

George Njoroge

Chief Scientific Adviser, Kenyatta University Teaching, Referral and Research Hospital
TPAC member since 2020

Professor Njoroge is the Chief Scientific Officer at Kenyatta University Teaching, Referral & Research Hospital (KUTRRH) and a member of Board of Directors at Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) chairing Research and Innovation committee. He is the Chairman of the Board at Daystar University and a board member of KCA University (KCA). Previously, he was a Senior Research Fellow at Eli Lilly and Company and a former a Director in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry at Merck Research Laboratories where he oversaw chemistry program in infectious diseases platform. Through his research leadership at Merck, an anti-HCV viral drug Victrelis™ was discovered – this medicine was approved by FDA on May 13th, 2011 as the first-in-class therapy for Hepatitis C treatment. Prof. Njoroge led his chemistry team in the discovery HCV protease inhibitor Narlaprevir® that is marketed in Russia as Arlansa. He has also worked in the oncology area, in the discovery of therapeutic agents geared towards intervention of signal transduction process in proliferating cells, work that led to discovery of Sarasar®, a repurposed and approved for treatment of Progeria.

A graduate of University of Nairobi, first class honours, he holds Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Case Western Reserve University, USA

Prof. Njoroge is an author of 134 scientific publications and 104 USA granted patents. Prof. Njoroge was inducted into “Hall of Fame” as a Hero of Chemistry by the American Chemical Society on August 19th 2012. He is a recipient of numerous awards, including Emerald Award for Professional Achievement in Industry and Thomas Alva Edison Patent Award for emerging therapies and Distinguished Alumni Award by Case Western Reserve University among others. Prof. Njoroge was conferred with an Honorary Degree of Pharmaceutical Science by Mount Kenya University in 2014 and Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) by KCA University in 2021.

Prof. Njoroge is the Founder of Centre of Africa’s Life Sciences (C.O.A.L.S), a premier institution that is being established in Naivasha, Kenya with the primary goal of searching and developing novel medicines in the continent of Africa.