OXFORD POPULATION HEALTH CTSU

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Speaker profiles
Joint Annual Collaborators' Meeting
Thursday 15 and Friday 16 May 2025
Park Plaza London Riverbank Hotel

Rasha Al-Lamee

Dr Rasha Al-Lamee is an interventional cardiology consultant at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust and a Reader at the National Heart and Lung Institute within Imperial College London. She is a British Heart Foundation intermediate clinical research fellow and clinical trialist with expertise in stable coronary artery disease, coronary intervention, invasive physiology and invasive intravascular imaging.

She leads a research group with a focus on clinical trials that impact the care of patients with cardiovascular disease. She believes in rigorous testing of clinical practice and the use of evidence-based medicine in all aspects of medical care.

She designed and led the only placebo-controlled trials of coronary angioplasty, ORBITA and ORBITA-2, published in The Lancet and The New England Journal of Medicine respectively. She is also the chief investigator of the ORBITA-COSMIC trial, published in The Lancet, and the ORBITA-STAR, published in JACC. She is currently leading the ORBITA-FIRE and ORBITA-MOON trials and has over 150 peer-reviewed publications and a h-index of 39. She is actively involved in the development and recruitment for many multi-centre international clinical trials.

She is a deputy editor at JACC and EuroIntervention, and a previous associate editor at the European Heart Journal. She is the deputy director and head of the second year of Medicine at Imperial College London. She is the National Institute for Health and Care Research CRN North West London Cardiovascular speciality lead and co-head of the cardiovascular theme of the Imperial Biomedical Research Centre.

Borislava Mihaylova

Borislava Mihaylova is a Senior Health Economist at Oxford Population Health, University of Oxford, UK and a Professor of Health Economics at the Wolfson Institute of Population Health, Queen Mary University of London, UK.

Her research on economic aspects of chronic disease treatment and prevention alongside clinical trials (for instance HPS, SHARP) and meta-analysis (Cholesterol Treatment Trialists' Collaboration) inform policy by providing evidence for net effects and cost-effectiveness of treatments.

Key contributions include evidence that statins are beneficial and cost-effective across categories of patients by age, sex, cardiovascular disease (CVD) risk and LDL cholesterol (LDL-C) level with high-intensity statin optimal for most categories except younger women with lower LDL-C and lower CVD risk for whom standard statin regimens are optimal. She currently serves on the European Society of Cardiology Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee (2022-2026).

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Richard Bulbulia

Richard Bulbulia studied medicine at Cambridge University and The Royal London Hospital, graduating in 1994. Following surgical training in London, Oxford, and the South West of England, he was appointed to a consultant post in 2009.

His academic interests centre around the design, conduct and analyses of very large randomised trials and include the largest ever trial of carotid surgery. He is also co-director of the University of Oxford's MSc in Clinical Trials, which is training the next generation of clinical trialists to design and deliver practice-changing randomised controlled trials. He is a member of the MHRA Interim Devices Working Group, has chaired managment committees and sat on steering committees for several National Institute for Health and Care Research funded trials.

He is a member of the Board of Visitors of The Ashmolean Museum in Oxford and a Trustee of The Hunterian Collection at the Royal College of Surgeons, London.

Alison Halliday

Alison is Emeritus Professor of Vascular Surgery at the University of Oxford She is also Past President of both the European Society for Vascular Surgery and the European Society for Cardiology Stroke Council.

She has acted as Principal Investigator for the world's largest international randomised trials in vascular surgery (namely ACST-1 and ACST-2), trials that have influenced national and international stroke guidelines and worldwide stroke prevention strategies. She participated in the 2017 and 2022 ESVS Extracranial Vascular Disease Guidelines, the 2019 European Society of Cardiology Dyslipidaemia Guidelines and the 2021 ESOC Carotid Guidelines.

Alison is author of over 150 peer-reviewed publications and is a strong advocate for European Collaboration and for Equality and Diversity in Vascular Surgery.

Peter Rossing

Peter Rossing is a clinician researcher devoted to complications in diabetes with focus on renal and cardiovascular complications. He obtained a specialist degree in internal medicine and endocrinology in 2004. Since 2007 he has been a chief physician and manager of the Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen research team, dedicated to the research of micro-and macrovascular complications of diabetes.

Since 2012 Peter has been professor in diabetic angiopathy at University of Copenhagen. He has led epidemiological studies investigating key features of the pathophysiology of the diabetic kidney at different stages. He has identified several markers for development of diabetic nephropathy; making it possible to predict the individual risk. He has been involved in several intervention studies in patients with overt diabetic nephropathy aiming at improving the prognosis including DAPA-CKD, FIGARO-DKD, FIDELIO-DKD and FLOW.

He has received the Minkowski prize in 2005 and the Golgi prize in 2016, both from the European Association for the Study of Diabetes, the E. Bierman award from ADA and the Hormon Medal from European Society of Endocrinology. He is past president of the Danish Endocrine Society, and of the European Diabetic Nephropathy Study group. He is chairman of the Danish National Diabetes Registry and the Independent Research Fund

Rona Smith

Dr Rona Smith is an associate professor of nephrology at University of Cambridge and an honorary consultant in nephrology and vasculitis at Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Her research interests include optimising the management of ANCA associated vasculitis and the immunotoxicity associated with immunosuppressive therapies.

Additionally, she works on the design of efficient clinical trials using routinely collected data sources and platform approaches. She is chief investigator on four national studies (SIMPLIFIED and PHOSPHATE – dialysis trials) and PROTECT-V and ACQUIVAS (studies addressing infection prevention strategies in immunocompromised individuals) which have recruited over 6000 participants to date.

She is medical director of the Patient Led Research Hub (PLRH; plrh.org) in Cambridge, which co-produces research with rare disease patient groups, and has recently been appointed as the deputy director of the Cambridge Clinical Trials Unit.

Rory Collins

Rory Collins is an epidemiologist who studies how to prevent and treat cardiovascular disease in large population-based studies. He trained in Medicine at St Thomas's Hospital Medical School, London University, and Statistics at George Washington and Oxford Universities.

During the 1980s and early 1990s, Rory coordinated the ISIS "mega-trials" of the emergency treatment of heart attacks involving more than 130,00 patients. These trials showed that clot-dissolving and clot-preventing treatment could more than halve mortality, and these treatments rapidly became part of routine care (and paved the way for non-pharmaceutical approaches to opening coronary arteries).

Since the early 1990s, he has been involved in conducting large-scale randomized trials of the effects of modifying blood levels of cholesterol. For example, the 20,000 patient Heart Protection Study that he led showed that lowering LDL-cholesterol with statin therapy safely reduces the risk of death and disability from heart attacks and strokes among a much wider range of people than previously thought to benefit from such treatment. As a consequence, statin therapy is now used extensively worldwide.

He became Principal Investigator of the UK Biobank study in September 2005. Involving 500,000 participants, it is the largest deeply characterised prospective epidemiological study of disease in the world, and is being made available for any type of health-related research by researchers worldwide.

Rory is the Head of the Nuffield Department of Population Health at the University of Oxford. He was knighted for services to Science in 2011 and was elected to the UK Royal Society in 2015. He was awarded the UK Medical Research Council's 2020 Millennium Medal for his national and international contributions to both cardiovascular disease and UK Biobank.

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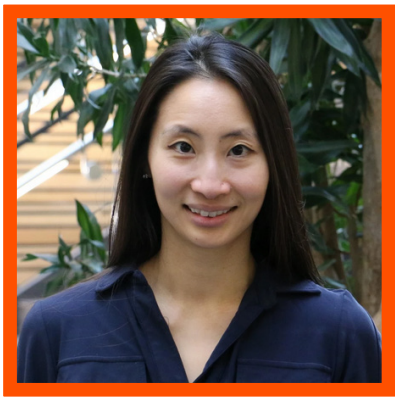
Doreen Zhu



Doreen is an academic clinical lecturer based in the Renal Studies Group at the Clinical Trial Service Unit & Epidemiological Studies Unit (CTSU) in Oxford.

In 2018, she was a clinical research fellow working on the EMPA-KIDNEY trial which tested whether empagliflozin prevents worsening of kidney disease or deaths from heart disease in people with chronic kidney disease, and completed a MD exploring the associations of blood pressure with kidney outcomes in the Mexico City Prospective Study.

For her postdoctoral research, she is co-leading UK recruitment for the EASi-KIDNEY trial testing aldosterone synthase inhibition in people with chronic kidney disease and will be studying the associations of metabolomic risk factors for kidney disease.

Parminder Judge

Parminder K Judge is a Senior Clinical Research Fellow based in the Renal Studies Group at the Clinical Trial Service Unit and Epidemiological Studies Unit (CTSU) and an Honorary Consultant Nephrologist in the Oxford Kidney Unit.

In 2013, she took time out of her nephrology training and joined CTSU to work on clinical trials, primarily the UK HARP-III trial which compared the effects of sacubitril/valsartan with irbesartan in 400 people with chronic kidney disease. The trial formed the basis of her PhD thesis.

After completing her nephrology specialty training, Parminder returned to CTSU in 2020 to work on clinical trials in nephrology and cardiovascular disease, including the EMPA-KIDNEY trial.

She is a co-PI for the EASi-KIDNEY trial testing aldosterone synthase inhibition in people with chronic kidney disease. Parminder's other area of interest is the epidemiology of chronic kidney disease in South Asians.

Louise Bowman

Louise Bowman is Professor of Medicine and Clinical Trials at the Clinical Trial Service Unit of the University of Oxford. Her specialist clinical background is in Diabetes and Endocrinology. She has particular research interests in cardiovascular disease in diabetes, and maintains her clinical practice with regular specialist lipid clinics.

She is Chief Investigator for the ORION-4 trial which will assess the effects of inclisiran on clinical outcomes among 15,000 people with atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, and for the AMALFI trial, which will assess the value of screening for undiagnosed atrial fibrillation in 5000 high-risk individuals.

Through her work on large-scale trials in cardiovascular disease, she has developed a specialist interest in Clinical Trials Methodology and is Co-course Director of the Nuffield Department of Population Health MSc in Clinical Trials. Her focus is on the development, application and widespread promotion of methods to enhance the design and conduct of trials to ensure high quality outputs and reliable results at low cost.

AMALFI
ASCENDPLUS
EASi-KIDNEY Aldosterone Synthase inhibition & Empagliflozin in CKD
EMPA-KIDNEY The study of heart and kidney protection with empagliflozin
HPS-4 TIMI 65 ORION-4

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David Preiss

David is Professor of Metabolic Medicine and Clinical Trials at the University of Oxford. His major interest is the prevention of cardiovascular and microvascular disease with a particular focus on lipid modification and diabetes treatments. His current research projects aim to make extensive use of routinely collected healthcare data to conduct large trials.

He led the recently completed LENS trial, a study embedded within the NHS in Scotland, which demonstrated that treatment with the generically available triglyceride-lowering drug fenofibrate reduces the progression of diabetic eye disease, and he is Co-Principal investigator for the ongoing ORION-4 cardiovascular outcome trial of the PCSK9 synthesis inhibitor, inclisiran. Along with Associate Professor Marion Mafham, he leads the ASCEND PLUS trial, a study that aims to determine the effects of the GLP-1 receptor agonist, oral semaglutide, on vascular outcomes and other complications in 20,000 participants with type 2 diabetes and no history of cardiovascular disease.

Mohammed Zayed

Mohammed graduated from Alexandria Medical School in Egypt before moving to the UK for his post-graduate training. He is now a Clinical Research Fellow at the Clinical Trial Service Unit & Epidemiological Studies Unit (CTSU) at the University of Oxford and also an Oxford-based GP.

Mohammed has a particular research interest in cardiovascular disease and diabetes management. His MSc work explored interventions to improve adherence to diabetes medication, and his PhD research is exploring the association between diabetic retinopathy and quality of life based on data available from the LENS trial (a major streamlined study which investigated the effect of the cholesterol-lowering drug, fenofibrate, on the progression of diabetic eye disease).

Amanda Adler

Amanda Adler is Professor of Diabetic Medicine and Health Policy at the University of Oxford, and Director of the Diabetes Trials Unit. She was the epidemiologist for the UK Prospective Diabetes Study. She serves as a Commissioner on the UK Commission on Human Medicines and chairs its Cardiovascular, Diabetes, Renal, Respiratory and Allergy Expert Advisory Group.

At the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), she chaired an independent Technology Appraisal Committee for 13 years leading decisions for more than 130 drugs, devices and other interventions across all disease areas. She chaired the Technical Advisory Group for diabetes at the World Health Organisation, and chairs its guideline for insulin use in humanitarian and low resource settings.

In 2025, she will chair the diabetes guidelines for the Pan American Health Organisation. She holds degrees in economics, medicine, epidemiology and pharmacovigilance, and continues to practice medicine in the NHS.

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Peter Jüni

In 2016, Peter was appointed Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology at the University of Toronto (Canada), was awarded a Canada Research Chair in Clinical Epidemiology of Chronic Diseases and became Director of the Applied Health Research Centre. Between 2020 and 2022, he served as Scientific Director of the Ontario COVID-19 Science Advisory Table, advising Ontario's government and informing the public.

Peter's work has focused on methodological issues and on clinical trials and meta-analyses on the management of cardiovascular and musculoskeletal disorders. He has had leading roles in major cardiovascular trials, including FAME 2 and MATRIX, and co-authored several European guidelines on the management of cardiovascular disease and diabetes. He contributed to more than 500 papers and has been recognised as a highly cited researcher by the Institute for Scientific Information since 2015.