



Lancet Migration European Regional Hub Official Launch

Programme

Tuesday, 22nd June

14:00-15:15h CET

[Via Zoom](#)

<https://humanitarianstudies.ch/launch-of-the-lancet-migration-european-regional-hub/>

Welcome to this public event to mark the launch of the Lancet Migration: global collaboration to advance migration health European Regional Hub. Lancet Migration is a global collaboration between *The Lancet* and researchers, implementers, and others in the field of migration and health that aims to address evidence gaps and drive policy change, building on the recommendations of the UCL- *Lancet* Commission on Migration and Health published in December 2018 (<https://www.thelancet.com/commissions/migration-health>). The European Regional Hub aims to make a positive impact on the lives of people who migrate, and the environments in which they live, through multidisciplinary research, as well as leadership, engagement, dissemination of research, and advocacy. This event focuses on the challenges and opportunities in migration and health in the European Region, and how the European Regional Hub can advance migration health through sustainable multidisciplinary research, policy, and practice.

Agenda

Time	Item	Speakers
14:00-14:05	Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professor Bernadette Kumar, Co-Chair, Lancet Migration, and Co-Lead European Regional Hub; Norwegian Institute of Public Health Professor Karl Blanchet, Co-Lead, Lancet Migration European Regional Hub; Director of the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies
14:05-14:30	Meet the European Regional Hub Task Force and Advisory Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professor Davide Mosca, Former Director, Migration Health Division, International Organization for Migration Dr Sally Hargreaves, The Migrant Health Research Group, St George's, University of London Professor Kayvan Bozorgmehr, Department of Population Medicine and Health Services Research, Bielefeld University Dr Daniela Kállayová, Department of Public Health, Screening and Prevention, Ministry of Health, Slovak Republic Reem Mussa, Forced Migration Advisor – Analysis Department, MSF Operational Center Brussels Dr Josiah Kaplan, Child Protection Specialist UNICEF Office of Research-Innocenti, Italy Dr Apostolos Veizis, Executive Director, INTERSOS Greece
14:30-14:45	Keynotes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr Isabel de la Mata, Principal Advisor for Health and Crisis Management, European Commission Dr Poonam Dhavan, Senior Migration Health Policy Advisor, UN International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva Dr Santino Severoni, Director, Migration Health Programme, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva
14:45-15:10	Audience Q&A for all speakers	Dr Ibrahim Abubakar, Co-Chair, Lancet Migration
15:10-15:15	Closing	Dr Jocalyn Clark, Executive Editor, <i>The Lancet</i>

Speaker Biographies



Professor Karl Blanchet is the Director of the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies, and Professor in Humanitarian Public Health at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva. Before joining University of Geneva, Professor Blanchet worked in health systems research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine since 2010 and was the co-founder and co-Director of the Health in Humanitarian Crises Centre. Professor Blanchet's research focuses on system resilience and health systems issues in global health, specifically in post-conflict and conflict-affected countries. He has developed innovative research approaches based on complexity science and system

thinking, and is currently focusing on Women, adolescent and Child Health in humanitarian settings. Karl is also developing a priority package of essential health services for countries such as Afghanistan and more generally for humanitarian crises. Karl Blanchet was one of the coPI of the Lancet Series on Women's and Children's Health in Conflict Settings. Professor Blanchet is also the Academic Director of InZone, a University of Geneva academic project offering university courses for refugee populations. He is co-lead of the Lancet Migration European Regional Hub.



Professor Bernadette Nirmal Kumar, a medical graduate from St. Johns Medical College, India, has a doctorate in Epidemiology and Public Health from the University of Oslo, Norway and postdoctoral research fellowship at the Institute for Psychiatry, University of Oslo. Kumar has several years' international experience working for UNICEF, WHO, WFP, World Bank and NORAD in Southern Sudan, Somalia, North West Kenya, West Bank and Gaza, North Korea, China and Bhutan (1989-2000). Migration and Health has been the focus of her research since 1999 and she is the co-editor and author of Text Book on Immigrant Health in Norway: Flerkulturelt

folkehelsearbeid (Fagbokforlaget 2009) and Migrant Health – A Primary Care Perspective (Taylor and Francis, 2019). She was appointed Director of NAKMI (Norwegian Center for Migration and Minority Health now part of the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, 2010) and Associate Professor, Global Health at the Institute for Health and Society, University of Oslo (2013). She is Professor at the Empower School of Health, India. She has been a commissioner of the Lancet Commission on Migration and Health (2018) and is co-chair of the Standing Commission and co-lead of the European Regional Hub. Kumar leads the Migration Health work package of the EU Joint Action on Health Inequalities and is the President of the EUPHA section of Migration and Ethnic Minority Health (2018-).



Professor Davide T. Mosca, is a medical doctor with more than thirty-five years' experience in global and migrant health, humanitarian response and emergencies, with twenty-five years at field level in Africa and the Middle East, first as a surgeon and emergency specialist, shifting later to public health. A former *Director of Migration Health* at the *International Organization for Migration (IOM)* – the UN Migration Agency – during his ten years tenure in the position he has contributed in advancing the global migration health agenda participating at the process that led to the adoption of two World Health Assembly resolutions on migrant health (2008 and 2017) and two Global Consultations in Madrid (2010) and Colombo (2017), Prof. Mosca has contributed as well in the mainstreaming of health aspects within the *Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration* (2018), and the adoption of migration health policies at global level and in several countries. He has published several publications and studies, has contributed to several review panels and international commissions on migration health and global health issues, and has provided training, teaching, and lectures in migrant health world-wide. He was one of the Commissioners of the UCL-Lancet Commission on Migration and Health, and is a Consultant to WHO and the UN Migration Network, and founder of the advocacy network *Realizing Health SDGs for Migrants, Displaced and Communities*. Prof. Mosca is contract professor with various Universities, an Honorary Associate Professor at the UCL Institute of Global Health, and an affiliate with the Center for Humanitarian Health, John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



Dr Sally Hargreaves is an Associate Professor in Global Health at the Institute for Infection and Immunity at St George's, University of London. She leads a multi-disciplinary team with an interest in migrant health, with a particular focus on vaccination, tuberculosis, COVID-19, and healthcare disparities. She is a Commissioner for the UCL–*Lancet* Commission on Migration and Health, involved in global and regional dialogue around the promotion of Universal Health Coverage, and a Consultant for the World Health Organization and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. She is Chair of the ESCMID Study Group for Infections in Travellers and Migrants (ESGITM), and co-Chair of the UK Expert Consortium on Refugee and Migrant Health.



Dr Kayvan Bozorgmehr is a medical doctor with expertise in social epidemiology and health services research. He is full professor in public health and director of the Department of Population Medicine and Health Services Research at Bielefeld University, and head of the Section of Health Equity Studies and Migration at Heidelberg University Hospital. He graduated in medicine at Frankfurt University, obtained his medical doctorate (Dr. med.) from the Institute for Social Medicine, Epidemiology and Health Economics, Charité University Medicine Berlin, and completed a postgraduate Master of Science in Public Health at Umeå University in Sweden. He then completed his lecturer qualification (Habilitation/Venia Legendi) in "Health Services Research and Social Epidemiology" at the Medical Faculty of Heidelberg University. His scientific interests are in the area of structural, social and economic determinants of health and health

system organization, with a particular focus on equity aspects, migration and transnational interdependencies. Kayvan Bozorgmehr leads several large-scale research projects on health and health care for asylum seekers and refugees and has published extensively on this topic. He is an internationally acknowledged expert in the field of refugee health and has worked as consultant to the IOM and the WHO Regional Office for Europe. He is a member of the Steering Committee of German Alliance for Global Health Research and has been invited member of the "Working Group on Migration and Public Health" at the German Federal Chancellor's Office in Berlin (Bundeskanzleramt). He is further a member of "Health Systems Global" and the German Society for Epidemiology (DGEpi), and reviewer for leading international journals. He has received the Stephan-Weiland Prize of the German Society for Epidemiology (2015) and the Ferenc-Boyan Young Investigator Award of the European Public Health Association (2016).



Daniela Kallayova is professionally qualified in public health and public health research with focus on epidemiology, health inequalities and health promotion. Currently she works at Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic as senior officer responsible for health promotion and disease prevention with focus on cancer control and health of vulnerable groups. She is a member of Steering Group on Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Management of Non-Communicable Diseases and a member of the EU4Health Steering Group within the European Commission. Her previous professional experiences include a position of a Vice Dean for International Affairs (2008-2011) and Head of the Public Health Department (2010-2011) within the Faculty of Health Care and Social Work, Trnava University, Slovakia.



Reem Mussa is a Humanitarian Advisor on Forced Migration at Medicines Sans Frontiers/ Doctors without Borders (MSF) focusing on the humanitarian impact of displacement, asylum and migration policies. Reem supports MSF operations in terms of humanitarian analysis and research, strategic thematic support and advocacy, specifically for operations in Europe, North Africa and Middle East. She has also served as the Humanitarian Affairs and Advocacy Coordinator in MSF COVID-19 Emergency Taskforce based in Brussels. Prior to working with MSF, Reem has lived and worked in Australia, Kenya and Sudan with various international organizations and universities on issues of displacement, public health and education in emergency. She has a degree in International Politics and Anthropology from the University of Melbourne, Australia and a Masters in Migration and

Intercultural Studies from the University of Oldenburg, Germany.



Dr Josiah Kaplan has worked for more than a decade in child rights research and knowledge management, with a focus on mixed migration, livelihood, social protection and conflict issues across the INGO sector, UN system and academia. He previously served as Senior Research & Innovation Advisor for Save the Children International's Migration & Displacement Initiative (MDI), where he led a varied research and innovation project portfolio. Prior to this, Josiah has served a variety of research and practitioner roles, including as a humanitarian evidence adviser for Save the Children UK, as a researcher with the University of Oxford Refugee Studies Centre's Humanitarian Innovation Project (HIP), and a wide range of consultancies with INGOs, UN agencies, and think

tanks across the aid sector. He is an American citizen, and holds a Master's and PhD from the University of Oxford, as well as an undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College.



Dr Apostolos Veizis is currently the Executive Director of INTERSOS, a non-profit humanitarian aid organization in Greece. Prior to that worked at the HQ of Médecins Sans Frontières -Greece as Director of Medical Operational Support Unit (SOMA), Head of Mission and Medical Coordinator for Médecins Sans Frontières and Médecins du Monde in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Russian Federation, Albania, Egypt, Georgia, Greece, Turkey. Participated on assessment, emergency assignments and evaluations in Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Armenia, Lebanon, Syria, Ukraine, Turkmenistan, Zambia, Malawi, Uzbekistan, North Macedonia, Cyprus and Tajikistan. He has participated and had announcements in international and national medical congresses, events and contributed on publications of relevant articles.



Dr Isabel de la Mata is currently the Principal Adviser for Health and Crisis management in the European Commission. Previously, she worked as Counsellor for Health and Consumers at the Permanent Representation of Spain to the EU, as Deputy Director General for Health Planning at the Spanish Ministry of Health, as Adviser to the Vice-minister of Health and several other posts at the Ministry of Health of Spain and the Regional Departments in the Basque Country and in Madrid. In addition, she has been a member of the EURO-WHO Standing Committee of the Regional Committee, and has worked with the Pan American Health Organisation, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation. Dr de la Mata graduated in Medicine and Surgery by the University of Basque Country in 1983 and holds post-graduate degrees from the University of Leuven and Paris VI in Public Health, Hospital Administration and Statistics. She is a specialist in Preventive Medicine

and Public Health.



Dr Santino Severoni is Director of the Global Health and Migration Programme, Office of the Deputy Director-General, at the WHO Headquarters in Geneva. He is a medical doctor, health economist, epidemiologist, and experienced systems management. He has over 24 years of experience as an international senior technical advisor and executive, worked for WHO, governments, NGOs, and foundations in Eastern Africa, the Balkans, Central Asia, and Europe. He has dedicated his work to global health, focusing on health sector reforms, health systems strengthening, health diplomacy, aid coordination/effectiveness, management of complex emergencies, and a WHO Representative in Albania and Tajikistan. Since 2011 have been leading the WHO EURO

work on health and migration. In 2019 he was appointed EURO Special Representative on health & migration and Director a.i. on health systems and public health. In June 2020, he was appointed Director of the Global Health and Migration Programme at the WHO Headquarters in Geneva to lead the WHO global work on health and migration.



Dr Poonam Dhavan is trained as a medical doctor, epidemiologist and (global) public health specialist, in India and the United States of America, with sixteen years' medical and international public health work experience. Presently, as the Senior Migration Health Policy Advisor for the IOM Migration Health Division, Geneva, she is responsible for advising colleagues, partners and member states on migration health policy related matters to ensure a constant elaboration and conceptualization of IOM health programmes' experience into actionable migration health policies. She routinely performs liaison and advocacy functions to strengthen, seek and formalize collaborations with partners, such as UN bodies, donors, international agencies as well as member states to integrate

migration health into national migration- and public health policies, and into global health, migration and development processes, such as the Global Compacts and 2030 agenda-related platforms. Prior to this position, she served as the IOM Migration Health Programme Coordinator and was responsible for providing technical advice on migration health matters; planning and evaluating migration and health programmes on HIV, TB, Malaria, non-communicable diseases, sexual and reproductive health, access to health services; and integrating migration health with migration management areas such as labour migration and counter-trafficking at IOM. Before coming to the IOM Headquarters, Dr. Dhavan was the Senior Public Health and Research Specialist at the Global Migration Health Support Unit of IOM in Manila (2010-2015). Before joining IOM, she worked as Technical Officer at the WHO Headquarters on noncommunicable disease prevention programmes (2002-06); as Research Coordinator at the University of Texas Health Science Centre in Houston on international child and adolescent health intervention research (2007-09) and Public Health Consultant at the Public Health Foundation of India in New Delhi on setting up national public health training programmes (2006-07).



Dr Ibrahim Abubakar is Director of the UCL Institute for Global Health. He led the UCL Centre for Infectious Disease Epidemiology, UCL-TB and was a senior investigator at the MRC Clinical Trials Unit. He was head of TB at Public Health England. Prior to his appointment at UCL, he was Professor in Health Protection at the Norwich Medical School. He qualified in medicine in 1992 and initially trained in general medicine before specialising in public health medicine. His academic public health training was undertaken at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of Cambridge and the University of East Anglia. He is the chair of Lancet Migration: global collaboration to advance migration health and the Wellcome Trust Expert Review

Group on Population Health. He was chair of the WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for Tuberculosis. He serves on/chairs several expert/advisory groups for the WHO and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.



Dr Jocalyn Clark is an Executive Editor at *The Lancet*. Previously Jocalyn was Executive Editor at the public health research organisation icddr,b in Dhaka, Bangladesh; Senior Editor at *PLOS Medicine*; and Assistant Editor at *The BMJ*. She serves as an advisor to the INDEPTH Network of health surveillance systems, Global Health 5050, and WomenLift Health, and is an appointed member of the governance council of the CMAJ (Canadian Medical Association Journal). She is an adjunct professor of medicine at the University of Toronto and an elected fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.