

## WHO Expanding Contraception Options (WHO ECO) Guideline Development Group

### Proposed Members - 2025



**Andy Gray BPharm, MSc (Pharm), PhD, FPS, FFIP** is a pharmacist whose research interests include policy analysis (in particular, the development and implementation of National Medicines Policies), rational medicines use and the application of antiretroviral therapy in resource-constrained settings. He is a Senior Lecturer in the Division of Pharmacology, Discipline of Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Health Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa. He is co-director of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Pharmaceutical Policy and Evidence Based Practice. He is also Honorary Senior Scientist: Consultant Pharmacist for the Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA) and non-executive Director of JEMBI Health Systems (NPC). Dr Gray is a Visiting Fellow in the Faculty of Pharmacy, Rhodes University, Makhanda. Dr Gray is a Fellow and Honorary Life Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (PSSA) and a Fellow of the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP). He is a past President of the South African Association of Hospital and Institutional Pharmacists (SAAHIP) At the FIP, he served as President of the Hospital Pharmacy Section, Chairman of the Board of Pharmaceutical Practice and as a Vice-President. He is currently a Director of the FIP Foundation for Education and Research. He was appointed to the South African National Essential Medicines List Committee in 2013. He is currently chair of the Names and Scheduling Committee of the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) and serves on its Legal Committee and Pharmacovigilance Committee. He is a Member of the World Health Organization's Expert Panel on Drug Policies and Management and has served as a member, rapporteur and co-chairperson of the Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines, as chairperson of the sub-committee on Essential Medicines for Children, and on the WHO Guidelines Review Committee.



**Aparna Sridhar** is a Clinical Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). She completed her basic medical education in India and immigrated to the United States, where she completed her Obstetrics and Gynecology residency at the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. While pursuing her Complex Family Planning Fellowship at UCLA, she also completed a master's in public health, specializing in Community Health Sciences, at the Fielding School of Public Health at UCLA. Dr. Sridhar has always been passionate about Global Women's Health. She served as the Chair of the Contraception Committee at FIGO and is the Division Director Elect for SRHR division of FIGO. She also works closely with global organizations such as the IPPF and Family Planning 2030. In addition to being a clinician

educator, Dr. Sridhar is active in clinical and educational research, with numerous grants, awards, and publications in her field of expertise.



**Ashraf Nabhan** is a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Ain Shams University, Egypt. He is a consultant of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Head of Unit Six at the University Hospitals. His university hospital is one of the largest maternity hospitals in the Middle East and Africa with more than 16,500 births per annum. He is a world expert in synthesized evidence and in developing evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. Among many credentials, He is the founder and director of Egyptian Center of Evidence Based Medicine (ECEBM), renowned as a national and regional center of excellence in Evidence Based Healthcare. His center is a member of Global Evidence Synthesis Initiative (GESI) network. His center produces and disseminates systematic reviews of research evidence in health care, supports policy making and guideline development and provides training to strengthen research capacity and provides peer mentoring in evidence synthesis and guideline development



**Beena Joshi** MBBS, DRH (UK) PhD, Public Health (MUHS). She is Scientist G, Head, Dept. of Operational and Implementation Research, Professor, Faculty of Medical Research Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research, I/C Health Technology Assessment Resource Hub, Nodal Officer, WHO Collaborating Center for Reproductive Health Research at the National Institute for Research in Reproductive and Child Health (ICMR), Mumbai, India. Her major Areas of Research include Epidemiology, Implementation Research, Health Systems Research and Health Technology Assessment in PCOS, Contraception, HIV, Adolescent Health, Preconception Care. She has authored several publications in peer reviewed journals, book chapters and newsletter articles. She is the recipient of various awards including the Golden Jubilee Research Award from Association of Medical Women in India 2017, the ICMR International fellowship award for Senior Biomedical Scientists 2016-17 at Penn PCOS Center, University of Pennsylvania, USA, and she was honoured by Association of Medical Women in India during Women's Day 2024 in recognition of her scientific contribution in the area of reproductive health.



**Enriqueto Lu**, an obstetrician/gynecologist and public health practitioner, is a global leader in reproductive health and family planning (RH/FP). He has provided technical assistance in over 40 countries, enhancing reproductive health training systems and curricula. As the former FP/RH Director at Jhpiego, Dr. Lu led initiatives to implement high-impact, evidence-based FP approaches and scaled up community-centered cervical cancer

prevention programs in low- and middle-income countries. Currently, he serves as a Senior Advisor at Jhpiego, supporting the introduction and scale-up of HPV DNA testing and thermal ablation in the Philippines. Dr. Lu also co-led the development and dissemination of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation's (APEC) Health Working Group's Menu of Policy Options for Demographic Resilience in 2023, aimed at helping APEC economies navigate changing population dynamics and their potential impact on health and the economy. Additionally, he has contributed to WHO's work in scoping emerging contraceptive methods and participated in the guideline development group meeting for the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Medical Eligibility Criteria and 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Selected Practices Recommendations in 2024.



**Faisal Abbas** is Professor and Head department of Economics and Director Centre of Excellence on Population and Wellbeing Studies (CePwS) at School of Social Sciences and Humanities (S3H), National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), Islamabad, Pakistan. Dr Abbas completed his DAAD sponsored PhD at Centre for Development Research (ZEF), University of Bonn, Germany. In the year 2015-16, Dr Abbas was visiting Assistant Professor at Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University, USA. Faisal Abbas was an *'Experienced Researcher'*, at the centre for Poverty, Equity and Growth, George August University Gottingen, Germany, where he was teaching *'Gender and Development'* and *'Poverty Measurement'* as well as supervising Graduate student's research. Dr Abbas worked as Senior Economist with National Tariff commission (NTC) Islamabad and Carlo Schmidt Fellow at World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva, Switzerland. Dr Abbas currently affiliated with International Science Council (ISC) as Expert Member, Research Fellow at the Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP), Global Labour Organization (GLO), and member National Strategic Interest Group on *Public Health*.



**Farida Shah** has over 20 years of expertise in improving Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) programs globally with international organizations. From 2007 to 2008 Ms. Shah worked in rehabilitation of primary health care system in earth quake areas of Pakistan with PRIDE (project consortium organization MSH, Jhpiego, Population Council International Led by international rescue committee). From 2008 to 2012, Ms. Shah worked in Afghanistan, holding positions with Aga Khan University as a technical advisor and Jhpiego program manager (consortium led by Jhpiego, save the Children). From 2012 to 2014, Ms. Shah led the initiative of Midwife Le Birthing center a major component of the Jhpiego USAID-funded MCHIP program in Pakistan and in 2021, was a program manager in Jhpiego, leading a nationwide Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) project. Ms. Shah has worked with the WHO Somalia country office as RMNCAH consultant, providing technical

support and guidance to the Federal Ministry of Health for RMNCAH-related policies, guidelines and activities. Currently, working with Aga Khan Health Service, Pakistan as Head of Community Health and Donor Funded Programs.



**Galina Dikke** is an obstetrician gynecologist with Doctor of Medical Sciences, Expert of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Honored Worker of Science and Education. From 2004 to 2006, she worked at the State Institution "Research Institute of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Perinatology of the Tomsk Scientific Center of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences" as an academic secretary and acting deputy director for research work.

She specializes in gynecological endocrinology and is widely published with over 205 printed scientific works. In 2007, she worked at the Federal Agency for High-Tech Medical Care as Deputy Head of the Department for Personnel Training in Residency, Postgraduate and Doctoral Studies of the Department for Coordination of High Medical Technologies Development and Personnel Training. In 2008-2011, she worked at the Department of Reproductive Medicine and Surgery of Moscow State Medical University as an Associate Professor part time. From 2009 she has participated in several international projects including WHO project "Strategic assessment of policies, programs and services in the field of unplanned pregnancy, abortion and contraception in the Russian Federation"; and Evaluation of the medical component on sexual and reproductive health of the joint UNFPA/UNICEF/UNDP/UNV project "Strengthening population security in the former semipalatinsk nuclear site" [2011]



**Harriet Chanza** is a nurse midwife with a master's degree in reproductive health management, and an advanced diploma in sexual and reproductive health and rights. She has over 20 years of extensive experience in Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, and Adolescent Health and Rights. Her expertise encompasses program management, including project proposal writing, planning, implementation, and evaluation, as well as clinical and community work and research. From 2000 – 2006, she worked as a fertility intentions study coordinator with the

University of North Carolina in Malawi, during this time she was the community activities coordinator with the goal of maximising community participation in all research studies and programs. From 2006 – 2009 she worked with World Vision International as a project manager for an HIV AIDs initiative targeting 3 districts in Malawi to provide essential care, support, and treatment services for PLWHAs. From 2009 to 2023 she worked with WHO country office in Malawi as the SRHR cluster coordinator, maternal and newborn health quality of care focal point and PSEAH focal point. Currently she is an independent consultant and partner in the Credo community support group which aims to bridge the gap between patients, clinicians and the health system.



**Ingrid Saav** is an obstetrician gynecologist with over 20 years' experience. She undertook her Specialization program in Gynecology and Obstetrics at Karolinska University Hospital Sweden between 2002 and 2006, and after graduation worked at the same institution until 2015. From 2015 – 2019, she worked as a senior consultant in Obstetrics and gynecology in the Dep of Surgical specialties, Norrtälje Hospital. From 2019 to date, she is a senior consultant Stockholm Urogyn AB/Ovumia AB. From 2021 – to date she has worked as a Senior consultant Stockholm County Youth Clinics initially at 25% but currently at 50% LOE.



**Kun Tang** is an associate professor at the Vanke School of Public Health, Tsinghua University. His research interests include global health governance, maternal and child health, and sexual and reproductive health. He is currently a member of the World Health Organization Global Advisory Group on Adolescent Health Metrics. He also served as an official Chinese delegate to the 68<sup>th</sup>-78<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly. He served as the National Standing Council Member of the China Family Planning Association, and the Governing Council Member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation. Dr. Tang has worked on a number of global health programs in Myanmar, D.R. Congo, Kenya, Uganda and Equatorial Guinea. He obtained his M.B.B.S. from Peking University, a Master's in Global Health and Population from Harvard University, and a D.Phil. in epidemiology from the University of Oxford.



**Lisa Haddad MD MS MPH** is Medical Director of the Center for Biomedical Research at the Population Council and Adjunct Professor of Gynecology and Obstetrics, in division of family planning at Emory University School of Medicine. At Population Council, she leads the clinical development efforts to advance the Center's sexual and reproductive health product portfolio, including novel contraceptive, HIV prevention and multipurpose prevention products. Dr. Haddad completed the Brigham and Women's Hospital/Massachusetts General Hospital Integrated Residency Program in OB/GYN and her Complex Family Planning fellowship at Emory University School of Medicine. Dr. Haddad has more than 175 publications in peer-reviewed journals, several published books, and has received numerous awards for her teaching, mentorship, research, and advocacy.



**Nandana Suresh** is the Operations Manager and Customer Relations Lead at White Paper Academy, a Kerala - based institution known for its excellence in career guidance and entrance coaching. She plays a vital role in coordinating the Academy's programs, ensuring operational efficiency while building strong and lasting relationships with students, parents, and partners. Nandana is driven by values of honesty, sincerity, trust, and a deep enthusiasm for learning.

Her ability to manage complex logistics and provide empathetic support has helped the Academy maintain its reputation as a trusted name in the field of education and personal development



**Peace Samuel Umanah** is a youth advocate and public health practitioner. She has a BSc in physiology and a Master's in Public Health. She worked as a public health officer at the Society for family health (SFH) Abuja / A360 project from April 2012 to March 2022. From April 2022 to June 2022, she was a social media volunteer with Women Reform Organization, Lagos, Nigeria. Between June and September 2022, she was a youth champion with Strong Enough Girls Empowerment Initiative (SEGEI) Abuja, Nigeria' after which she worked as a consultant data collector with John Snow inc Abuja. From October 2023 to date, she is a volunteer with UNFPA Nigeria Youth participatory platform. She is also the project director of Safe abortion for everyone (SAFE) project. She is also the Director of communications for the International youth alliance for family planning.



**Philip Hannaford**, FRSE Emeritus Professor Primary Care, University of Aberdeen. Professor Hannaford graduated from Aberdeen University in 1981 and trained as a general practitioner in Sheffield. His research career began at the Royal College of General Practitioner's Manchester Research Unit in 1985. He developed his love for epidemiology whilst working on the RCGP Oral Contraception Study- now 56-years old and one of the largest cohort studies in the world assessing the safety of the contraceptive pill. He returned to Aberdeen in 1997 to lead research within Academic Primary Care, much of it related to women's health issues. He was made Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2017 and became Professor Emeritus in 2020. He has provided advice to the World Health Organization about different aspects of contraceptive safety, and he sits on its Guideline Steering Group for Evidence-based Contraceptive Guidelines. He is currently chair of the Medicines for Women's Health Expert Advisory Group of the Commission on Human Medicines.



**Philip M. Mbithi** is public health specialist with over 15 years' expertise in Public Reproductive Health and a keen focus on Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health & Adolescent and Youth SRHR programming, policy advocacy and development and financing. Philip is adept in research and evidence generation and use for policy development and programming and advocacy. He is as well experienced in complex program implementation, management, and monitoring & evaluations. Previously, he has worked both with various NGOs and INGOs in different capacities supporting the broader Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. Over the years, Philip has as well collaborated with various actors in the broader reproductive health space including the civil society, development partners/ donors,



government ministries (Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health etc), foundations, academia and private sector in search of solutions to the MNH and SRHR issues affecting adolescents, youth and young women. Recently, he has been critical in supporting the Presidential Taskforce on Human Resources for Health in Kenya as Technical Expert engaged through the USAID. He is pursuing his doctorate degree in Public Health at KEMRI Graduate School with an interest in SRHR services utilization among young women who inject drugs. He holds a master's degree in public health (Reproductive Health) from Kenyatta University and BSc in Biomedical Science & Technology from Maseno University.



**Rodica Comendant** is an obstetrician gynecologist, with a more than 30 years' experience in safe abortion field, including in using MVA. She is an associate professor at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology within the State University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Moldova. The head of the Reproductive Health Training Center (RHTC) in Chisinau [www.cidr.md](http://www.cidr.md), the NGO, which has been for the last 20 years the most important organization in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights in Moldova, including safe abortion and family

planning. She is an international trainer on family planning and contraception and safe abortion (medical abortion and manual vacuum aspiration (MVA)) and has conducted several trainings in Russia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Mongolia, Albania and other countries worldwide. She is the member of the FIGO Committee to prevent unsafe abortion. She was principal investigator for numerous clinical trials on that contributed to the successful implementation of medical abortion in Moldova and in the EECA region. She is currently the consultant for DKT Women Care Global.



Prof. **Unnop Jaisamrarn** is now working as the Director of Women's Health Program in the School of Global Health, Faculty of Medicine at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. In his present appointment, he is also Senior Executive Advisor for International Affairs of Faculty of Medicine. He received his medical doctor's degree (1st class honors) from Chulalongkorn University in 1986 and completed his postgraduate training with

awards in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in 1992. He received Certificate in Epidemiology from University of California at Los Angeles and University of Hawaii at Manoa, USA in 1994. In 1995-1996, he underwent Postgraduate Medical Training in Reproductive Endocrinology at Johns Hopkins Hospital and received MHS (Reproductive Health) from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA. He has been appointed as the President of the Reproductive Health Association of Thailand in 2024. Since 2022 he is the President of the Thai Menopause Society. He was also the President of the Thai Osteoporosis Foundation during 2020-2021. He has been working for The Royal Thai College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists since 1997. Internationally, his present appointment

includes the Chairman of the Sexual & Reproductive Health Committee of the Asia & Oceania Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (AOFOG), President-Elect of the Asia Pacific Menopause Federation (APMF), Council Member of the Asian Federation of Osteoporosis Societies (AFOS), Steering Committee Member of the Council of Affiliated Menopause Society under the International Menopause Society



**Valeria Bahamondes MD, MSc, PhD.** is a board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist with extensive experience in clinical practice, research, and academic mentorship in Argentina and Brazil. She has contributed to large-scale research projects in maternal and reproductive health, focusing on family planning, maternal morbidity, and healthcare guideline development. Bahamondes has worked in medical education, mentoring students and residents, and has also gained experience in midwifery care while assisting natural childbirth in Texas. In addition, she actively translates medical literature from English to Portuguese and Spanish, helping Latin American healthcare providers access international research and evidence-based guidelines to improve patient care. Currently serving as an International Consultant, she is passionate about advocating for women's health, Dr. Bahamondes is committed to promoting evidence-based, accessible, and humanized maternal care. She is committed to applying scientific evidence to enhance the quality of care in women's health, ensuring that research findings translate into impactful, accessible, and equitable healthcare solutions.