



Meeting of the WHO guideline development group – ferritin for the assessment of iron status

WHO/HQ - M505 (M building) and Salle D (main building)
Geneva, Switzerland
15-17 June 2016

PROVISIONAL LIST OF GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT GROUP MEMBERS WITH BIOGRAPHIES

Please note:

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Professor Salam Alkindi BA, MB, BCh, BAO, DME, MSc, FRCP

Professor, Head of the department of haematology, Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat Oman

Area of expertise: haematology

Professor Salam Alkindi is currently Head of the Department of Haematology at Sultan Qaboos University in Muscat, Oman. Professor Alkindi graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland in 1993, and has since completed studies in general medicine as well as haematology/oncology training in Dublin, Ireland and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, USA, where he completed his training in bone marrow transplant. In 1999 he joined Sultan Qaboos University and in 2005 he was appointed as Head of Department of Haematology. He previously held the position of Deputy Director of Sultan Qaboos University Hospital for Clinical Affairs (clinical director in effect) for about 5 years. His research interests include sickle cell disease, leukaemia and autoimmune disorders and has published more than 60 articles in international peer-reviewed journals.

Rhona K. Baingana, BSc, MSc

Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda

Area of expertise: Nutrition biochemistry, national nutrition surveys

Ms Baingana is a nutrition scientist and lecturer with the Department of Biochemistry and Sports Science, Makerere University, Uganda. She received her BSc from Southampton University, her MSc from King's College London and is a PhD candidate at Makerere University. Her thesis examines the influence of *Helicobacter pylori* infection on the pregnancy anaemia intervention package in Uganda using current infection and biomarkers of inflammation and iron status, including ferritin, to "unpackage" anaemia. She has contributed her expertise in biomarkers of iron and vitamin A status to the evaluation of the HarvestPlus orange-fleshed sweet potato intervention in Uganda, the Mama SASHA Kenya Agriculture and Health project, the Zimbabwe Micronutrient Survey (2013), as well as the micronutrient survey components of the Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey (2010) and the Uganda Demographic and Health Surveys of 2011 and 2006. Ms Baingana's other interest is body composition, diet and physical activity where she is collaborating in two studies in school-going children in Kampala, Uganda.

Apart from nutrition science, Ms Baingana is passionate about health professions education and is a co-investigator of Medical Education for Equitable Services for All Ugandans (MESAU) a project of the Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI).

Professor Gary M. Brittenham, MD

Professor of Pediatrics and Professor of Medicine, Columbia University, Children's Hospital of New York, New York, USA

Area of expertise: iron metabolism, malaria

Dr Gary Brittenham is the James A. Wolff Professor of Pediatrics and Professor of Medicine in the Division of Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Stem Cell Transplantation, Department of Pediatrics, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. His research interests involve basic and clinical research in disorders of the red blood cell and of iron metabolism, including thalassemia and hemoglobinopathies, the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of both iron deficiency and iron overload, the evaluation of iron supplements and iron-chelating agents, and the pathogenesis of malarial anemia. He has published over 200 papers in these areas. His laboratory has helped develop non-invasive methods both for the measurement of

iron overload, using magnetic susceptometry and magnetic resonance techniques, and for the detection of iron deficiency, using optical means.

Professor Jonathan L. Gorstein, PhD

Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Global Health, University of Washington, Seattle, USA

Executive Director, Sajilo Solutions International, Seattle, USA

Area of expertise: nutrition epidemiology, nutrition status assessment

Professor Jonathan Gorstein has been working to support the design and implementation of large-scale nutrition programs in developing countries for over twenty five years with a focus on strengthening capacity and monitoring and evaluation. He serves on global task forces for the World Health Organization and International Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders/Global Network, as well as several editorial boards of international public health nutrition journals. He has worked with international agencies (WHO, UNICEF, World Food Program, World Bank), International NGO's (Helen Keller International, PATH, Micronutrient Initiative, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition) and as a consultant to several Ministries of Health. He has served extended assignments in Nepal and Indonesia where he provided support to their respective national nutrition programs, helped develop curricula in nutrition and carried out operational research. He is currently a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Global Health at the University of Washington where he lectures on nutrition in developing countries and also serves as the global coordinator for a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grant to support national efforts to achieve optimal iodine nutrition in sixteen countries, which is being jointly implemented by the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition and UNICEF.

Professor Richard Hurrell, PhD

Professor Emeritus for Human Nutrition, Institute for Food, Nutrition and Health, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

Area of expertise: iron metabolism, iron compounds

Professor Richard Hurrell graduated in Food Technology from the University of Reading in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 1969 and after a short spell in the food industry took a Masters in Nutrition and a PhD at the University of Cambridge under Kenneth Carpenter specializing in Bioavailability (lysine) and the effect of food processing on nutritional quality of foods. He joined Nestlé Research in Switzerland in 1978 and became head of the micronutrient group focusing on iron bioavailability and fortification in relation to infant foods. After a one year sabbatical in Kansas University with Jim Cook in 1984, iron bioavailability was extensively studied collaboratively between KU and Nestlé using human radioisotope studies and focusing on food factors such as phytic acid, polyphenols and proteins. At the same time, he introduced stable isotope techniques with mass spectrometry at Nestlé Research so as to work with children and optimize iron and zinc absorption from infant foods focusing on phytic acid removal. He moved to Institute of Food Science, ETH Zurich in 1994 as the full Professor of Human Nutrition, introducing nutrition into the food science curriculum and setting up a research program based on micronutrient malnutrition focused on the developing world. Human stable isotope studies on iron and zinc absorption in women and children from fortified and biofortified foods, and long term feeding studies in women and children to measure the efficacy of fortified foods formed the basis of this research. He was joint author of the WHO food fortification guidelines (2006,2009) and has worked closely with Harvest Plus, GAIN, IAEA and GAIN to improve micronutrient malnutrition. He has been a GAIN Board member since 2002, ILSI Europe Board since 2010 and was Editor

of the International Journal of Vitamin and Nutrition Research 2001-2014. He has some 200 peer reviewed publications with recent interest in the influence of infections on iron bioavailability; the influence of phytases on iron and zinc absorption in infants; the influence of inulin and carotenoids on iron absorption; efficacy of zinc, vitamin A and iron from triple fortified extruded rice; iron absorption from biofortified beans; and the efficacy in women and children of NaFeEDTA fortified margarine and atta flour.

Professor Hurrell retired as Head of Human Nutrition at the Institute of Food, Nutrition and Health at ETH in 2012 taking Professor Emeritus status and continues to work closely with GAIN, WHO, Harvest Plus and other international organizations

Professor Jianmeng Liu, MD, PhD

Professor of Epidemiology and Deputy Director, Institute of Reproductive and Child Health, Peking University, Beijing, People's Republic of China

Area of expertise: genetics, micronutrient supplementation, reproductive health

Dr Jianmeng Liu is currently the Professor of Epidemiology at Peking University School of Public Health, the Deputy Director of Peking University Institute of Reproductive and Child Health, and the Director of Office for National Maternal and Child Health Statistics of China. He received a Master's degree in biostatistics at Tongji Medical University in 1988 and a PhD in Epidemiology at Peking University in 1998. As a visiting scholar, he has been trained in perinatal epidemiology at Sydney University and in nutritional epidemiology at Harvard School of Public Health. His research focuses on pregnancy nutrition and birth outcomes. He has leads several projects supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr Liu's research demonstrated that prenatal iron-folic acid and other micronutrient supplements provided to Chinese women with no or mild anaemia improved later pregnancy iron status and prevented anaemia compared with folic acid alone. Dr Liu's current research also focuses on caesarean section and offspring Health, and other child health issues. Dr Liu is collaborating with researchers from the U.S. to conduct in-depth analyses of prenatal supplementation and birth outcomes, and caesarean section and offspring health including anaemia and obesity.

Professor Petra Macaskill, B.A., Dip. Ed, MAppStat, PhD

Professor of Biostatistics, Sydney School of Public Health, The University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia

Area of expertise: systematic reviews, methods

Professor Petra Macaskill holds a personal chair in Biostatistics at the Sydney School of Public Health, University of Sydney. Her research interests include both statistical methodology and applied Public Health research, with a major focus on diagnostic research and systematic reviews of diagnostic test accuracy. She is a Chief Investigator on the Screening and Test Evaluation Program (STEP) funded through Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Program Grants (2002-2015), and has over 120 peer reviewed articles (>8000 citations, h-index 46). Professor Macaskill has had a key role in the expansion of the Cochrane Library to cover reviews of diagnostic test accuracy through her role as Co-convenor of the Cochrane Diagnostic and Screening Test Methods Group (2004-present). She is primary author of the statistical methods chapter in the Diagnostic Handbook, and is on the Editorial Board for Cochrane Diagnostic Reviews. Professor Macaskill is a member of the Society for Research Synthesis Methodology (2006 – present), an elective international society restricted to 75 members. She serves on the editorial board for several international journals. She contributed to the development of reporting guidelines for multivariable prediction models

for prognosis and diagnosis (TRIPOD), and is currently co-convening the Evaluating Diagnostic Test and Prediction Models subgroup of the STRATOS initiative to develop analysis guidelines for observational studies.

Professor Malcolm E. Molyneux, MA MB BChir MD FRCP FMedSci OBE

Professor, Malawi-Liverpool Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Programme, College of Medicine, University of Malawi, Blantyre, Malawi

Area of expertise: malaria, clinical medicine

Professor Malcolm Molyneux is a physician who specialized in infectious and tropical diseases in the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and has worked most of his life in Malawi, first as a government general physician (1974-1984) and then after 1995 as a clinician scientist linked with Liverpool and supported by The Wellcome Trust, UK. In 1995 he jointly initiated the 'Malawi-Liverpool-Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Programme' (MLW), based in the College of Medicine, University of Malawi, and was Director of MLW and honorary Professor of Medicine in the College from 1995 till 2008. Since 2008 he has continued to be based in Malawi as a senior scientist in MLW, and as emeritus Professor of Medicine in the University of Liverpool. MLW aims to collaborate with Malawian individuals and institutions, particularly the College of Medicine, in the teaching and practice of good scientific research addressing health challenges of local importance in Malawi; to do this in the place where these challenges occur; in so doing to contribute to local and international capacity development in health research; and thereby to contribute to national health policy development.

Christine M. Pfeiffer, PhD

Branch Chief, Nutritional Biomarkers Branch, Division of Laboratory Sciences, National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA

Area of expertise: laboratory methods

Dr. Christine Pfeiffer is the Chief of the Nutritional Biomarkers Branch in the Division of Laboratory Sciences at CDC's National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH). She joined the CDC in 1996 where her research focuses on the development of state-of-the-art analytical methods for the measurement of nutritional biomarkers, the application of these methods to the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) and other epidemiologic studies, and consultations on laboratory-related activities for CDC's IMMPaCt (International Micronutrient Malnutrition Prevention and Control) Program. Dr Pfeiffer is a leading expert on folate and B-vitamin methodologies, and on the assessment and interpretation of nutritional status through biomarkers. She has authored close to 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts, led the production of two major agency reports on nutritional biomarkers in NHANES, served on national and international committees, and has been an invited speaker at major international conferences.

Professor Rob Scholten, MD, PhD

Director, Dutch Cochrane Centre, University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, The Netherlands

Area of expertise: clinical epidemiology, methods

Dr Rob Scholten is trained as a medical doctor and clinical epidemiologist. In 1993, he received his PhD (topic "The epidemiology of meningococcal disease"). He has been actively involved in the activities of The Cochrane Collaboration since 1996. In 2000 he joined The

Dutch Cochrane Centre (DCC) which is located in Utrecht, the Netherlands. In 2001 he became the director of the DCC. On January 1st, 2010, he was appointed as Professor of Evidence-Based Medicine at the Academic Medical Center of the University of Amsterdam. Rob has been part of various national and international guideline committees. He is an active contributor to various Cochrane entities. Dr Scholten is editor in the Cochrane Diagnostic Test Accuracy Editorial Team and he is active member of the GRADE Working Group.

From 2007-2010 he was the project leader of the Continental European Support Unit to assist Continental European Cochrane Review Groups and authors with the preparation and implementation of Cochrane Diagnostic test accuracy reviews. On a national level, Dr Scholten is and has been involved in various guideline and advisory committees and he was the Chair of various PhD Education Committees. He is author of various Cochrane intervention reviews and co-author of the first Cochrane Diagnostic test accuracy (DTA) review. He also authored various non-Cochrane DTA reviews. Dr Scholten's main interests are training and research regarding systematic reviews, in particular of diagnostic test accuracy.

Geeta Shakya, MBBS, DCP, MD(path)

Director, National Public Health Laboratory, Teku, Kathmandu, Nepal

Area of expertise: public health laboratories

Dr Geeta Shakya is a Nepali, born in Kathmandu, Nepal. After doing her early schooling and college studies in Kathmandu, she graduated in medicine from the Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi University, India. After coming back home she worked for several years in pathology at different hospitals in Kathmandu. Subsequently, she obtained her Post-graduate Diploma in Clinical Pathology from Royal Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith Hospital, University of London and MD Pathology degree at the National Academy of Medical Sciences, Nepal. Dr Shakya is employed under the Government of Nepal Health Services for more than three decades in various institutions and gained tremendous experiences in the field of diagnostics in clinical settings and public health related diseases. She is presently working as Director, National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) since 2009. She has participated in various national and international conferences and has several scientific publications to her credit. She has been a PI and co-PI in many research studies of national public health importance. Her contribution in development of policies and guidelines related to laboratory technology and blood safety is remarkable. She is also involved in pilot study on micronutrients status in the population of sixteen districts in Nepal.

Pattanee Winichagoon, BSc, MS, PHD

Associate Professor, Institute of Nutrition, Mahidol University, Thailand

Area of expertise: clinical research

Dr Pattanee Winichagoon is currently an Associate Professor in the Institute of Nutrition at Mahidol University, Thailand. She received a Master's degree in Nutrition from the University of Hawaii, USA and PhD in International Nutrition from Cornell University, USA. She was an IUNS fellow in 2013. Her research interest includes: efficacy and effectiveness of nutrition interventions in children and women in rural and low to middle income populations in Thailand; bioavailability of iron and other micronutrients in food fortification using stable isotopes; and light isotopes for the assessment of body composition, energy expenditure and breast milk intakes. Dr Winichagoon was Deputy Director for Academic Affairs for Institute of Nutrition at Mahidol University (2003-2008), Chairperson for the 5th International Conference on Dietary Assessment Methods (2003) and Vice-Chair Scientific Committee, 19th

International Conference of Nutrition (2009). She is currently a member of anaemia advisory committee (Thailand). She has provided scientific advice to various international agencies (WFP, UNICEF, WHO, World Bank) and participated in global expert consultations on iron, micronutrients, maternal and child nutrition program. She has developed training modules on community nutrition for program managers (World Bank), and was a field director for MCN, in collaboration with University of Queensland.