

OCTOBER CHERI BLOSSOM SEMINAR - DR INDIA PINKER, LUXEMBOURG INSTITUTE OF HEALTH: From Theory to Practice: Empathy Training for Interprofessional Health Education

Dr Pinker presented our October CHERI Blossom seminar with an interesting talk on the development of an interprofessional online workshop to enhance health professional patient, and interprofessional empathy. The presentation highlighted the process of workshop development, including the evidence base, theoretical underpinnings, the empathy map tool used, as well as some practical considerations. Also covered were findings from a case study acceptability pilot of the workshop which noted that the workshop was acceptable to student participants, who also saw its value and described how it could impact on their future practice. Discussion following the presentation focused on the need for health professional students to be able to practice clinical empathy in an online context, and how the empathy map tool could be used for this, but also potentially within assessment. There was also a discussion on the potential wider application of the empathy map tool. Thanks to Bayram for facilitating this CHERI Blossom seminar.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ADARSH SHAH – PHD STUDENT

Adarsh Shah has successfully defended his PhD thesis entitled “Complexity in curriculum reform: A qualitative case study of the Scottish “Improving Surgical Training” pilot.” His research project was a qualitative exploratory case study, underpinned by social constructivism to explore the factors which impacted on the success (or otherwise) of implementing “Improving Surgical Training” in Scotland. Adarsh produced four peer reviewed publications which formed the basis of his thesis. He demonstrated that curriculum reform is complex, influenced by multiple stakeholders, context, organisational culture, the external environment and the interactions between them.

His research project was funded by the Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh and NHS Education for Scotland.

Adarsh was supervised by Dr Kim Walker and Dr Lorraine Hawick within CHERI, together with Prof Ken Walker and Prof Jen Cleland, Honorary professors at the University.

Congratulations to Adarsh and we wish you every success for the future.

NOVEMBER CHERI BLOSSOM SEMINAR

The next CHERI Blossom Seminar will be presented by Kevin Kelman, The Director of NHS Scotland Academy, Learning and Innovation on “The NHS Scotland Academy, Learning and Innovation Directorate”. The Microsoft Teams meeting details are:

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 347 559 311 599

Passcode: cMYAFD

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)



Kevin Kelman

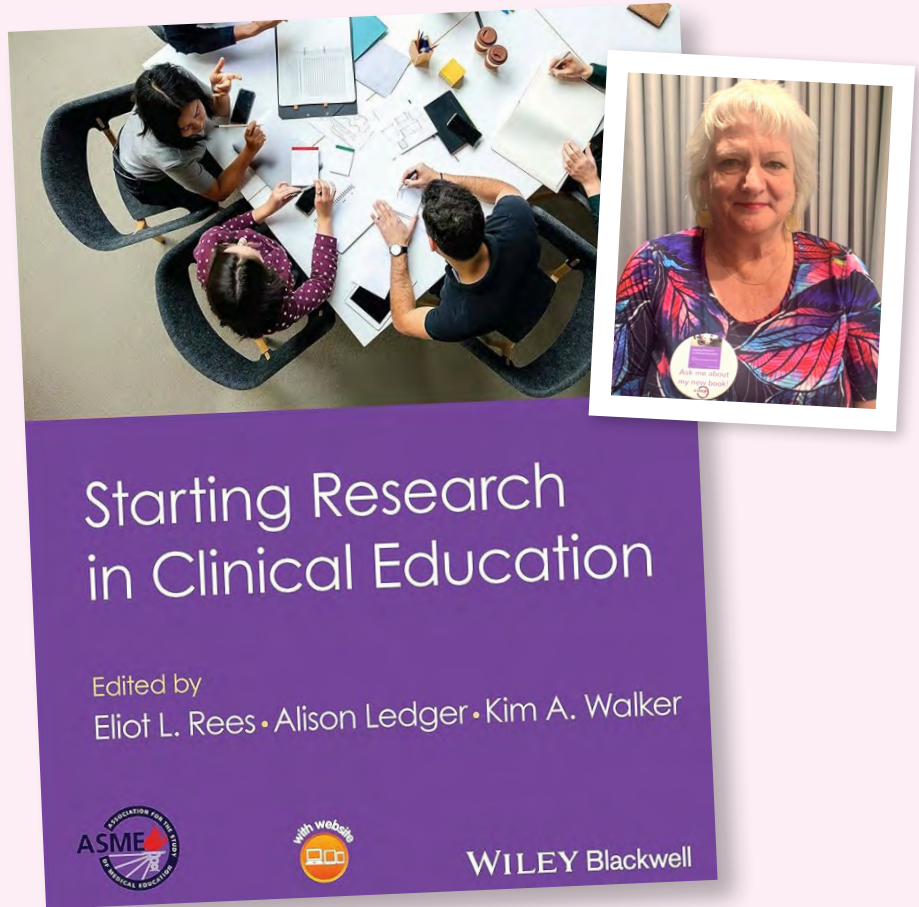


Adarsh Shah

STARTING RESEARCH IN CLINICAL EDUCATION –

A practical guide to clinical education research with top tips, common pitfalls and ethical issues

Kim Walker, has co-edited the book entitled “Starting Research in Clinical Education” which has just been published. This edition is designed to support new clinical education researchers including those undertaking intercalated or postgraduate degrees in clinical, medical dental or health professions education. All of the chapters have been written by a team of experienced and novice researchers from across the world. It is split into five parts: research design, evidence synthesis, qualitative research, quantitative research and succeeding in clinical education research. It is available directly from Wiley or Amazon. A digital version is also available. It has been described as “The ‘go to’ book for new researchers in clinical education”.



PUBLICATIONS

Chopra, C., Poobalan, A., Gibson Smith K., et al (2023).

[“For us, whatever we do is wrong, until we do something really good”: a qualitative study of the lived experiences of doctors from minority ethnic backgrounds in Scotland | BMJ Open](#)



Gibson Smith



Chopra



Poobalan

APPOINTMENT

Katie Gibson Smith has been invited to contribute as a Member to the Royal Society of Edinburgh Health and Wellbeing Community of Interest.



Katie Gibson Smith

SCHOOL HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH GROUP - SECOND MEETING

The second meeting of the School Higher Education Research Group will be on Tuesday 28th November at 1.45 – 2.45pm in the Rowett level 2 Seminar room, 2:046. An Outlook invitation has been sent to all SHERG members.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

New PhD Student

Lauren Charter recently joined CHERI as a PhD student. Her research will map the current remote and rural placements available to medical students enrolled at Scottish Medical Schools and explore the multiple transitions medical students experience while on these placements. These points will provide insight into the mechanisms that influence medical students' perceptions of remote and rural practice and encourage their future intention to practice rurally.

Prior to this, she worked as a research assistant at the University of St Andrews, helping to carry out a curriculum evaluation of the ScotGEM inaugural cohort. In addition, she provided program support for the British Medical Association's wellbeing services and charitable activities.

Lauren graduated with a master's in International Development and Management from the University of St Andrews, where her interest in medical education first developed. She has a special interest in understanding the lived experience of doctors

and medical students, informing curriculum improvement, and improving access to healthcare in rural and remote areas.

In her free time, Lauren enjoys cooking and staying active - running, yoga and swimming.



Lauren Charter

CARA BEZZINA RECEIVES PHD FELLOWSHIP FUNDING FROM THE WELLCOME TRUST

New PhD Student

Previous UoA clinical lecturer (scholarship) in Highland, Cara Bezzina, who was awarded SMERC funding for some of her previous research, has been awarded a PhD Fellowship funded by the Wellcome Trust.

Cara said: "I am delighted to have recently received a Multimorbidity PhD Fellowship supported by the Wellcome Trust and based at the University of Glasgow. My PhD project aims to enhance our understanding of how we educate medical students about multimorbidity. This proposal builds on the research I conducted for my dissertation as part of my Master's in Medical Education with Dundee. The concept for this project evolved during my University of Aberdeen Clinical Lecturer (Scholarship) placement in Inverness, where I collaborated with

Dr. Wendy Lowe. I am thankful for the SMERC funding that supported my work during my NES Academic Fellowship in Glasgow. I deeply appreciate the support I have received from my colleagues in Aberdeen, without whom this project would not have been possible, and I am especially grateful for the guidance of Professor Rona Patey and Professor Val Wass".

Many congratulations from CHERI and the University.



Cara Bezzina

DATES TO REMEMBER

Date	Online / in-person	Time	Presenter	Title
23/11/23	Online (Teams)	1-2pm	Kevin Kelman , Director of NHS Scotland Academy, Learning and Innovation	The NHS Scotland Academy, Learning and Innovation Directorate Microsoft Teams meeting: Join on your computer, mobile app or room device Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 347 559 311 599 Passcode: cMYAFD Download Teams Join on the web
28/11/23	In-person Rowett Level 2 Seminar Room 2:046	1.45-2.45	Anita Laidlaw Director of CHERI	School Higher Education Research Group – Second meeting



GET TO KNOW...**LORRAINE HAWICK****1. Could you tell us about your role at the university?**

I am a senior lecturer and I lead the MSc Clinical Education programme. Like most university staff, I also have my thumbs in several other pies.

2. What's the most exciting part of your job?

Working alongside hard-working, inspirational colleagues. I've been privileged to have some amazing colleagues and role models who encourage and inspire me. I also love observing students as they assimilate new knowledge and then grow in confidence.

3. What brought you to the University of Aberdeen?

I'm a registered nurse by background working predominantly in critical care and advanced practice. I had the good fortune to work clinically with Professor Patey (IEHMS director) for many years in the Intensive Care Unit in ARI. In 2009 a new MBChB curriculum was launched at the university, and Professor Patey encouraged me to apply for a new role within the curriculum. My role was to enhance, explore and develop new clinical learning opportunities for medical students. So, as the saying goes...the rest is history.

4. What are your special areas of interest?

This has varied over the years but more latterly its Postgraduate medical education.

5. What are your work priorities at the moment?

I'm responsible for ensuring that the masters level programme and courses run well and ensuring that the online students settle into their studies.

6. What future projects would you like to be involved in?

My colleague is on maternity leave and I'm covering parts for her role, so any future projects are on hold. But I am mulling over some nice ideas.

7. Do you have a mantra both professionally and personally?

Yes! Firstly, I'm a planner. I hate rushing or any last-minute pressures, either in work activities or at home. I love the Benjamin Franklin quote - 'If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail'. Secondly: Pause and Breathe. Pausing to take some deep breaths is so good for us and gives us a moment to rest and reset.

8. How do you like to relax outside work?

My passion is practicing and teaching Qigong. This comes from Traditional Chinese Medicine and is fantastic for physical and mental health and wellbeing. I practice Qigong every day and as a certified Qigong instructor I teach several classes each week, including a free class on Teams every Wednesday lunchtime for UoA staff & students.

9. Do you have any hidden talents or fun facts about yourself?

Hidden talent - I can play the flute, although I've not played in a while. Fun fact - I recently bought an electric mountain bike, so I'm keen to do more cycling...with a bit of a motorised boost of course!