

SHORT BIOS.

Niek Klazinga

Prof.dr. Niek Klazinga, MD, PhD. Professor of Social Medicine at the University of Amsterdam since 1999. Between 1985 and 1999 he worked at the Dutch Institute for Quality Improvement in Health Care (CBO) as Chief Scientific Officer. During this period he was a part-time Associate Professor at the Erasmus University and actively involved in quality assurance activities in hospitals. Project Leader, (1989-1995) of two EU funded international projects on quality assurance in European hospitals (COMAC, BIOMED I) he also participated as a partner in the EU project on external quality assurance strategies (ExPert) and on the quality of practice guidelines (AGREE). He is Director of the Masters Programme on Health Services Research, Netherlands Institute of Health Sciences. Niek has published widely in peer-reviewed journals on quality of care and given hundreds of lectures over the past 15 years. His present research activities concentrate on the development and use of quality indicators and quality systems in health care systems. He chairs and/or participates in several national Dutch Committees on Health Quality and Research and represents the Dutch government in the OECD project on quality indicators. Niek also serves as technical advisor to WHO/EURO in a project on the development of a Hospital Performance Indicator Framework

David De La Harpe

Dr. David De La Harpe is an Assistant National Director of Population Health in the HSE and heads up the recently established function of Health Intelligence in the Directorate of Population Health. This function includes developing health information capabilities, and supporting evidence based health care and research, She has worked as a specialist in Public Health Medicine in a number of former health boards and regions and was a Senior Lecturer in Evidence Based Healthcare in the RCSI for some years. She has published research in peer reviewed journals in a number of areas including cardiovascular disease management, infectious disease management and implementation of evidence based health care. She is a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine. Her post-graduate qualifications include Pharmacology, Health Service Management, Health Economics and Healthcare Risk Management.

Leslie Boydell

Dr. Leslie Boydell is an Associate Director of the Institute of Public Health in Ireland, which was set up to promote North-South co-operation on public health issues, with a focus on reducing inequalities in health. She has a particular research interest in partnership working between public sector organisations and communities to tackle health inequalities and has led research into how the impact of partnerships can be measured. In addition she has undertaken several evaluations of partnerships and complex community interventions and has a particular interest in the psychodynamics of partnership working, having just completed her PhD (University of the West of England, Bristol) on this theme. On behalf of the Institute, she is responsible for establishing the first all Ireland public health leadership programme, Leadership for Building a Healthy Society, which puts emphasis on collaborative leadership. She is

currently heading up the development of the Institute's Public Health Policy Centre. She trained in general practice and public health medicine. She worked previously for the Eastern Health and Social Services Board in Belfast and subsequently, South and East Belfast Health and Social Services Trust, where she led a number of EU funded projects on integrated health and social care.

Teresa Maguire

Dr. Teresa Maguire after completing a BSc (Hons) in Pharmacology at University College Dublin, Dr Teresa Maguire went on to complete a PhD at the Clinical Pharmacology Department in Ninewells Hospital, Dundee, Scotland. She subsequently returned to Ireland to work as a post-doctoral research fellow with the Department of Surgery at St Vincent's University Hospital, assessing the predictive power of novel biomarkers in breast cancer. After working for a number of years as Director of Scientific Affairs in Ireland for a multinational pharmaceutical company involved in resistance testing and drug development for HIV, she took up post as Head of the R&D for Health division at the Health Research Board. She is currently Head of the Research Management Unit at the HRB, with responsibility for funding, projects and career support.

David Evans

David Evans started work in the UK National Health Service (NHS) in 1985. He published *Implementing Evidence Based Changes in Health Care*, (Eds. Evans D and Haines A) in 2000 and *Informing Surviving Research Implementation* (Evans, D and Wye, L, 2002). Since 1997 David has been working to establish and develop Effective Health Care C.H.A.I.N. (Contacts, Help, Advice, and Information Network).

This network is a multi-professional group sharing knowledge and experience relevant to health care research and evidence based practice. CHAIN now has 4 main components with more than 4,500 members. An independent evaluation showed that the network is highly valued and effective (Russell J. et al, *BMJ* 2004;328:1174-7). It has CHAIN counterparts in Canada, Scotland, Australia and CHAIN worldwide. An All Ireland CHAIN has also been launched with the support of the Institute of Public Health in Ireland and the Health Service Executive.

Stiofan de Burca

Prof. Stiofan de Burca is Director of the Health Systems Research Centre, Department of Sociology, UL. He is a former Health Board CEO, former Chair of the IPA, and founding President of the ISQSH and ESQH. He is active in promoting the profile of professional health management as President of the Health Management Section of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland, member of the Health Management Institute, and Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development.

He received his PhD from Brunel University, London. His research interests are in leadership and change in complex systems, and his current projects are in healthcare quality indicators, clinical team effectiveness, and community health and social status.