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**RSTMH Annual Meeting 2021: drug resistant infections: causes, consequences, and considerations**

11 – 12 October 2021

**Scientific Committee**

**Dr Adam Roberts, Scientific Chair**

Adam Roberts is a Reader and AMR lead at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. His research group is currently funded by the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC).

The group is focused on investigating drug resistance in bacteria; particularly of low- and middle-income country origin, and the discovery and development of new drugs to treat bacterial and fungal disease.

**Professor Clare Chandler, Professor in Medical Anthropology & Director of the Antimicrobial Resistance Centre, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.**

Her expertise lies in the study of global health problems including antimicrobial resistance. She studies how such problems are configured, embodied and addressed across a range of actors in different spaces. Her current research includes: the ESRC funded [Anti-Microbials In Society (AMIS) Programme](https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/amis-hub) which runs a series of empirical studies of antibiotic use in Uganda and Thailand in humans, animals and plants, as well as an online web platform, the [AMIS Hub](http://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/PnA4CA1pkcZ6BxEhG6UZB?domain=antimicrobialsinsociety.org), which promotes social research on AMR; the FCDO-funded [FIEBRE programme](http://amr.lshtm.ac.uk/2017/04/19/febrile-illness-etiologies-broad-range-endemicities-fiebre/) for which she runs social science research on fever care in Zimbabwe, Malawi and Myanmar; and a series of smaller projects in the [Anthropology of AMR team](https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/centres-projects-groups/anthropology-antimicrobial-resistance) to explore the history of antibiotic arrivals in colonial Eastern Africa, the evidence base for one health WASH and biosecurity interventions, awareness of antibiotic resistance amongst human and animal healthcare practitioners, measurement of antibiotic use in humans and animals in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs), and a history of the WASH sector. Clare is co-lead at LSHTM as a Host Institution for the [Fleming Fund Fellowships](https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/centres-projects-groups/fleming-fund-fellowships) scheme, which supports capacity development of government workers tasked with the AMR response in LMICs. Clare’s methodological expertise are in ethnography, mixed-methods studies, intervention design and evaluation of complex health interventions. She has a keen interest in capacity strengthening and has provided technical advice to the UK Government, WHO, LMIC governments and the media on topics including Ebola, malaria and AMR.

**Professor Sabiha Essack, South African Research Chair (SARChI) in Antibiotic Resistance and One Health & Professor in Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN)**

Professor Essack is Vice Chair of the WHO Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for Antimicrobial Resistance (STAG-AMR), Senior Implementation Research Advisor at the International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance Solutions (ICARS) in Denmark and member of the International Pharmacy Federation (FIP) AMR Commission. She further serves as expert consultant on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) to the WHO. Professor Essack is chairperson of the Global Respiratory Infection Partnership (GRIP), serves on the Advisory Board of the Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria Biopharmaceutical Accelerator (CARB-X) in the US, the Fleming Fund Expert Advisory Group in the UK, theMarket Analysis Expert Advisory Group of the Global AMR Research and Development Hub in Germany and is a member of the Wellcome Trust Surveillance and Epidemiology of Drug Resistant Infections Consortium (SEDRIC). She served as Vice Chairperson of the South African Ministerial Advisory Committee on AMR at its inception, the International Pharmacy Federation Working Group on AMR, the South African Chapter of the Global

Antibiotic Resistance Partnership (GARP) and the South African Antibiotic Stewardship Programme (SAASP).

Professor Essack’s current research interests include:

* Evidence-informed strategies for the prevention and containment of antibiotic resistance based on the
	+ One Health surveillance of antibiotic use and resistance,
	+ Risk factors for the infection/colonization by antibiotic resistant bacteria, and,
	+ Infection prevention and control, water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), animal husbandry and biosecurity.
* Molecular epidemiology, pathogenomics and metagenomics of antibiotic resistance using whole genome sequencing and bioinformatics analysis for the characterization of antibiotic resistance and virulence genes, their associated mobile genetic elements and genomic environments, clonality and phylogeny.
* Health policy and health systems strengthening to optimize the management of infections in the context of antibiotic resistance and stewardship.

**Dr Jyoti Joshi, Head of Southa Asia, Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP)**

Jyoti Joshi MBBS MD (Community Medicine) & MSc (Infectious diseases) is Head - South Asia at the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy (CDDEP) and an Adjunct Professor at Amity Institute of Public Health, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh, India. A medical doctor with specialization in Community Medicine and Infectious diseases. Dr Jyoti has worked in public health programs for two decades and her research interests include antimicrobial resistance (AMR), health systems; vaccines especially vaccine safety; infectious diseases and emerging diseases. As part of the Global antibiotic Research Partnership (GARP) project at CDDEP, Dr Jyoti supported country working groups in 6 Asian countries (India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Laos PDR and Vietnam) to develop AMR Situation Analyses and projects to address AMR. She leads the work of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Collaborating Centre on AMR at CDDEP’s New Delhi office and has also worked with WHO to undertake country case studies to assess entry points for integrating AMR activities. This work facilitated the Global guidance for taking National Action Plans for AMR from paper to action by integrating AMR sensitive and AMR specific approaches within existing health programs. The Scoping Report on the antimicrobial resistance research landscape in India, co-authored by Dr Jyoti led to landmark projects in AMR in India, including those which she leads.

**Dr Mirfin Mpundu**, **Director, ReAct Africa**

Dr. Mirfin Mpundu is the Head of ReAct (Action on Antibiotic Resistance) Africa. He is also the Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagement Lead for the International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance Solutions (ICARS) responsible for Africa. An Honorary Research Fellow University of KwaZulu Natal and Co-chair - External Advisory Board of the Newton AMR Drug Discovery Programme. He also sits on the Expert Group for IVI.

He is a public health specialist with over 20 years extensive experience in global health policy, health systems strengthening, infectious diseases including AMR, pharmaceutical systems strengthening and health technologies, pharmaceutical supply chain management. A researcher and expert in implementation and intervention research in addressing AMR strategy implementation.

He has successfully supported several African countries with AMR National Action Plan development and implementation, regional pharmaceutical commodity pooled procurement initiatives in West and East Africa and provided technical support to WHO, FAO, OIE, Africa CDC and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) on AMR strategies and policies. He is a regular contributor on international health in webinars, conferences, and strategic meetings.

**Professor Guo-Bao Tian, Professor, Principal Investigator, Key Laboratory of Tropical Diseases, Sun Yat-sen University**

Prof. Tian is currently working as a Principal Investigator and a PhD. mentor of the Department of Microbiology at Zhongshan School of Medicine, Sun Yat-sen University (SYSU), Guangzhou, China. Before joining the SYSU, He has been appointed as a Postdoctoral scientist at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. In 2017, he had received the National Science Foundation of China for Outstanding Young Scholars and won the Guangdong Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars. His research area is focusing on; the different mechanisms of bacterial resistance and clinical bacterial infections. In this research area, he has published over 50 articles in internationally influential journals including *The Lancet Infectious Diseases, The Lancet Microbes*, *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*, *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, etc (https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=%22Tian%20GB%22[Author]). Moreover, he is a reviewer for *Lancet Infectious Diseases*, *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*, *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy* and currently he is the principal investigator on 17 major project grants funded by international/state/regional bodies to investigate antibiotic resistance bacteria.