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Sustainable Healthcare Academic
Research and Enterprise Conference

Keynote speakers



University of Brighton

School of Health Sciences



CENTRE for
SUSTAINABLE
HEALTHCARE
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brighton and sussex
medical school

Keynote 1 - Dr Nick Watts

Greener NHS: Delivering a Net Zero Health Service



Dr Watts is the Chief Sustainability Officer of the NHS, responsible for its commitment to deliver a world-class net zero emission health service. Based in London, he leads the Greener NHS team across the country, which focuses on improving the health of patients and the public through a robust and accelerated response to climate change and the broader sustainability agenda.

Nick is a medical doctor licensed in Australia and the UK, and has trained population health and public policy. He is a Member by Distinction of the Royal College of Physicians' Faculty of Public Health, and an Honorary Associate Professor of University College London's Institute for Global Health.

Prior to the National Health Service, Nick worked internationally as the Executive Director of the Lancet Countdown and the Lancet Commission on Health and Climate Change, a collaboration of UN agencies and academic centres across the world. He has also focused on engaging the health profession on the links between public health and climate change, having founded both the Global Climate and Health Alliance and the UK Health Alliance on Climate Change.

Keynote 1 - Martin Caunt

Greener NHS: Delivering a Net Zero Health Service



Martin was appointed Deputy Director (Head of Unit) for the Greener NHS programme in September 2020, which is part of NHS England and Improvement's Primary Care, Community Services and Strategy Directorate. This post supports the ongoing work of the NHS Sustainable Development Unit as it becomes the Greener NHS programme. The Greener NHS programme delivers programmes of work for the NHS and where relevant the wider health sector including delivering the LTP commitments in relation to carbon, waste and water, reducing single use plastics and reducing air pollution, developing and delivering a Net Zero plan for the NHS, supporting Regions, networks and STPs to embed changes across the sector, and analysis of the NHS' emissions, including carbon and air pollutants, and use of plastics. Martin is a key member of the Greener NHS senior leadership team helping to manage its portfolio of work, set overall direction, shape the team, improve its processes and capabilities and ensure it has strong links across NHS England and other Arm's Length Bodies. He is a leader and a mentor to a team of about 5-10 professionals and ambassador for the Greener NHS programme, helping to communicate our values and our work at meetings, seminars, conferences and other public events.

Before joining the Greener NHS team, Martin was Deputy Director for Analytical Services. He led a dynamic multi-disciplinary team of approximately 50 analysts through uncertainty and change during a major organizational change programme and COVID-19 response and supported the strategic and operational development of data and analytics in NHS England and NHS Improvement. Martin was also accountable for the analytics underpinning the Delivery a net zero National Health Service report published on 1 October 2020 which committed the NHS to become the first national health system to commit to net zero. Prior to this role, Martin was Programme Director for the Improvement Analytics Unit, a partnership between NHS England and The Health Foundation, to deliver independent and robust analysis to national decision-makers and those implementing change on the ground in the NHS to understand the impact of initiatives by implemented to improve care. He led a team of 15 highly skilled analysts and other professionals from the two organisations to develop the capability in the NHS to use routine data sets and advanced analytical methods to improve decision making in health and social care.

Martin joined NHS England from the Department of Health where he was a policy and programme management professional in Adult Social Care for 3 years. As a policy lead he enabled the fast paced Dilnot cap on care cost negotiations between Department of Health, HMT and Number 10 leading to the commitment to additional expenditure of £1bn per year by 2020. As Programme Manager for the Care and Support Reform Programme he led programme implementation of the Care Act, the biggest change to Adult Social Care for 60 years impacting on millions of citizens and over 1.5 million people employed in the sector.

Martin completed a MSc Operational Research at Southampton University and has significant experience of applying analysis to support decision makers in defence, consultancy and the public sector.

Keynote 2 - Prof Mahmood Bhutta

Slavery and child labour: worker rights abuses in healthcare supply chains



Prof Mahmood Bhutta is consultant and honorary clinical professor in ENT Surgery in Brighton. He has been raising concerns about labour rights abuses in NHS supply chains for the last fifteen years, including in the production of surgical instruments made using child labour, gloves made by immigrant workers in debt bondage in Malaysia, and more recently, state forced labour in the manufacture of masks and gowns made in China. He has worked with organisations in the UK and abroad to advocate for better working conditions.

Keynote 3 - Rachel Stancliffe

Sustainable healthcare: system change from top to toe



Rachel has a first degree in Human Sciences from Oxford where her interest in systems thinking and population health was stimulated by Muir Gray. Her interest has always been in working across disciplines on complex problems. Following an MSc in Demography from the LSE, she worked in public health in the UK. She then spent 5 years in Moscow, Georgia and Kazakhstan where she worked for Save the Children, The Norwegian Refugee Council, UNDP, UNICEF and the Red Cross on projects including capacity building for the government, running household surveys and writing the Human Development Report.

Moving back to Oxford, she helped to develop *The Cochrane Library* for its first ten years which gave her a thorough understanding of evidence-based medicine, an appreciation of the importance of methodology, and practical experience of how to integrate evidence with healthcare guidelines and policy.

Rachel has been working on the intersection of health and the environment for the past 13 years since she founded The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare (CSH) in 2008. She remains interested in the best use of good quality evidence and in creative partnerships to achieve change. Her team at CSH is supporting the transformation of healthcare in the UK and internationally for a sustainable future. She is also a founding Director of the Community Interest Company, Global Healthcare Information Network and is on several Boards.

Keynote 4 - Dr Courtney Howard

Planetary health and a healthy recovery



Dr Courtney Howard is an Emergency Physician in Canada's subarctic, a Clinical Associate Professor in the Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, a Community Research Fellow in Planetary Health at the Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research, and Past-President of the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE). Dr Howard has researched menstrual cups and wildfires, and led policy work and advocacy regarding ecoanxiety, movement-building, active transport, plant-rich diets, divestment, carbon pricing, coal phase-out, hydraulic fracturing and with regards to Canada's Oil Sands.

She led the 2017-2019 *Lancet* Countdown on Health and Climate Change Briefings for Canadian Policymakers and was the 2018 International Policy Director for the *Lancet* Countdown. She sits on the boards of the Canadian Medical Association, Health in Harmony, and the Global Climate and Health Alliance, as well as the Steering Committee of the Planetary Health Alliance, and the Editorial Advisory Boards of the *Lancet* Planetary Health and the Journal of Climate Change and Health. Dr Howard is head of advocacy for the WHO-Civil Society Working Group on Climate Change and Health and is currently focused on advocating for a healthy low-carbon recovery from COVID-19.