

Tolullah Oni, a Public Health Physician and Urban Epidemiologist, is the Principal of the Oni et al. urban health practice and founder of UrbanBetter, a science-informed, equity-centred, Africa-led, youth-privileged movement applying a health foresight approach to generate new knowledge that supports partnership between science, policy and societal role players to health-proof the future of cities.

She is a Clinical Senior Research Associate and Director of the Global Public Health research group and Network at the University of Cambridge MRC Epidemiology Unit and an Extraordinary Professor & Chair at Innovation Africa@UP, University of Pretoria, South Africa where she leads the Urban Better Satellite Studio.

She is also an Honorary Associate Professor in Public Health at the University of Cape Town where leads the Research Initiative for Cities Health and Equity (RICHE) group conducting transdisciplinary urban health research to support development and implementation of healthy public policies in rapidly growing cities in Africa.

Born in Lagos, she completed her medical training at University College London, postgraduate medical training in the UK and Australia, a Masters degree in Public Health (Epidemiology) at the University of Cape Town, and a research doctorate in Clinical Epidemiology at Imperial College London. She serves on several advisory boards including Future Earth and the African Academy of Science Open Research Platform; and is an editorial board member of Lancet Planetary Health, Cities and Health, and the Journal of Urban Health. Profiled in the Lancet (2016), Science magazine (2018), and the British Medical Journal (2019), she is a Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences, past cochair of the Global Young Academy, 2015 Next Einstein Forum Fellow, and a 2019 World Economic Forum Young Global Leader. She is passionate about identifying creative strategies to address complex urban population health challenges in rapidly growing cities globally to make the healthy choice the easy sustainable choice.