and semi-arid areas of Kenya’ project between Colorado State University and University of Nairobi.
- 2021            ✧ Conducted research on foot and mouth disease virus antigenic and genetic characterization in relation to the vaccine at FMD National reference laboratory, University of Nairobi and Institute of Primate Research.

## PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS

- |      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
| 2023 | Annual faculty of veterinary Medicine scientific conference and community outreach.                      | ✧ Harnessing research in veterinary science for resilience and sustainability of communities.   |
| 2023 | Animal Governance and Policy Workshop, ILRI campus   | ✧ Safeguarding animal health, disease surveillance and policy brief.  |
| 2022 | 12 <sup>th</sup> antibiotics symposium by National institute for animal agriculture (NIAA) Washington DC | ✧ Antimicrobial stewardship and antimicrobial resistance.<br>✧ Role of One health and the importance of interdisciplinary collaborations.<br>✧ Role of USDA on food safety and the involvement of government agencies in making and implementing regulations on antimicrobial use.  |
| 2022 | Qualitative PCR and digital PCR Workshop, Iowa State University  | ✧ Detailed insights in quantitative and digital PCR, advanced qPCR assays, PCR software, data analysis and troubleshooting.   |
| 2022 | Laboratory biosafety, environmental health and safety  | ✧ Laboratory safety: Core concepts<br>✧ NIH guidelines<br>✧ Biological risk assessments for researchers<br>✧ Fire safety and fire extinguisher training<br>✧ Emergency response guide video   |
| 2022 | Iowa Veterinary Medical Association (IVMA) annual conference   | ✧ Avian influenza and exotic Newcastle disease, equine diseases in the USA and bovine tuberculosis in cattle.<br>✧ Latest antimicrobials, antimicrobial stewardship and antimicrobial susceptibility testing.<br>✧ Federal accreditation.<br>✧ Interstate and international health certificates for category animals.<br>✧ Collecting and shipping swine diagnostic samples.<br>✧ Evaluation of aquatic animals for detection of reportable diseases and pathogens. |
| 2022 | Industry Networking, Iowa State University   | ✧ Networking with industry representatives in microbiology, pharmaceuticals and biomedical science. Panel discussions about career options in industries, governments and academia.   |

2022	56 <sup>th</sup> KVA Annual Scientific Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Humanity, Sustainability, Innovation and Future.</li> </ul>
2021	One Health regional Network training (HORN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Trained on Introduction to mathematical modelling of infectious diseases</li> <li>✧ Trained on Introduction to mapping and geospatial analysis in QGIS and R</li> <li>✧ Trained on Introduction to Statistical Spatial Analysis in GeoDa</li> </ul>
2021	Davis-Thompson DVM foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Pathology identified in mortality surveys of commercial layer hens.</li> </ul>
2021	International livestock research institute (ILRI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Inaugural Kenya One Health Conference.</li> </ul>
2021	World Animal Protection training (WAP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Trained on veterinary preparation and emergency response</li> <li>✧ Creating public awareness on zoonotic diseases</li> </ul>
2020	Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Participated in the Africa animal welfare conference action</li> </ul>
2019	Grant Proposal Writing (2019)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Trained on grant proposal writing at the University of Nairobi</li> </ul>
2016	One Health Training (OHCEA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Participated in One Health Rabies campaign, control and prevention by mass vaccination of animals</li> <li>✧ Creating public awareness on zoonotic diseases</li> </ul>
2015	Veterinary Mission Program (VMP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Participated in vaccination campaign against peste des petits ruminants (PPR) disease in Mosiro, Narok County</li> </ul>
2015	Veterinary Emergency Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Participated in disease prevention and mitigation program under Veterinary Emergency Response Unit (VERU) in Baringo County</li> <li>✧ Conflict resolution between communities</li> </ul>
2014	Attachment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Participated in Equine practice and small animal medicine</li> <li>✧ Disease control and prevention</li> </ul>
2011	Attachment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Student attachee at the District Veterinary Office, Githunguri.</li> <li>✧ Disease control programs, vaccination, biosecurity and deworming of livestock</li> <li>✧ Providing veterinary extension services</li> <li>✧ Meat inspection</li> <li>✧ Milk hygiene</li> <li>✧ Management of clinical cases</li> </ul>
2010	Computer Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✧ Knowledgeable in computer applications and Microsoft office (MS Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint)</li> <li>✧ Able to navigate through Mac OS and MS windows</li> <li>✧ Able to learn new software quickly</li> </ul>

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- ✧ Member of Kenya Veterinary Association (KVA)
- ✧ Registered with Kenya Veterinary Board (KVB)

## **INTERESTS**

- ✧ E-learning
- ✧ National and international networking and collaborations
- ✧ Travelling

## **REFEREES**

Prof. Gitao George C.  
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