



Prof. Mike Clarke

Professor Mike Clarke has worked for many years on rigorous assessments of the effects of interventions and actions, within health care and in other areas, such as civil service pay in resource poor settings. He is the former Director of the UK Cochrane Centre, which is part of a global effort to prepare summaries of the effects of health interventions. He has worked on more than 30 systematic reviews in a wide range of areas, and been actively involved in some of the largest ever randomised trials in areas as varied as maternity care, breast cancer, poisoning and stroke. Mike is now based at Queen's University Belfast, where he is Director of the All Ireland Hub for Trials Methodology Research, and Chair of the Medical Research Council's Network of Hubs for Trials Methodology Research. Mike is one of the founders of Evidence Aid.



Dr. Satya Paul Agarwal

Dr. Satya Paul Agarwal is a renowned neurosurgeon, academician and a public health administrator. He has been Secretary General of Indian Red Cross Society since November 2005, as well as being the Chairman of the IFRC Sustainable Development and Health Advisory Body, as well as previously being a vice-president of the IFRC. Earlier, he had successfully discharged responsibilities of several high offices including that of the Director General of Health Services, Government of India (1996 to 2005). Dr. Agarwal is also the President of Tuberculosis Association of India (TAI) an NGO with pan-India presence. As public health administrator, he played a pivotal role in execution of various disaster relief operations and control of disease outbreaks/epidemics. Dr. Agarwal is a prolific writer, and in addition to numerous chapters and articles, he has authored and edited several books. In recognition of his dedicated service to the nation, Dr. Agarwal has been awarded many prestigious awards including the Life Time Achievement Award for TB in 2005, the Dr. B.C. Roy National Award for the "Eminent Medical Person" in 2002, and was conferred with D.Sc., by Panjab University in 2007. He accepted the Henry Dunant Medal – the highest honour bestowed by International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, for the work of Indian Red Cross Society following Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004. In January 2010, Dr. Agarwal received the **Padma Bhushan Award**, one of India's highest civilian awards, conferred by the President of India for distinguished service of high order.



Dr. Amine Dahmane

Amine Dahmane, MD, graduated in tropical medicine and emergency medicine in Belgium. He worked as a physician in Belgium and joined MSF in 2003. Up to 2010, he worked as a doctor, medical co-ordinator and head of mission in several countries including Cambodia, Burkina Faso, China and Ukraine. Since 2011, he is part of Luxor, the OCB operational research unit, as Program Officer. He is enrolled in the MSF – Union OR course in Kenya.



Dr. Roger Van Hoof

Dr. Roger VAN HOOFF got his medical education at the University of Louvain – Belgium, where he graduated as MD in 1971. After an academic training in internal medicine and cardiology at the University Clinic in Louvain Belgium, he worked as cardiologist and epidemiologist at the Military Hospital in Brussels, as Research Fellow at the hypertension and cardiac rehabilitation laboratory and as Consultant in sport cardiology and cardiac rehabilitation at the University Clinic in Louvain – Belgium.

He was consecutively Director of the Military Hospital Queen Astrid in Brussels, Chief of Staff of the Belgian Military Health Service, Commander of the Medical Component and Chief 'Planning' at the Department for Strategy of the Belgian Armed Forces.

In 2011 he became the Secretary General of the International Committee of Military Medicine.

Major General (ret) Roger Van Hoof is also Honorary Aid of His Majesty the King of Belgium and Honorary Member of the Académie Royale Belge de Médecine.



Dr. Bonnix Kayabu

Bonnix Kayabu is a medical doctor from the DR Congo with five years of professional experience. He worked in both Eastern Congo (Panzi Hospital, in Bukavu) and Rwanda as a clinician before moving to Ireland. Bonnix holds an MSc in Global Health from Trinity College Dublin and is currently undertaking a PhD in Global Health at TCD. Bonnix has been coordinating the Evidence Aid project since November 2010 and he is based in the Centre for Global Health, Trinity College. His previous research was in the area of surgical treatment of vaginal-fistula in Eastern Congo, and he is currently promoting the use of research evidence in humanitarian crises. He has a strong interest in improving the accessibility of systematic reviews and other research evidence to improve health interventions, in particular in low- and middle-income countries.



Dr. Prathap Tharyan

Dr. Tharyan joined the faculty of the Christian Medical College, Vellore, Tamil Nadu India in 1988. He completed his undergraduate (MBBS) and post-graduate training (MD Psychiatry) at the Christian Medical College, Vellore, India and trained for the Membership of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (MRCPsych) in Oxford, UK. Dr. Tharyan is Professor of Psychiatry and was the former Head of the Department of Psychiatry. He was the former Additional Vice-Principal for Research at the Christian Medical College. He was an Associate Director of the Christian Medical College from February 2008 to January 2012. Dr. Tharyan is the Director of the South Asian Cochrane Network & Centre (www.cochrane-sacn.org), an independent centre of The Cochrane Collaboration (www.cochrane.org) that is hosted at the Prof. BV Moses & Centre for Evidence-Informed Healthcare & Health Policy at CMC Vellore. Dr. Tharyan is a systematic review author and Editor with the Cochrane Schizophrenia Group; and a systematic review author with the Cochrane Infectious Diseases Group, Pain and Palliative Care Group, Acute Respiratory Infections Group, Musculoskeletal Group, Developmental and Learning Disabilities Group, Hepato-biliary Group, and the Effective Practice and Organization of Care Group. He is a member of the Evidence Aid Project of The Cochrane Collaboration that seeks to make available summaries of evidence for interventions to be used after disasters, in order to aid planning the response to disasters. He is a program partner and member of the executive of the DFID-funded Effective Healthcare Research Consortium (<http://www.liv.ac.uk/evidence/>) that seeks to increase capacity for research synthesis and to produce and disseminate reliable evidence for the effects of interventions relevant to the healthcare in low and middle income countries. Dr Tharyan is an Associate Editor with the open access journal 'Trials', as well as 'The Journal of Evidence Based Medicine', and 'The Indian Journal of Medical Ethics'.



Prof. Dr. Philippe Vandekerckhove

Philippe Vandekerckhove, M.D./PhD, pathologist, is the CEO of the Belgian Red Cross-Flanders. Prior to this position Philippe worked as Clinical Director of the University Hospital Leuven from where he also obtained his M.D./PhD and Pathology degree. His clinical and pathology training was further carried out in South Africa (Baragwanath - University of Johannesburg, and Groote Schuur Hospital - University of Cape Town), the US (Woods Hole Marine Biology Laboratory, University of Hawaii, New York University), and The Netherlands (Erasmus University, Rotterdam). In addition, Philippe received management training at INSEAD (France) and Harvard Business School (USA). He has published about 50 articles in peer reviewed journals, and 5 chapters in textbooks, mainly in the field of immunology, hematology, blood banking and evidence-based medicine. He is associate professor at the Faculties of Medicine of the University of Leuven and the University of Ghent, vice-president of the European Blood Alliance, and board member of 2 General Hospitals and of the Institute for Tropical Medicine in Antwerp.



Dr. Johan von Schreeb

Johan von Schreeb is a medical doctor specialized in general surgery. He has since more than 20 years regularly worked in humanitarian settings, mainly with MSF, most recently on Haiti in 2010. In 1992 he co-founded MSF Sweden section. In 2007 he defended his PhD thesis, Needs assessments for humanitarian health assistance in disasters. He currently leads a research group at Karolinska Institutet focusing on improving health care assistance in disasters (<http://ki.se/disastermedicine>).



Prof. dr. Michel Debacker

Prof. dr. Michel Debacker is a Specialist in Internal Medicine with additional training in intensive care and emergency medicine.

His former positions have included: Director, Emergency Department (1980-1988) and Burn Centre (1986-1988), Military Hospital Queen Astrid, Brussels; Assistant Chief of Staff, Medical Service, Belgian Armed Forces (1989-1997); Academic Consultant in Disaster Medicine, University of Leuven (1990-2011); Chairman, Joint Medical Committee, NATO (1995-1997); Senior Lecturer in Disaster Medicine, Free University Brussels (2001-2005); Chairman, Executive Committee, European Master in Disaster Medicine (2002-2009); and Director, Research Committee, EMDM Academy (2009-2011).

His current positions include: Visiting Professor in Disaster Medicine, Free University Brussels (2006-); Visting Professor in Disaster Medicine, Università del Piemonte Orientale, Novara, Italy (2007-); and Director Disaster Medicine Unit, Research Group on Emergency and Disaster Medicine, Free University Brussels (2006-).



Paul Spiegel MD, MPH

Dr. Spiegel is the Deputy Director of the Division of Programme Support and Management at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as well as a Senior Fellow for the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative and Adjunct Professor at Johns Hopkins and Emory Schools of Public Health. He was previously Chief of the Public Health and HIV Section at UNHCR. Before UNHCR, Dr. Spiegel worked as a Medical Epidemiologist in the International Emergency and Refugee Health Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Previously he worked as a medical coordinator with Médecins Sans Frontières and Médecins du Monde in refugee camps in Kenya and DRC as well as a consultant for numerous organisations including the Canadian Red Cross and the Pan American Health Organisation.

Dr. Spiegel's research interests in humanitarian emergencies are in HIV, epidemiological methods, and health information systems. He has published extensively in the field of humanitarian emergencies. He has won numerous awards including CDC's Charles C. Shepard award for outstanding research in Assessment and Epidemiology.



Dr. Chris Lewis

Chris Lewis is a health advisor with DFID, working with the health services team in London and with the South Sudan programme. He has previously been involved in health crises including cholera in Zimbabwe, droughts in the Horn of Africa, earthquake in Haiti and conflict in Cote d'Ivoire. His work has previously included working in South Sudan for 4 years, supervising primary health care, responding to outbreaks and supporting the Ministry of Health in coordination of the health sector. Prior to international health, Chris' background is a General Practitioner, and he continues to practice once a week. His interests include primary health care, health system strengthening, and coordination in emergencies and fragile states.