

Commonwealth Partnerships for Antimicrobial Stewardship Sharing and Learning Event Speakers

24 – 25 June 2021



Dr Keith Ridge CBE
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England

Dr Keith Ridge is Chief Pharmaceutical Officer at NHS England where he is head of profession for the pharmacy professions and the principal advisor on pharmacy and medicines use. His role supports the Department of Health, broader Government and Health Education England.

Keith is the Senior Responsible Officer for reducing inappropriate prescribing of antimicrobial in the UK AMR Strategy, and leads on issues such as medicines optimisation, digital medicines, pharmacy educational reform and transforming pharmacy practice in line with the NHS's Five Year Forward View. He is a visiting professor at the Imperial College Medical School.



Dame Sally Davies
UK Special Envoy on Antimicrobial Resistance
Master of Trinity College, Cambridge

Dame Sally is UK Special Envoy on Antimicrobial Resistance and was appointed Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, in October 2019. Prior to this, Dame Sally was Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for England and Chief Medical Adviser to the UK government from March 2011 to September 2019, having held the post on an interim basis since June 2010. A Consultant Haematologist specialising in sickle cell disease, she was appointed as Honorary Professor of Haemoglobinopathies at Imperial College. In 2006 she founded the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) and was the Inaugural Director. In 2013 she established and became a Non-Executive Director of Genomics England Ltd (GEL) which sequenced 100,000 whole genomes of NHS patients. She has become a leading figure in global health including serving as a member of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Executive Board 2014-2016 and as co-convenor of the United Nations Inter-Agency Co-ordination Group (IACG) on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) reporting in 2019. She has championed the need to address AMR across all sections: human and animal health, agriculture and environment within the UN family and globally.



Tom Pilcher
Deputy Head of the Fleming Fund, Fleming Fund DHSC

Tom currently leads on country engagement for the UK's Fleming Fund. This £265m project aims to tackle antimicrobial resistance in low and middle income countries through building sustainable country partnerships. Tom has previously worked for the FCO on ODA policy and economic development in Brazil.



Dr Thomas Joseph

Acting Head, Antimicrobial Stewardship and Awareness, AMR Global Coordination Department, WHO

Dr Thomas Joseph acts as the Unit Head for Antimicrobial Stewardship and Awareness within the AMR Division in WHO. Thomas previously worked with WHO's Global TB Programme for several years. He has also worked with NGOs at local, national and international levels for 30 years prior to joining WHO.



Dr Yewande Alimi

AMR and One Health Program Coordinator, Africa CDC

Dr Yewande Alimi is the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Program Coordinator at Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, and co-lead for the Africa Union Task force on AMR. She co-chairs the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Section for COVID-19 response across the continent and provides technical IPC support to the Africa Task Force for Coronavirus.

Dr Alimi is a trained Veterinary Surgeon and holds a Masters Degree in Public Health (International Health) from the University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom. Drawing on a range of experience that includes veterinary medicine, public health policy and research, Dr Alimi currently leads the implementation of the Africa CDC Framework for AMR Control in Africa Union member states. She also leads on the One Health activities, development and implementation of one health programs within Africa CDC, across the African Union organizations and member states.

Before joining the Africa CDC, Dr Alimi practised as a Veterinary Surgeon in Nigeria. She worked as a research analyst at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Health Technology Assessment, Austria and CompanDX, United Kingdom.

She serves on several advisory boards and groups across the continent and globally. She is the One Health Technical Advisor for Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium.

She is a member of the Scientific Task Force to Prevent Pandemics at the Source for the Harvard Global Health Institute (HGHI) and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Center.



Ben Simms

Chief Executive Officer, THET

Ben has been CEO of the Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET) since 2015. He has 30 years' experience of working internationally, with an emphasis on global health and disability work. He has worked extensively across Africa, Europe, Latin America and Asia during this time, harnessing expertise from across the UK health community, in the NHS and in specialist medical charities such as Sue Ryder and Sense, to benefit the development of health and social care in low and middle-income countries. For the last fifteen years he has been in leadership roles, building a strong track-record in advocacy and programme innovation, and working

closely with UK Government departments and UN agencies. His knowledge of the INGO sector is further informed by periods chairing BOND Working Groups and taking active roles in health networks such as STOPAIDS, the network he directed from 2010 to 2015. He became a Fellow of the RSA in 2019 and is a member of the BBC Charity Appeals Advisory Committee. Ben has an MSc in Development Management from the Open University and an MA in History from Edinburgh



Louise McGrath
Director of Programmes, THET

Louise is an experienced manager of international development programmes and organisations with specific thematic expertise in health and social development and on policy influence. Louise has geographic experience across Africa, Asia and Latin America and spent 12 years living and working in Brazil. During her professional career working for a range of international health and development organisations, including NGOs and research institutes, Louise has developed a strong track-record in partnerships, programme design and management, capacity development and the generation and use of evidence to inform policy making and practice. Originally trained as a nurse, Louise has a BSc in Philosophy and Sociology and an MSc in Environmental and Development Education. At THET, in her role as Head of Programmes, Louise leads the Country Programmes and Grants Management teams.



Victoria Rutter, MPharm PGDipClinPharm FFRPS FRPharmS
Executive Director, Commonwealth Pharmacists Association

Victoria was appointed as the first Executive Director of the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association in 2016. Her dedication has significantly increased the charity's footprint and work streams, supporting better access to and use of medicines in lower resource settings, including pioneering the highly commended Commonwealth Partnerships in Antimicrobial Stewardship programme. She has led advocacy for the profession in numerous high-level policy forums and is the civil society representative on the Commonwealth Advisory Committee on Health. Prior to this Victoria led both service and workforce development through international collaborations in flagship hospitals in London and Singapore, developing an extensive global practice portfolio.



Sarah Cavanagh
International Partnerships Lead, Commonwealth Pharmacists Association

Sarah Cavanagh is the International Partnerships Lead for CPA and an Honorary Advisor for THET. Sarah has a wealth of pharmacy and global health experience. She has a passion for antimicrobial stewardship, patient safety and using behaviour change to improve health at home and abroad. Sarah has worked in India with Calcutta Rescue, in Ghana with Voluntary Services Overseas and in Mozambique where she led the Ipswich Hospital – Beira THET partnership. In addition to her CPA role, Sarah works as a pharmacist in the NHS with the Specialist Pharmacy Service where she is Deputy Director of Medicines Use and Safety.



Dr Diane Ashiru-Oredope
Global AMR Lead, Commonwealth Pharmacists Association

Dr Diane Ashiru-Oredope is the Global AMR lead for the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association and the Lead Pharmacist for the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Healthcare Associated Infections, Public Health England. An antimicrobial pharmacist by background, she has chaired/co-chaired several multi-professional groups on antimicrobial stewardship. She is Chair of the planning group for World Antimicrobial Awareness Week activities in England, and led the development, implementation and evaluation of the international Antibiotic Guardian campaign (#AntibioticGuardian), now in its seventh year and is underpinned by behavioural science.

Over the last 6 -10 years, She has contributed significantly to or led several multi-country and international projects and workshops on tackling antimicrobial resistance including assessing knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of healthcare workers as well as developing relevant training. Outside of her roles at PHE and CPA, Diane is on the editorial board for BMC Public Health journal, honorary Lecturer at UCL School of Pharmacy, volunteer tutor for the People's University which delivers public health master's courses/modules for healthcare professionals in low and middle income countries, committee member for UKCPA Pharmacy Infection Network and member of Royal Pharmaceutical Society Expert Advisory Group on AMR. She was appointed a Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) of Great Britain in February 2017 and is also Faculty Fellow of RPS. She has been nominated and delivered TEDx talks at TEDxNHS and TEDxLondonBusinessSchool.



Fran Garraghan
Lead Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

Fran is a Senior Technical AMS Advisor for the Commonwealth Pharmacist Association and a Chief Pharmaceutical Officer's Global Health Fellow. Fran led the AMS development programme as part of a CwPAMS project in Northern Uganda. As a lead Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Pharmacist in an NHS hospital Fran has around 10 years of experience in AMS. Fran has extensive experience in training and development of healthcare professionals in all aspects of AMS and has a special interest in behaviour change.