

## Launch of the Lancet Series on Health in Humanitarian Crises

Date: Friday 9 June 2017

Time: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Venue: John Snow Lecture Theatre, LSHTM, Keppel Street, London, WC1E 7HT, UK

### Programme

Time	Topic	Speaker
09h30-09h40	Introduction to the Series and announcements	Bayard Roberts (LSHTM)
Session chair: Pam Das (The Lancet)		
09h40-10h00	Evidence on public health interventions in humanitarian crises	Karl Blanchet (LSHTM)
10h00-10h20	Public health information in crisis-affected populations: a review of methods and their use for advocacy and action	Francesco Checchi (LSHTM)
10h20-10h30	Comment: Research ethics and evidence for humanitarian health	Dónal O'Mathúna (School of Nursing & Human Sciences, Dublin City University)
10h30-10h50	Attacks against health care in Syria 2015–16: results from a real-time reporting tool	Alaa Abou-Zeid, Sophie Maes (World Health Organization)
10h50-11h10	Tea break	
Session chair: Debarati Guha-Sapir (Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, Université Catholique de Louvain)		
11h10-11h30	The humanitarian system is not just broke, but broken: recommendations for future humanitarian action	Paul Spiegel (Centre for Humanitarian Health, Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health)
11h30-11h40	Comment: Humanitarian medicine is more than a technical exercise	André Heller Pérache (Médecins Sans Frontières UK)
11h40-11h50	Comment: Where is the science in humanitarian health?	Ron Waldman (Milken Institute School of Public Health, George Washington University)
11h50-12h25	Panel discussion	All presenters
12h25-12h30	Closing	Richard Horton (The Lancet)
12h30-13h30	Light lunch	

### Wi-Fi details

Network: lshtm-conf

Password: jameslind

## About the speakers and chairs

**Alaa Abou-Zeid** is a Professor at the Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University, and a Medical Officer with the World Health Organization. He is currently the Health Cluster Coordinator in Yemen, overseeing the health sector response across the country. He started his career with WHO in 2006, firstly as a technical officer in the health research unit in the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office, then as emergency public health officer, coordinator and epidemiologist. His country experience includes Sudan, Somalia, Pakistan, Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria. Alaa has authored more than 40 peer-reviewed papers.

**Karl Blanchet** is Associate Professor in Health Systems Research and Director of the Health in Humanitarian Crises Centre at the LSHTM. Karl has a background in public health and extensive experience in conflict-affected countries. Karl has specific interests in studying resilience issues, and has developed innovative research approaches based on complexity science, system thinking and social network analysis. Karl is a member of the Expert Committee at WHO on rehabilitation guidelines. Karl was also the lead evaluator of the global strategy of the Physical Rehabilitation Programme and the Special Fund for the Disabled of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

**Francesco Checchi** is Professor of Epidemiology and International Health at the LSHTM. He is an epidemiologist with a focus on quantitative public health measurement and disease control in humanitarian crises. He previously worked for Médecins Sans Frontières, WHO and as Save the Children's humanitarian health team lead. He has worked on various diseases including malaria, African sleeping sickness, TB, pneumonia, cholera and malnutrition. His main focus now is the collection and use of public health information for crisis response. He works closely with both the WHO and MSF/Epicentre.

**Pamela Das** is Senior Executive Editor of The Lancet, a post she has held since 2011. After several years spent in molecular biology research, Pam moved into health writing and journalism, and joined the Lancet Infectious Diseases in 2001 where she was involved in setting up and running the journal. In 2007 she moved to The Lancet, where she covers infectious diseases and tropical medicine, public health, global health, and international health policy. She also oversees The Lancet's Comment and News sections, and media operations.

**Debarati Guha-Sapir** is full professor at the Université Catholique de Louvain. She directs the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED). Her research is largely field based in disaster and conflict prone areas with primary data collection promoting the use of sound evidence for policy in health and humanitarian aid. She is active in bridging the gap between data. She founded the international reference disaster database EMDAT and set up a data repository system for mortality and nutrition from civil conflicts (CEDAT). She has been elected a member of the Académie Royale de Médecine de Belgique and received the Peter Safar Award from the World Association of Disaster and Emergency Medicine.

**Sophie Maes** is a medical epidemiologist, currently working as Senior Emergency Coordinator with the World Health Organization's Health Emergencies Programme, where she supports several crisis responses, including South Sudan. Previously she was an Information Management and Public Health Officer for WHO in the Syria crisis. She has also worked at Belgium's Scientific Institute of Public Health, as adviser to the Belgian cabinet, and, between 1997 and 2004, was with Médecins Sans Frontières Belgium, both on the field and as a medical expert at headquarters.

**André Heller Pérache** is Head of Programmes for Médecins Sans Frontières UK. He oversees an advocacy team focused on aid and foreign policy, and research and operational programming teams. He has previously been the Country Director of MSF missions in Haiti, Syria, South Sudan, Central African Republic and Yemen; and held various other positions in Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Chad, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. His recent work has included projects on safeguarding humanitarian medical work in the field, and policy pieces on civil-military collaboration and operations in high-security contexts.

**Dónal O'Mathúna** is Senior Lecturer in Ethics, Decision-Making & Evidence in the School of Nursing & Human Sciences at Dublin City University, Ireland, and Director of the Centre for Disaster & Humanitarian Ethics (<http://www.ge2p2.org/>). His research interests include disaster ethics (ethical issues for healthcare practitioners and researchers during disasters) and systematic reviewing (he directs Cochrane Ireland). He co-edited Disaster Bioethics: Normative Issues When Nothing is Normal (2014). He has also supported improved understanding on health research and ethics through the ELRHA R2HC Programme.

**Bayard Roberts** is Professor in Health Systems and Policy, and Director of ECOHOST – The Centre for Health and Social Change at the LSHTM. His research addresses the health determinants, policies and systems of countries in transition such as conflict-affected and fragile states. He also works on forced migration and health – particularly on mental health and other non-communicable diseases. He has conducted research among conflict-affected populations in Afghanistan, Uganda, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Georgia and Ukraine. Bayard is also Editor-in-Chief of the journal Conflict and Health.

**Paul Spiegel** is Director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health and Professor of Practice in the Department of International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He spent several years working for UNHCR in HIV, health, nutrition, WASH and shelter. Before UNHCR, he worked for four years as a Medical Epidemiologist in the International Emergency and Refugee Health Branch at CDC, and as a medical coordinator with Médecins Sans Frontières and Médecins du Monde. His research interests in complex humanitarian emergencies are in HIV/AIDS prevention and control, the development of programmatic and health indicators, the implementation and evaluation of health information systems and surveys, and health and human rights. He has won numerous awards including CDC's Charles C. Shepard award for outstanding research in Assessment and Epidemiology.

**Ronald Waldman** is Professor of Global Health at the Milken Institute School of Public Health, George Washington University and President, Doctors of the World USA. Ron was also the founder and former director of the Program on Forced Migration and Health at the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, and has worked in emergency relief with CDC, USAID, WHO and other agencies for more than four decades, in Somalia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Albania, Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan, Iraq, Haiti and Pakistan among others. He has published extensively on epidemiology and refugee health.