

MESSAGE ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS

Kathryn Abel

Professor Kathryn Abel is Professor of Psychological Medicine and Reproductive Psychiatry & Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist at the University of Manchester. She is an expert on women's mental health focussing on maternal condition and its effects on offspring outcomes, gender sensitive service development, and reproductive psychiatry involving mothers, maternal mental illness and their children.



Michael Brady

Dr Brady was appointed as the National Advisor for LGBT Health at NHS England in April 2019. In this role Michael works across NHS England and NHS Improvement, with the Government Equalities Office and a wide range of stakeholders, partner organisations and the LGBT community to address health inequalities for LGBT patients and improve experience in the NHS.

Michael is also an HIV and Sexual Health consultant at Kings College Hospital in London and the Medical Director of the Terrence Higgins Trust.



Kent Buse

Professor Kent Buse directs the Healthier Societies program at The George Institute for Global Health (Imperial College London). He has a long-standing interest in gender and health and among other things co-directs Global Health 50/50 – a leading global authority on gender in the global health system. Kent served for 12 years as senior advisor to the Executive Director and as Chief, Strategy, Research and Policy at UNAIDS. In that role he served as Sherpa to a range of global health initiatives and led the development of corporate strategies. As a political economist with expertise in policy analysis, Kent taught at the Yale University School of Public Health and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and is author the leading text book Making Health Policy.

“Gender plays a significant role in exposures to health harms, in health-seeking behaviour, in health care provision and which contributes to significant differences in health outcomes among men, women and trans and non-binary people. Sadly, the health sector, including the funding agencies, remain largely gender blind. By working with a range of stakeholders, we are convinced that the MESSAGE initiative can ensure that gender is integrated into all future bio-medical research in the UK”



Rageshri Dhairyawan

Dr Rageshri Dhairyawan is a consultant physician in sexual health and HIV at Barts Health NHS Trust and an Honorary Senior Lecturer at Queen Mary University London, part of the SHARE Collaborative. Her research focuses on improving health equity in sexual health, HIV and beyond, particularly around ethnicity and gender.

She has held several national roles including British HIV Association trustee and chair of the External Relations Subcommittee, chair of the BASHH sexual violence group, chair of the 4M Mentor Mothers Network CIC steering group and trustee of the SWIFT Supporting Women with HIV network. She is a member of the BASHH Racially Minoritised specialist interest group, the medical board of NAZ and recently co-founded the South Asian HIV Advisory Resource.

Rageshri is an inaugural Wellcome Collection x Spread the Word writer awardee, regularly writes for The Lancet and BMJ Leader, and has appeared on BBC Woman's Hour amongst other media outlets.

“Striving for health equity is increasingly urgent and this very timely project is an exciting step forwards. I look forward to being able to contribute.”



Sally Hines

Professor Sally Hines is Chair of Sociology at the University of Sheffield, UK. She is also the Founder and Co-Director of the Feminist Gender Inclusion Network (FGEN) which brings together academic and stakeholder communities to advance gender rights for all, and build a coalitions between feminist and trans communities. Sally's work falls across the interdisciplinary fields of sociology, gender studies, social policy, law, politics, health studies, and science and technology studies, and she has published widely on trans and feminism. Sally has recently been working as lead on two projects funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) - the first an international study of trans male pregnancy and the second an exploration of the meanings and experiences of gender amongst young people in the UK. Sally's pronouns are she/her.



Lilian Hunt

Dr Lilian Hunt is the Equality, Diversity & Inclusion in Science and Health (EDIS) Lead in Wellcome's Culture Equity Diversity and Inclusion (CEDI) team. They manage the EDIS coalition (www.edisgroup.org) supporting its members, developing its strategy, and delivering events and research. Lilian received their PhD in Genetics from UCL whilst at The Francis Crick Institute. Lilian draws on their research experience, lived experience as a queer person in science, and EDI knowledge to drive an evidence-based approach to inclusion in the research cycle. They champion inclusive research design and practice within Wellcome and EDIS member organisations and sit as an Advisory Board Member for The Health Foundation's 'Developing the long-term research agenda for COVID-19' programme.

“They are excited to help develop an inclusive framework for sex and gender in medical research through this project.”



Ian Kidd

Ian James Kidd is a lecturer in philosophy at the University of Nottingham. His research interests include topics in the philosophies of illness and healthcare, with particular interests in the oppression of those with chronic illnesses and the ways that healthcare and scientific institutions inadvertently perpetuate harms and wrongs. His website is www.ianjameskid.weebly.com

“I'm hoping the project helps do some of the necessary work in bringing medical science and practice into line with our moral and social values.”



Catriona Manville

Dr Catriona Manville is Director of Research Policy at The Association of Medical Research Charities. Catriona leads on responsible research funding and AMRC's policy work to influence and improve the research and funding landscape in universities and the NHS, and to build networks across government and the life sciences sector. Within this remit, she champions the AMRC's work on EDI across the research and the researchers that AMRC members fund.

Before joining AMRC, Catriona was a Research Leader at RAND Europe, led a large portfolio of research evaluation and research into societal impact, with a particular focus on evaluating national assessment systems. During this time, Catriona was seconded to the Department of Health and Social Care and the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR). She has a PhD from Newcastle University in cancer drug therapies.

“Great to be working with funders and researchers across the ecosystem on this important topic.”

Neena Modi

Professor Neena Modi is Professor of Neonatal Medicine at Imperial College London and Consultant in Neonatal Medicine at Chelsea and Westminster NHS Foundation Trust. Neena is a Fellow and member of Council of the Academy of Medical Sciences, and the current president of the British Medical Association. She heads the multidisciplinary Neonatal Medicine Research Group, and the National Neonatal Database, a UK Information Asset at the Neonatal Data Analysis Unit at Imperial.



Esther Mukaka

Dr Esther Mukaka is the Head of Equality Diversity and Inclusion for NIHR. She has overall responsibility for the NIHR's inclusion strategy with accountability for embedding inclusion across the NIHR's people framework and portfolio of activities.

Esther has experience working in health and social care and higher education and has a personal interest in transforming organisational culture for sustainable diversity and inclusion. She has a PhD in Politics and International Relations.



Sanne Peters

Sanne is an Associate Professor at The George Institute for Global Health and a Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College London. She holds a joint appointment as Associate Professor at the University Medical Center Utrecht.

Her research focuses on sex differences in the prevention, presentation, management, and outcomes of chronic disease, mainly cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Using large databases, she aims to reliably quantify where those differences exist and to identify the biological, behavioural, and genetic factors underpinning such differences.

Another important part of her work involves the assessment of disparities in treatment and care provided for cardiovascular diseases, both for primary and secondary prevention, and what influence such differences have on subsequent adverse outcomes.



Marina Politis

Marina Politis is a medical student at the University of Glasgow. She is interested in the sex and gender gap in healthcare, both in medical research and treatment, and in medical education following her own experiences of androcentric teaching as a medical student. She is also passionate about LGBTQ+ inclusive healthcare and is co-founder of a student-led society, Pride in Healthcare, which focuses on addressing LGBTQ+ health inequalities in the curriculum and advocating for a less heteronormative curriculum. Marina's pronouns are she/her.



Londa Schiebinger

Professor Londa Schiebinger is the John L. Hinds Professor of History of Science at Stanford University, and Founding Director of [Gendered Innovations in Science, Health & Medicine, Engineering, and Environment](#). She is a leading international expert on gender in science and technology and has addressed the United Nations, the European Parliament, the Korean National Assembly, and numerous funding agencies on that topic. Schiebinger received her Ph.D. from Harvard University and is an elected

member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She is the recipient of numerous prizes and awards, including the prestigious Alexander von Humboldt Research Prize and Guggenheim Fellowship. Recent publications include: [Sex and Gender Analysis Improves Science and Engineering](#) *Nature* (2019); [Analysing How Sex and Gender Interact](#) *The Lancet* (2020); [Sex, Gender, and Intersectional Puzzles in Health and Biomedicine Research](#) *Med* (2022).

“Bringing the UK up to speed on policy to integrate sex and gender analysis into health research is important and timely.”



Amy Vassallo

Dr Amy Vassallo is an Honorary Research Fellow at the George Institute for Global Health, UNSW, Australia, and a health policy focussed data strategy and analytics consultant, working with health and government organisations to leverage the power of data for better outcomes. Her research work focusses on women's health and gender equity in health and medical research, including evidence-based policy reform. Translation of evidence into policy is at the heart of all she does, with a keen interest in disrupting the norms of research practice in partnership with community.

“She is excited to join MESSAGE for the impact it will have in facilitating more equitable health outcomes.”



Ben Vincent

Ben Vincent is Research Coordinator of the Trans Learning Partnership – a collaboration between the UK-based trans-supporting charities Gendered Intelligence, LGBT Foundation, Mermaids, and Spectra. Ben has a PhD in sociology which looked at non-binary gender identity negotiation in relation to queer communities and medical practice. They are author of the books *Transgender Health* (JKP, 2018) and *Non-Binary Genders* (Policy Press, 2020). They co-edited the collection *TERF Wars* (Sage, 2020), and their co-edited book *Non-Binary Lives* (JKP, 2020) was a finalist for a Lambda Literary Award. Ben has also published a range of peer-reviewed journal articles, and sits on the editorial board of the *International Journal of Transgender Health*.

“The complexity that underlies the relationship between conceptualisations of sex and gender are frequently underattended to. The development of policies that recognise how sexed/gendered experiences can differ, why, and what can be done to improve the nuance of research is much needed, to move away from damaging assumptions and simplifications.”