LSHTM Global and Public Health Careers panel discussion

Monday 25 Nov 2024, 17.30-19.00

Panelist Biographies

Candela Iglesias Chiesa

Candela Iglesias Chiesa is a global health specialist with a biomedical background and the Founder and Director of Alanda Health, a purpose-driven organization supporting players worldwide to improve their health projects through better use of evidence and strengthened training and project management. Candela has worked with the Pandemic Fund, the Red Cross, WHO-PAHO, Resolve to Save Lives and others, in projects in Africa and Latin America. She sits on the advisory board of Women in Global Health Norway and the Government board for the Mexican National Institute of Oncology. She is a speaker on global and public health topics as well as on career development topics for young public health professionals.

Melinda Hadi

Until recently (September 2024), Melinda was Director of Market Development & Access for Vestergaard, a leading manufacturer of long-lasting insecticidal mosquito nets. In this role, she was the technical lead responsible for product development including establishing the evidence base substantiating product claims and regulatory/market access requirements. A background in evaluating public health interventions led Melinda to join Vestergaard in 2012 first to establish a collaborative vector testing facility in Accra, Ghana and subsequently to manage lab and field trials for the product portfolio throughout Africa and Asia. Melinda holds a Master of Science in Public Health in Developing Countries from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK and a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry & Bachelor of Arts in Global Development from Queen's University, Canada. Melinda is now thrilled to be back at LSHTM as a Doctorate of Public Health candidate.

Fatma Skakarchi

Fatma Shakarchi is a medical doctor and Chevening Alumna, with clinical, policy, and research experience. Working with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) headquarters, in Geneva, Fatma helped enable the healthcare delivery to 34 million people globally. She was also selected for one of the 5 regional youth representative roles at the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre in the Hague, representing over 280 million youth in the region.
Her previous roles included serving as a medical doctor on the frontlines of the Covid-19 pandemic in Baghdad. She did multiple clinical attachments in the US including at the Mayo Clinic and her work has been presented at high-level events with organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and the European Space Agency (ESA).
Fatma holds an MSc in Public Health for Eye Care from LSHTM, a Medical Degree with Distinction from the University of Baghdad, and a Diploma in Public Policy and Leadership from the American University of Sharjah.
Links- www.linkedin.com/in/fatmashakarchi

Maiko Hirai
Maiko is an Associate Partner at McKinsey & Company in the Life Sciences and Global Public Health practices, based in Geneva. She supports clients in MedTech, Pharma, Private Equity, and Global Public Health organizations on growth strategy. She began her career as a medical doctor and then joined the World Health Organization's Southeast Asia Regional Office before joining LSHTM. After completing an MSc in Public Health at LSHTM, she joined McKinsey in their Tokyo office and subsequently transferred to Kuala Lumpur, London, and now Geneva.

Claire Chaumont
Claire is a public health specialist with expertise in health systems, Health in All Policies and global health governance. She currently works as an independent consultant based in California. Most recently, she helped launch a new department focused on implementation, country impact and data-driven decision-making at the World Health Organization, where she led all activities related to determinants of health and universal health coverage. Over the course of her career, she has worked extensively on strategic planning, resource allocation, and implementation across more than fifteen countries. A political scientist by training, she is particularly interested in the link between research, policy and implementation for complex health issues. She is a graduate from Sciences Po Paris, the London School of Economics, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, where she was a Fulbright scholar.

Nida Wasim

I completed my MSc in Public health as a Chevening Scholar in 2023. Currently I am working as a Specialist Grant Writer at Aga Khan University, where I leverage my expertise to design research proposals and secure funding for transformative public health initiatives. Previously, I have served as Research Manager-Projects at the Trust for Vaccines and Immunization (TVI), directing initiatives such as the WHO multi-country childhood pneumonia (CIPAM) study and the Umeed-e-Nau (MNCH) project. My career also includes experience as a Consultant in clinical trials with Moderna and Pfizer. Notably, I was the first Pakistani selected as an international intern at the Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET), where with I collaborated with Ministries of Health across eight countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region and engaged with CDC leadership. With research interests spanning noncommunicable diseases, health system strengthening, health inequalities, and antimicrobial resistance, I continue to contribute to public health with passion and dedication.

Paul Barr PhD MSc

Dr. Barr is an Associate Professor at The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy & Clinical Practice, and a member of the Center for Technology and Behavioral Health, Geisel School of Medicine. He received his training in quantitative and qualitative methods at Queen's University Belfast and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (HSR stream). His research portfolio includes the development and implementation of measures of shared decision making (SDM), and the user centered design and evaluation of patient facing interventions to support SDM in individuals with depression, and the communication of medical information to promote self-management in older adults with multimorbidity and their caregivers. His methodological expertise includes clinical trials, user centered design, survey and intervention development, and community based participatory research. He leads an NIH-funded R21 where he is developing a novel self-guided SDM platform, iPath, to tackle the challenge of providing evidence-based goal aligned care to patients with cancer who experience depression in rural communities. He also leads the Open Recordings research group, a multidisciplinary group of researchers, clinicians, and patients to evaluate potential clinical utility of audio/video recordings of healthcare visits, with a focus on older adults with multimorbidity, including patients living with dementia, and their care partners. His team have developed novel software, HealthPAL, a comprehensive personal health library that supports sharing of clinic visit recordings with patients and applies natural language processing to automatically identify key information in the visit. His team have produced a number of high impact publications, including articles in NEJM AI, JAMA and the BMJ. Dr. Barr is the Co-Director of the Dartmouth Institute PhD program, the Predoctoral Director of NIDA-funded T32 Science of Co-Occurring Conditions and faculty on a HRSA T32 training grant