

Ikechukwu Ogbuanu Bio
(Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina)

Ikechukwu (Ike) graduated from medical school in 1998 as the best graduating student in Medicine. He practiced as a private sector physician for 6 years in Nigeria before starting graduate school with his wife, Chinelo, in 2004. Ike and Chinelo both completed their MPH as World Bank scholars in 2006 at the Arnold School of Public Health and are pursuing their PhD degrees in the same institution. They are blessed with two lovely kids: Joseph, who was born in the first year of their MPH, and Hannah, who they had in the second year of the doctoral program. Ike is currently a PhD candidate in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

The title of Ike's poster is: **"The effect of breastfeeding duration on lung function is modified by maternal history of asthma and atopy."** There has been an unprecedented increase in asthma prevalence over the past three decades. The results of this research support the renewed interest in the primary prevention of asthma and allergy. It addresses a previously unknown dynamic in the value of breastfeeding, a potential early-life intervention that may prove beneficial for control and prevention of asthma and other allergic diseases.

Ike has maintained a GPA of 4.0 throughout his graduate education. He is interested in pediatric research and genetic epidemiology, and his passions include HIV/AIDS research and medical care delivery to indigent populations, especially women and children.