

Equity in medical devices independent review: panel members' biographies

Professor Dame Margaret Whitehead (Chair)



Professor Dame Margaret Whitehead holds the WH Duncan Chair of Public Health at the University of Liverpool, where she was also founding Head of the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Policy Research on the Determinants of Health Equity from 2005 to 2020.

Her passionate interest over the past 30 years has been inequalities in health and in healthcare – most especially what can be done to tackle these inequalities. Her work with WHO has helped provide guidance for countries across Europe on making population health policies and strategies more equitable.

As well as contributing to various UK and international efforts to address social inequalities in health, she chaired the Independent Inquiry into Health Equity for the North of England (the Due North Report), which set out recommendations for northern agencies to work together across sectors, as well as for central government to play its full part. In 2016 she was awarded a damehood for services to public health with special reference to her research on inequalities in health.

Dr Raghiv Ali



Dr Raghiv Ali is a Senior Clinical Research Associate at the MRC Epidemiology Unit at the University of Cambridge and the Director and Principal Investigator of the Public Health Research Center and Associate Research Professor at New York University, Abu Dhabi. Additionally, he is an Honorary Consultant in Acute Medicine at the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust.

In October 2020, he was appointed as an Independent Expert Adviser on COVID-19 and ethnicity to the UK government.

His main research interests are the aetiology and prevention of non-communicable diseases and establishing prospective cohort studies in populations which have not previously been studied. He is the Principal Investigator for the UAE Healthy Future Study, one of the first prospective cohort studies in the Middle East, focusing on risk factors for obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. He previously led studies on cancer aetiology in the UK and India as well as working on the UK Biobank project.

Professor Enitan Carrol



Professor Enitan Carrol is Clinical Director of the National Institute for Health Research's Clinical Research Network in the North West Coast, and a Professor of Paediatric Infection at the University of Liverpool.

She is also an Honorary Consultant in Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Alder Hey Children's Hospital.

Professor Carrol previously served on the SAGE ethnicity sub-group, and contributed to evidence reports on the impact of COVID-19 on minority ethnic groups. Her research interests include bacterial infections in children, biomarker diagnostic accuracy studies, and early warning scores for early recognition of deterioration. She has over 20 years' experience of clinical research in hospitalised children with infections.

She has a special interest in the development and testing of risk prediction tools using routinely collected electronic patient data. She sits on the MRC Developmental Pathway Funding Scheme and NIHR Invention for Innovation (i4i) Programme funding panels.

Professor Chris Holmes



Professor Chris Holmes is Programme Director for Health and Medical Sciences at The Alan Turing Institute, and Professor of Biostatistics at the University of Oxford.

At Oxford, Holmes holds a joint appointment between the Department of Statistics and the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine through the Wellcome Centre for Human Genetics and the Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Innovation and Discovery.

Before joining Oxford, Holmes was a faculty member at Imperial College London, and before that he worked in industry conducting research in scientific computing. He holds a Programme Leader's award in Statistical Genomics from the Medical Research Council UK. He serves on the international advisory board for UK Biobank, the technical advisory board for Our Future Health, and the NHS AI Award Evaluation Advisory Group. He co-leads the European ELLIS Society's programme on Robust Machine Learning.

Professor Holmes has a broad research interest in the theory, methods and applications of statistics, causal inference, and machine learning for applications in health. He is particularly interested in Bayesian statistics and robust statistical machine learning in genomics and genetic epidemiology.

Professor Frank Kee



Professor Kee is the Director of the Centre for Public Health in the School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, and previously directed one of the UKCRC Centres of Excellence for Public Health Research (2008-2018).

He currently serves on a number of UKRI scientific advisory and funding panels including the MRC Better Methods for Better Research Panel and the Longitudinal Studies Advisory Group, having previously served on the MRC Population and Systems Medicine panel and the Public Health Intervention Development Panel.

He previously chaired the NIHR Public Health Funding Board (until 2019) and sits on the Advisory Board for the NIHR School of Public Health and the Methods Advisory Group of the Department of Work and Pensions

Professor Kee's interests span a wide range of subjects in epidemiology, public health, health services research and complexity science and in finding better ways to evaluate the impact of our academic endeavours, both methodologically and in terms of knowledge mobilisation that can impact policy and practice.

Professor Kee maintains active collaborations with international cardiovascular epidemiology consortia, including the development of risk prediction tools and with a range of methodologists developing novel methods for evaluation of complex systems and complex interventions in public health.