

Department of Sexual Reproductive Health and Research (SRH) Maternal and Perinatal Health (MPH)

Members of Diabetes Subgroup of the NCD in Pregnancy Guideline Development Group



Sumaiya Adam

Professor Sumaiya Adam is an esteemed Obstetrician, Gynaecologist, and Maternal Fetal Medicine Specialist at Steve Biko Academic Hospital and the University of Pretoria. Her clinical focus is on managing high-risk pregnancies, particularly those complicated by diabetes, where she has made significant strides in improving maternal and fetal outcomes. Prof. Adam's dedication extends beyond patient care to the education of future medical professionals, where she emphasizes the importance of a holistic approach to obstetrics and gynaecology.

Her teaching philosophy is rooted in critical thinking and the application of knowledge to real-world situations, preparing students for the complexities of healthcare delivery. Additionally, Prof. Adam is at the forefront of innovation in medicine, actively integrating cutting-edge technologies and methods to enhance patient care and treatment protocols in her field. Her work is not only a testament to her commitment to advancing women's health but also to her role in shaping the future of medical education and practice.

Through her clinical excellence, educational contributions, and innovative research, Prof. Adam has become a key figure in maternal and fetal medicine. Her efforts in addressing the challenges of diabetes in pregnancy are particularly noteworthy, offering new pathways for care and management. As a mentor, educator, and clinician, Professor Sumaiya Adam continues to inspire and influence both her peers and the next generation of healthcare professionals, making a lasting impact on the field of women's health.



Amanda Adler

Amanda Adler, MD, PhD, FRCP trained in economics, medicine, epidemiology, and pharmacovigilance. She is Professor of Diabetic Medicine and Health Policy at the University of Oxford and a consultant physician in the UK National Health Service. She contributes to WHO guidance-making groups and chaired the Technical Advisory Group for Diabetes. For 12 years, she chaired a Technology Appraisal Committee at the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) that evaluated drugs, devices, and other technologies across all disease areas for England. She serves as a Commissioner on the UK Commission on Human Medicines. Amanda Adler supports projects that set priorities under universal health coverage.



Fatima Al Slail

Dr. Fatima Al Slail is the Director of the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, and the Director of Cardiovascular Prevention and Control Program in the Ministry of Health, Saudi Arabia. She is the In-country Director of King Abdullah Fellowship Program-Emory University for Public Health. Dr. Al Slail has an MD with a master's degree of Public Health from Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Atlanta, USA. She is also certified as a project management professional. Her major research interests are; Diabetes, cardiovascular disease, preventive medicine, health literacy, noncommunicable disease prevention, communicable diseases and influenzas vaccine. She is a Member of The Saudi National Diabetes Control Committee and the Scientific Committee in the Directory of the Noncommunicable Disease, Ministry of Health, Saudi Arabia, and a member of The American Diabetes Association and the American Public Health Association. She is also a board member of MENA Influenza Stakeholders Network.



Emmanuel Ogbada Ameh

Dr. Emmanuel Ogbada Ameh is a Consultant Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, Reproductive Health and Family Planning specialist with close to 20 years' experience in maternal health. He is a Lecturer in Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Family Health Medical School and in Women's Health at the Accra College of Medicine both in Accra Ghana. Currently, he is a Technical Advisor at Total Family Health Organisation in Ghana. Until this appointment He was the head of the Reproductive Health unit (RHU) at the department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology at Greater Accra Regional Hospital in Accra, Ghana. He has experience in Programme Development and Implementation in Maternal and Reproductive Health. He has been involved in development of several programmes, protocol and guidelines in maternal and reproductive health in Ghana. He has worked in several national technical committee for women and adolescent health in Ghana.

Dr. Ameh has worked with several organisations (governmental and non-governmental) to advocate for and implement quality reproductive health programmes that have enhanced the lives of adolescents and women in Ghana He is an advocate for the reproductive rights of Persons with Disability (PWDs).

Ameh is a Fellow of the Ghana College of Surgeon in the Faculty of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.



Shabina Arif

Shabina Arif is a physician scientist and a certified Pediatrician and Neonatologist working at the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, Aga Khan University, Pakistan as an Associate Professor. Her research focuses on maternal, neonatal, and child health. She has served as a GDG member for WHO recommendations on maternal and newborn guidelines. She is a member of STAGE and CHTF

where she contributes towards improvement in newborn and Child Health as a researcher working in the LMIC. She has received research support from organizations such as the World Health Organization, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Oxford University. Her scholarly work includes over 130 journal articles published in high-impact journals such as Lancet, New England Journal of Medicine, and JAMA Pediatrics. Additionally, she serves as a reviewer for scientific journals to uphold research quality. As an academician, she mentors young neonatologists. Her goal is to improve healthcare outcomes for mothers, neonates, and children, both nationally and internationally.



Stephen Colagiuri (Co-Chair)

Stephen Colagiuri is Professor Emeritus and Co-Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Physical Activity, Nutrition and Obesity, Faculty of Medicine and Health and Charles Perkins Centre, University of Sydney. His research and clinical focus are on evidence-based diabetes prevention and care. He has served on a number of WHO technical advisory groups and was Vice-President (Physician) on the Board of the International Diabetes Federation from 2017 to 2022. In 2017 he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for national and international services to diabetes.



Margie Davenport

Dr. Margie Davenport is a Professor and holds the Christenson Professorship in Active Healthy Living in the Faculty of Kinesiology, Sport, and Recreation at the University of Alberta. She is Director of the Program for Pregnancy and Postpartum Health(exerciseandpregnancy.ca) which is a multi-site

research program with the mission of conducting research to improve the life-long health of pregnant and postpartum women and their children. Dr. Davenport was the Chair of the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada/Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology 2019 Canadian Guideline for Physical Activity throughout Pregnancy, and the Get Active Questionnaire for Pregnancy Working Group. She led the development of the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology Pre & Postnatal Exercise Specialization which is a 30-hour certification for Qualified Exercise Professionals. Dr. Davenport has published over 150 peer-reviewed manuscripts, primarily in the area of exercise during pregnancy and the postpartum period including people with diabetes during pregnancy and holds numerous national grants to support her research.



Mohamad Hassanein

Mohamed Hassanein is a Professor of Medicine, at Mohamed Bin-Rashid University, Dubai, senior consultant in Endocrinology and Diabetes at Dubai Hospital, Dubai, and H Professor of Medicine, Gulf Medical University, UAE. He's also a co-founder of diabetes diploma/MSC for Cardiff University, UK since 2007. He was appointed to the post of Consultant in the Department of Endocrinology and Diabetes at in UK in 2002. Dr Hassanein graduated from the Faculty of Medicine, Alexandria, Egypt.

His main research interest is in the field of diabetes and Ramadan. He co-authored recommendations papers on this subject for the American Diabetes Association (ADA) in 2005 and 2010, and for the British Medical Journal in 2010, Diabetes Canada in 2017 as well as the IDF-DAR practical guidelines, 2016 and 2021. Dr Hassanein other areas of interest are educational programs for people with diabetes and/or HCP where he won the first prize for this from Diabetes UK and EASD. He has participated as the first author and/or a co-author in numerous studies, regional and international guidelines including studies on prevalence of diabetes, obesity, hypertension and is the first author for the Emirates Cardiometabolic guidelines. He has published over 100 papers. He's also the associate editor of Dubai Diabetes and Endocrinology Journal.



Shane Norris

Shane Norris is a Professor of Global Health at the University of Southampton and at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. Shane's research focuses on lifecourse epidemiology with a specific interest in understanding the intergenerational risk for non-communicable disease. Shane is working with scientists across Africa to both better understand and develop interventions that improve maternal, child and adolescent health.



Rajalakshmi Ram Prakash

Rajalakshmi Ram Prakash is a seasoned social scientist and intersectional feminist with over 25 years of expertise in gender and public health with specialisation in health financing, universal health coverage, healthcare laws and ethics, sexual and reproductive and LGBTQIA+ health. Rajalakshmi's experience spans research, teaching, advocacy and activism, aimed at achieving just and equitable health policies and systems.

Rajalakshmi has worked with the United Nations University - International Institute of Global Health in Malaysia, spearheading a project on informed consent and shared decision-making in healthcare. Her academic roles include teaching, designing courses and leading research on experiences of systematically excluded communities with healthcare and health systems across multiple continents.

Holding a Doctorate in Social Sciences from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, Rajalakshmi has earned accolades like the MacArthur Fellowship for Leadership Development. She is an active contributor to various international health and gender platforms.

In her current role as Research Director (Health) at Cividep-India, she focuses on enhancing the well-being of informal women workers, applying intersectional and life course perspectives on Occupational Safety, Climate Change, and Social Protection for Health. Additionally, she serves as a Gender Integration Consultant at the Global Centre for Gender Equality in the USA. She is engaged with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu, India on different government health programs.



João Filipe Raposo

João Filipe Raposo, graduated in Medicine in 1988 in Lisbon and got his PhD in Medicine – Endocrinology in 2004 in Lisbon. He had his Endocrinology residency in the Portuguese Cancer Institute being a Consultant of Endocrinology at APDP – Diabetes Portugal since 2006. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the DESG (Diabetes Education Study Group).

Currently he is an Assistant Professor of Public Health in the NOVA Medical School of Lisbon; Clinical Director of APDP – Diabetes Portugal and President of the Portuguese Society of Diabetology. He is also an external consultant of the WHO – European Region for diabetes and NCDs.



Sofia Saccone

Sofia Saccone is an Associate Professor in the Department of Endocrinology and Metabolism at the Dr. Manuel Quintela Hospital, University of the Republic, located in Montevideo, Uruguay



Plaxedes Sosa

Plaxedes Sosa is a registered nurse and has been in the healthcare industry for 15 years. Her job includes monitoring diabetic patients devising care plans and providing medical care during emergencies. She believes that every single life matters, so she ensures that every day she handles her job with great careful attention.

She had her Diploma in nursing from Zimbabwe. She is a diabetic nurse and has worked in different departments. She also has a Certified Emergency Nurse Certificate.

When she is not taking care of patients, she loves reading novels and doing extreme sports. She uses her passion in sports in making her body healthy- like hitting two birds with one stone. She has also volunteered in many medical missions ever since she was a nursing student until now.



Nikhil Tandon

Nikhil Tandon is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Endocrinology and Metabolism at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), a public medical college operating autonomously under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. He has worked within the public healthcare system of India for 30 years as a clinician-researcher specializing in cardio-metabolic disease, and also at the interface between basic sciences and clinical/public health sciences. He has conducted large scale epidemiology studies in children and adults evaluating the prevalence of cardio-metabolic risk factors and their associations. This includes the CARRS Cohort, a population-based urban cohort which was

established in two Indian metropolitan cities in 2009. He is also the PI for the Young Diabetes Registry supported by the Indian Council of Medical Research, which has recruited more than 21,000 children, adolescents, and young adults from 205 centers across India.

In the field of clinical intervention studies, he has been involved in innovative use of technology and quality improvement strategies to facilitate care delivery for people with diabetes and hypertension, keeping in mind the resource constraints of a country like India, but with scope for generalizability in other economies. These strategies include but are not restricted to use of a care coordinator, decision support software, clinic flow modifications, opportunistic screening, and task shifting for non-physician health care providers. His group has also been working in the area of gestational diabetes, specifically the evolution of cardiometabolic disease risk in the postpartum state and prevention of future diabetes in this population.

He has served on several WHO Expert Groups including those for updating the “WHO Definition, Diagnosis and Classification of Diabetes Mellitus and Intermediate Hyperglycaemia” and the “WHO South East Asia NCD Regional Technical Advisory Group (NCD-RTAG)”, and more recently on the newly constituted WHO Technical Advisory Group on Diabetes (TAG/D). At the national level in India, he is a member of governmental advisory committees to develop guidelines for chronic disease care in India and committees to use information technology to improve care in the primary healthcare system. He chairs the Technical Advisory Group of the ICMR Young Diabetes Registry, and is a Member of the Technical Advisory Group for the National Programme for the Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, CVD and Stroke.



Hoang Thi Tran

Associate Professor Hoang Thi Tran is a neonatologist at Da Nang Hospital for Women and Children, Viet Nam. She gained her paediatric Master and PhD degrees at the University of Melbourne, Australia, following her undergraduate medical doctor degree at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Ho Chi Minh City. Dr Tran has held a dual role as the Deputy Director of Da Nang Hospital for Women and Children as well as the Head of Paediatrics Department at the School of Medicine and Pharmacy, the University of Da Nang. She is also the vice-Chairman of **Vietnam perinatal and neonatal association** and a member of the Independent Review Group for WHO-Western Pacific region on monitoring implementation of the Action Plan for Healthy Newborns. Her

passion is improving maternal and child health based on low-cost and effective interventions such as breast feeding, early essential newborn care, and kangaroo mother care.



Kartik K Venkatesh (Co-chair)

Kartik is a board-certified obstetrician and gynecologist, maternal-fetal medicine specialist, and PhD epidemiologist. At The Ohio State University (OSU), he holds dual faculty appointments in Obstetrics and Gynecology and Epidemiology. At the OSU Wexner Medical Center, he is the Director of the Diabetes in Pregnancy Program, one of the oldest and largest integrated diabetes and prenatal care programs in the U.S that provides care to >800 pregnant people each year with type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes. He sees pregnant patients with diabetes every week as part of this clinic.

In the Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine, Kartik leads the Perinatal Epidemiology Program focused on addressing the impact of social determinants on diabetes in pregnancy. Currently, Dr. Venkatesh is the PI of three large studies: 1) NIH's ECHO Ohio prospective longitudinal cohort examining the impact of maternal cardiometabolic health in pregnancy on long-term child neurodevelopment (UG3); 2) AHRQ's ACHIEVE RCT studying the impact of continuous glucose monitoring, mobile applications, and addressing social needs on glycemic control for Medicaid-insured pregnant individuals with poorly controlled type 2 diabetes (R01); 3) PCORI's DECIDE, a comparative effectiveness, patient-centered RCT, defining whether metformin is non-inferior to insulin for prevention of adverse pregnancy outcomes and safe through 2 years of postpartum follow-up among >1500 individuals with gestational diabetes and their exposed infants at 20 U.S. centers led by OSU (large grant).

Kartik has published nearly 150 peer-reviewed scientific manuscripts focused on diabetes in pregnancy, adverse pregnancy outcomes, and perinatal infectious diseases. He has methodological expertise in clinical trials, prospective cohorts, and clinical prediction models. As a physician-scientist, Kartik's overarching goal is to improve pregnancy outcomes for individuals living with diabetes who experience a high burden of adverse social determinants using innovative approaches that integrate clinical trials, perinatal epidemiology, and precision medicine.