

8th International

## Pediatrics, Infectious Diseases and Healthcare Conference

July 28-29, 2025 | Webinar

## Typhoid fever in children: Addressing a persistent public health threat

## Irene Wambua

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Typhoid fever continues to be a major pediatric health challenge in low- and middle-income countries. Irene Wambua from Nairobi presents recent epidemiological findings and updated clinical management protocols for pediatric typhoid, with a focus on multidrug-resistant (MDR) strains. The session reviews signs of complicated typhoid (e.g., intestinal perforation), current antibiotic regimens, and the growing role of typhoid conjugate vaccines (TCVs) in children over 6 months. Wambua emphasizes community-based prevention strategies including clean water access, hygiene education, and early diagnosis in febrile illness algorithms.

Participants will gain confidence in both managing individual cases and understanding broader public health interventions necessary to reduce typhoid burden in pediatric populations.

## **Biography**

Irene Wambua is a paediatrician and infectious disease expert at Kenyatta National Hospital, Nairobi. She completed her medical training at the University of Nairobi and holds an MPH in infectious disease control from Tulane University. She leads several vaccine implementation trials across East Africa and works with Gavi and the WHO on typhoid elimination strategies.