Brief biographies for the FAO/WHO expert group on nutrient requirements for children aged 0-4 years

Professor Steven Abrams

Professor Abrams has developed and championed the use of stable isotopes to determine mineral requirements and physiological turnover rates in infants and children. He developed the mass spectrometric methods and analytical approaches allowing populations throughout the world to obtain critical data needed for food fortification strategies to be effective. His research has also furthered understanding of the physiological basis for hormonal changes during growth affecting bone formation and turnover using mathematical modeling techniques adapted by his team for infants and small children. He has conducted research studies using mineral isotopes in more than 20 countries and for 25 years operated the largest nutritional research lab in the world analyzing biological samples for mineral isotope enrichment. He has frequently consulted with governments and has been a trainer for the International Atomic Energy Agency in developing the skills of scientists in countries including Pakistan, Egypt, Indonesia and South Africa on isotopic techniques as applying to human nutrition.

He has also authored dozens of methodological papers and a textbook relating disease processes to nutrient metabolism. He continues to consult frequently with companies related to product design to incorporate key nutrients, especially calcium and iron, in their products. In 2016, he received the highest award in the pediatric nutritional research community, the Samuel J. Fomon Nutrition Award, for his contributions to helping improve the health of children through application of mineral stable isotope research.

Abrams has served as a member of the Committee on Nutrition of the American Academy of Pediatrics and is now chair of that committee. He has published numerous editorials advocating for healthy nutrition and other health care needs of children. From 2012-15, he was a member of the Dietary Advisory Committee of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, being the first pediatrician member of that committee in 25 years. That committee advises the U.S. government for all of its nutrition programs. He has served as an adviser to international governments on nutrition policy, especially in Peru and Panama, where he has met with government leaders to help develop strategies to fight malnutrition. Abrams routinely interacts with underrepresented minority students in advocating for their role in scientific discovery and has been a mentor to many such students advancing in their scientific careers.

Stephanie A. Atkinson, PhD, DSc (honoris causa), FCAHS, FASN

Dr. Stephanie Atkinson is a tenured Professor and nutrition clinician-scientist in the Department of Pediatrics, an Associate Member in the Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences, and Member of the McMaster Medical Sciences Graduate Program, in the Faculty of Health Sciences, McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. She serves as Special Professional Staff in McMaster Children’s Hospital. From 2007-2014 she held the leadership position of Associate Chair (Research) of the Department of Pediatrics.

Dr. Atkinson’s career-long research has focused on maternal and infant nutrition with a particular interest in investigations of the factors influencing growth and skeletal development in premature infants and in children with bone disorders secondary to pediatric diseases or drug therapy such as acute lymphoblastic leukemia, nephrosis, rheumatoid disorders, cystic fibrosis and epilepsy. Currently, her research program encompasses randomized clinical trials and epidemiological investigations of the environmental (nutrition), genetic and biochemical factors during fetal, neonatal and early
childhood life that play a role in defining the offspring phenotype and as risk determinants for non-communicable diseases including obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease and osteoporosis.

Contributions to service activities include expert advisory appointments in professional societies, governmental and non-governmental organizations including the Institute of Medicine (IOM) in Washington as member of the Oversight Committee for the Dietary Reference Intake (DRI) reports (1995-2004) and Chair of the original calcium and vitamin D DRI report. For the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine she served on committees for other DRI-related projects, most recently for the Review of the Process to Update the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, as Chair of the Planning Committee on Global Harmonization of Methodological Approaches to Nutrient Intake and the consensus study report on Feeding Infants and Children from Birth to 24 months: Summarizing Existing Guidance. She also served on the Expert Advisory Panel member for the project, Options for Consideration of Chronic Disease Endpoints for Dietary Reference Intakes, convened by Health Canada and the Office of Dietary Supplements of NIH. Distinguished elected positions include a Governor-in-Council appointment to the inaugural Governing Council of The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) (2000-2005) and President of the American Society for Nutrition. She was the CIHR-appointed Chair of the Institute Advisory Board of the CIHR Institute of Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes from 2009-2019; and Chair and Past-chair of the Board of Directors of the Maternal, Infant, Child and Youth Health Research Network (MICYRN) from 2014 – 2018. Other invited advisory positions include the Paediatric Expert Advisory Committee of Health Products and Food Branch of Health Canada and projects with the Pediatric Growth and Nutrition Branch of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, and the American Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics that aimed to gather the scientific evidence upon which to base updated nutrition guidelines for the care of premature infants and toddler nutrition guidelines.

Recognition of lifetime research and professional service achievements include many awards from professional societies. Other recent distinguished awards include election as Fellow of the American Society of Nutrition and of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences; a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal from the Governor General; a Doctorate of Science, honoris causa, from Western University in 2016; and the Khursheed Jeejeebhoy Award for Best Application of Clinical Nutrition Research Findings to Clinical Practice from the Canadian Nutrition Society.

Dr Zulfiqar A. Bhutta

Dr. Zulfiqar A. Bhutta is the Robert Harding Inaugural Chair in Global Child Health at the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Co-Director of the SickKids Centre for Global Child Health and the Distinguished University Professor and Founding Director of the Centre of Excellence in Women and Child Health, at the Aga Khan University, unique joint appointments. He also holds adjunct professorships at several leading Universities globally including the Schools of Public Health at Johns Hopkins (Baltimore), Tufts University (Boston), Boston University School of Public Health, University of Alberta as well as the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. He is a designated Distinguished National Professor of the Government of Pakistan and was the Founding Chair of the National Research Ethics Committee of the Government of Pakistan from 2003-2014. Dr. Bhutta was a member of the Independent Expert Review Group (IERG) appointed by the UN Secretary General for monitoring global progress in maternal and child health MDGs (2011-2015). He represented the global academic and research organizations on the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (Gavi) Board and serves on its Evaluation Advisory Committee. Dr. Bhutta is the co-Chair of the Global Countdown for 2015 and 2030 Initiatives from 2006-2017, the co-Chair of the Maternal and Child Health oversight committee of
World Health Organization (WHO) Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMRO) and the Chairman of the Coalition of Centres in Global Child Health with its secretariat based at the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto. He is a technical member of the recently appointed high-level UN Health and Human Rights committee, an executive committee member of Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH) and a member of the Independent Expert Group producing the Global Nutrition Reports since its inception in 2014.

Professor Bhutta was educated at the University of Peshawar (MBBS) and obtained his PhD from the Karolinska Institute, Sweden. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (Edinburgh & London), the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (London), American Academy of Pediatrics and the Pakistan Academy of Sciences. He heads a large research team in Pakistan working on issues of maternal, newborn and child survival and nutrition globally and regionally. Dr. Bhutta has served as a member of the Global Advisory Committee for Health Research for the World Health Organization, the Board of Child & Health and Nutrition Initiative of Global Forum for Health Research, and the steering committees of the International Zinc and Vitamin A Nutrition Consultative Groups. He was a founding Board member of the PMNCH and a board member of the International Center for Diarrheal Diseases Research (2011-2017). Dr Bhutta was a member of the WHO Strategic Advisory Committee for Vaccines (SAGE) from 2010-15 and the Advisory Committee for Health Research of the WHO EMRO. As the past-President of the Commonwealth Association of Paediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition (CAPGAN) and the Federation of Asia-Oceania Perinatal Societies (FAOPS) and the International Pediatrics Association, he has been a leading voice for health professionals supporting integrated maternal, newborn and child health globally.

Dr. Bhutta has served on several international editorial advisory boards including the Lancet, BMJ, PLoS Medicine, PLoS ONE, PloS NTD, BMC Public Health, Population Health Metrics and the Cochrane CDPLG and ARI groups. He has published eight books, 102 book chapters, and over 995 indexed publications to date, including > 160 in the world’s leading journal Lancet alone. He is one of the most highly cited academics in global health (H index 156, i10 index 756, >158,000 citations) and has been ranked among the top 1% of Highly Cited Researchers globally by the Web of Science consecutively since 2013. He has been a leading member of recent major Lancet series on Child Survival (2003), Newborn Survival (2005 & 2014), Undernutrition (2008 & 2013), Primary Care (2008) Stillbirths (2011 & 2016), Pakistan (2013) as well as the recent series on Childhood Diarrhea and Pneumonia (2013), Early Child Development (2016) and Lancet Commissions on Education for Health Professionals for the 21st century (2010), Women & Health (2015), Indigenous Health (2016) and Adolescent Health (2016). He has won several awards, including the Tamgha-i-Imtiaz (Medal of Excellence) by the President of Pakistan for contributions towards education and research (2000), the President of Pakistan Gold Medal for contributions to Child Health in Pakistan (2004) and the Outstanding Pediatrician of Asia award by the Asia Pacific Pediatric Association (2006). He is the first dual recipient of the Aga Khan University Distinguished Faculty Award for Research (2005) and AKU Award of Distinction (2012). Dr Bhutta was awarded the inaugural Programme for Global Pediatric Research Award for Outstanding Contributions to Global Child Health (2009) and the Kenneth Warren prize by the Cochrane collaboration in 2011. Dr. Bhutta was recognized with the Global Advocacy Prize by the Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health in 2012, the American Academy of Pediatrics’ Sam Fomon Award for lifetime contributions to Nutrition Research (2014), the WHO Ihsan Dogramaci Family Health award (2014), the inaugural TUBA Academy of Sciences Award for global contributions to Health and Life Sciences (2015), University of Toledo Medical Missions Hall of Fame Award (2016), the McKinsey Geneva Forum for Health award for contributions to maternal and child health globally (2016) and awarded an honorary Fellowship for global contributions by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland in 2019. In 2016, Dr. Bhutta was recognized with the President of Pakistan Pride of Performance Award
for contributions towards Education and Health and the World Academy of Sciences (Trieste) awarded him the TWAS Prize in Medical Sciences. In 2017 the Pakistan Council for Science & Technology rated Dr Bhutta as the highest ranking scientist from Pakistan across all disciplines; he was also recognized by the Senate of Canada with its Canada 150 Medal for contributions to Global Child Health and given the BMJ Award for Outstanding contributions to South Asia. Dr Bhutta was admitted to the National Academy of Medicine in October 2018, the highest academic and scientific platform in North America.

Dr. Bhutta’s research interests include newborn and child survival, maternal and child undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies. He leads large research groups based in Toronto, Karachi and Nairobi with a special interest in research synthesis, scaling up evidence-based interventions in community settings and implementation research in difficult circumstances and conflict settings. In particular, his work with community health workers and outreach services has influenced integrated maternal and newborn outreach programs for marginalized populations all over the world. His group’s work with the WHO and PMNCH in developing consensus based essential interventions for women, children and adolescents is the dominant set of agreed interventions guiding global policy. Presently Professor Bhutta is leading two global academic consortia; one working on improving reproductive, maternal and child health in conflict settings and humanitarian emergencies and the other focused on integrated investments to improve child and adolescent health and nutrition across the 0-19 years life course.

**Dr Kenneth H Brown**

Dr. Brown is an Emeritus Distinguished Professor in the Department of Nutrition and Institute for Global Nutrition at the University of California, Davis. He completed medical studies at the University of Pennsylvania and trained in Pediatrics at the Boston Children’s Hospital Medical Center. Dr. Brown has published more than 350 articles on the causes, complications, treatment, and prevention of childhood undernutrition in low-income countries, focusing primarily on infant and young child feeding practices, relationships between infection and nutrition, and control of micronutrient deficiencies, including zinc, iron, vitamin A, folate and thiamine. He has served as Founding Director of the research unit in International and Community Nutrition at UC Davis; Founding Chair of the International Zinc Nutrition Consultative Group; Board Member of the MN Forum, committee member of multiple global health organizations and technical expert groups; and editorial board member of several leading nutrition journals. He is a past-President of the Society for International Nutrition Research, Fellow of the American Society of Nutrition and the International Union of Nutrition Sciences, and recipient of the Kellogg Award for International Nutrition Research, the McCollum Award, the Rainer Gross Award, the Suskind Award for Pediatric Nutrition and the Prince Mahidol Award for nutrition and public health.

**Professor Kevin Cashman, PhD**

Professor Kevin Cashman is the Endowed Chair of Food and Health at University College Cork (UCC), a joint position between the School of Food and Nutritional Sciences and the Department of Medicine at the University since 2001. He is also the joint director of the Cork Centre for Vitamin D and Nutrition Research at UCC. He holds a BSc (Hons) in Nutrition and PhD in Nutrition (both from UCC) and has been awarded a DSc for his published work (National University of Ireland) in 2020.

His research interests focus on a number of key public health areas of vitamin D, particularly vitamin D dietary requirements. Other research interests also include the area of nutrition and bone health.
He has >200 peer-reviewed publications and an H-index of 61. He has been involved in eight EU-funded projects as coordinator, work package leader and partner as well as many nationally funded projects. In recent years, Professor Cashman was the Joint Coordinator (together with Professor Mairead Kiely) of a major European Commission-funded project on Food-based solutions for ‘Optimal vitamin D Nutrition and health through the life cycle (ODIN)’, which was a 31 partner collaborative project aimed at tackling vitamin D deficiency in Europe (2013-2017).

He is currently a member of the Scientific Committee of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland. He was a member of the UK Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition – Working Group for Vitamin D (2011-2016). He is a past Associate Editor of the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition.

**Dr Peter Maina Chege, PhD**

Dr Peter Chege has been senior lecturer of food, Nutrition and Dietetics in the Department of Food, Nutrition and Dietetics at Kenyatta University, Kenya since 2009. He received his PhD from the Kenyatta University at the School of Public Health and Applied Human Sciences. Dr. Chege also has training in Biostatistics and Strategic Management.

In addition to the study of food security, maternal and child nutrition, diet and micronutrients, Dr. Chege’s research focus on use of locally available food materials and supplementation to meet the nutrient requirements of young children from vulnerable settings.

He has managed several research grants focusing on complementary feeding. He was the principal researcher on the Ethnographic and Optifood study on complementary feeding among Children 6-23 Months in arid and semi-arid areas of Kenya.

Dr. Chege is trained in use of OPTIFOOD and PROPAN in food consumption surveys for identification of problematic nutrients. He was recently involved as an expert in the development of Food Composition Tables for Kenya. He sits in various national committees for development of nutrition guidelines and policies. He has recently been recruited in the team of expert for nutrition requirement for children aged 0-36 months by FAO/WHO.

Dr. Chege has authored, more than 50 peer-reviewed scientific articles, and participatedted in more than 20 local and 20 international conferences, Dr Chege has more than 15 years national and international experience, having worked with Lutheran World Federation, World Vision and UNICEF in child nutrition and nutrition programming. He has won a distinguished researcher award in 2012 as the best researcher of the year at Kenyatta University.

**Professor Kathryn Dewey, PhD**

Professor Kathryn Dewey is Distinguished Professor Emerita of Nutrition at the University of California, Davis. She received a PhD in Biological Sciences from the University of Michigan. During her tenure at UC Davis, she was a co-founder of the Program in International and Community Nutrition (now the Institute for Global Nutrition) and served as its Director from 2007 to 2018. Her research focuses on maternal and child nutrition in vulnerable populations, with an emphasis on interventions to prevent malnutrition during the first 1000 days. She has led numerous randomized trials and cohort studies in the United States, Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Peru, Ghana, Malawi, and Bangladesh. Professor Dewey has produced more than 400 publications and is ranked in the top one percent by citations in her field.
Professor Dewey’s professional service includes extensive consultation for WHO, UNICEF, NIH and other organizations. She is currently a member of the Board of Directors for the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition, the U.S. Food and Nutrition Board, the U.S. 2020 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee, the WHO Guidelines Development Group on Complementary Feeding, and several technical advisory groups. She is also Chair of the Consensus Committee on Scoping Existing Guidelines for Feeding Recommendations for Infants and Young Children Under Age 2, for the U.S. National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine. In the past she has served on scientific advisory committees for the Gates Foundation and the UK Medical Research Council; as President of the Society for International Nutrition Research; and as President of the International Society for Research on Human Milk and Lactation. She has received several prestigious awards, including the Kellogg Prize for International Nutrition, the Macy-György Award from the International Society for Research on Human Milk and Lactation, the E.V. McCollum International Lectureship, and Fellow of the American Society for Nutrition.

Dr Ghada El-Hajj Fuleihan

Ghada El-Hajj Fuleihan, MD, MPH, FRCP (Program Director, Teacher, and Mentor) is Professor of Medicine, founding Director of the Calcium Metabolism and Osteoporosis Program, and of the Scholars in Health Research Program at the American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon. Dr. El-Hajj Fuleihan obtained her MD degree from the American University of Beirut (AUB), completed her residency and fellowship at the New England Deaconess and Brigham and Women’s Hospitals, Harvard Medical School, Boston. She holds a Master’s degree in Public Health, from the Harvard School of Public Health, and directed the Calcium Metabolism Research Unit at the Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School, prior to moving back to her Alma Mater. She founded and directed the Clinical Research Unit in 2001 and as Associate Dean for Clinical Research, 2009-2010, led the mapping and governance of several research capacity building initiatives.

Dr. El-Hajj Fuleihan’s laboratory focuses on generating evidence on the pathophysiology, prevention, and treatment of hypovitaminosis D, osteoporosis, and other metabolic bone disorders through clinical trials, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses, and translating findings into prevention and treatment strategies. She closely collaborated with the ministry of health officials and international experts to generate evidence-based national and international care pathways, guidance and guidelines on metabolic bone diseases, by OSTEOS, ISCD, IOF, ASBMR and the Endocrine Society. She led the IOF Middle East Africa audit, and in collaboration with MOPH and Professor Kanis’ team (Sheffield WHO CC), launched FRAX Lebanon, the first fracture risk calculator in the Middle East. She has mentored over 40 postgraduate trainees and junior faculty; several went on to pursue a career in clinical translational research, as faculty at AUB, or at first tier centers in the US.

Dr. El-Hajj Fuleihan has published on her topics of interest in over 190 publications, mostly peer reviewed original investigations, chapters, invited reviews, and penned invited several Editorials and commentaries in the New England of Medicine, and Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism, Nature Reviews Endocrinology, as well as reviews and chapters.

Dr. El-Hajj Fuleihan is a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society, and recipient of several awards including the 2013 International Society of Clinical Densitometry John P. Bilezikian Global Leadership Award, the 2016 Endocrine Society International Excellence in Endocrinology Laureate Award, and the 2017 Harvard T. Chan School of Public Health Award of Merit. She was appointed as the Clinical Science Chair, Endocrine Society’s Annual Meeting 2019. She also holds a

**Professor Susan Fairweather-Tait**

Susan Fairweather-Tait is Professor of Human Nutrition in the Norwich Medical School at the University of East Anglia, United Kingdom with a long-term interest in micronutrients. She has a BSc (food sciences), MSc (nutrition), and PhD (iron bioavailability) from the University of London.

Professor Fairweather-Tait was formerly Head of the Nutrition Department at the Institute of Food Research, Norwich, United Kingdom. She has served on many expert committees, including the UK Government’s COMA committee, American Journal of Clinical Nutrition Editorial Board., BBSRC Agri-Food Committee, UK Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition Iron Working Group, and, most recently, the EFSA NDA Panel and the Working Groups on Dietary Reference Values and Health Claims (2009-2018), and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine Committee on Harmonization of Methods for Estimating Nutrient Intake References (2017-2018). Currently, she is a member of Scientific Advisory Group for the Nordic Nutrition Recommendations, the Big C Research Advisory Panel, and the MRC GCRF Panel on Nutrition and Global Health.

Professor Fairweather-Tait has over 240 peer-reviewed publications. She was awarded a DSc from the University of London in 1996, the British Nutrition Foundation Prize in 1997, delivered the Pirie lecture at Rothamsted Research in 2008, and was elected a fellow of American Society for Nutrition in 2017.

**Dr Samson Gebremedhin**

Samson Gebremedhin is an Associate Professor of Public Health at the Department of Human Nutrition and Dietetics, School of Public Health, Addis Ababa University. He has also served as an Associate Professor at Hawassa University, Ethiopia. He obtained his PhD in Public Health and MPH from School of Public Health, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia.

Dr. Samson’s research focus is on Maternal and Child Nutrition with special interest on the epidemiology of zinc and vitamin A deficiencies. Dr. Samson has published more than 60 peer-reviewed publications. He is currently serving as member of editorial board for PLOs ONE, BMC Public Health and BMC Pediatrics Journals. Dr. Samson’s professional service include consultations to various organizations including Nutrition International, FHI 360 and Unicef Ethiopia.

**Professor Rosalind S. Gibson, PhD, M.S. P.H**

Professor Rosalind Gibson is an emerita professor in the Department of Human Nutrition at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand. Previously she was a faculty member in the Division of Applied Nutrition, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada. She has an M.S. in public health (nutrition) from the School of Public Health, University of California, Los Angeles, USA, and a Ph.D. in nutrition from the University of London, United Kingdom. She has had a life-long interest in international nutrition, initially working in the Ethio-Swedish Children’s Nutrition Unit in Ethiopia for three years, and subsequently in collaborative research studies on micronutrients in Papua New Guinea, Guatemala, Ghana, Malawi, Zambia, and Ethiopia as well as Thailand, Mongolia and more recently Cambodia, NE Brazil, and Indonesia.
Professor Gibson was a founding member of the International Zinc Nutrition Consultative Group (IZiNCG). She is a fellow of the American Society of Nutrition, and a fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. She was co-Director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Nutrition in the Western Pacific Region, and is the recipient of the McHenry Award by the Canadian Society of Nutritional Sciences, the Rank Prize from the British Nutrition Society, and the Kellogg Award in International Nutrition by the American Society of Nutrition. Professor Gibson has been involved in national and international government and nongovernment organizations including expert committees of WHO, FAO, IAEA. She was a member of UNU, FAO/WHO Joint Committee on Dietary Harmonization and, most recently the planning committee of the U.S National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine on the global harmonization of methodological approaches to nutrient intake recommendations.

Her research interests focus on the etiology and impact of micronutrient deficiencies on growth, development, and health and emphasize sustainable food-based strategies to combat micronutrient deficiencies. She is currently involved in projects measuring the volume and composition of human milk, and the micronutrient intakes and status of lactating women and their infants in rural Indonesia. Professor Gibson is the author of a standard reference text, Principles of Nutritional Assessment published by Oxford University Press and regularly teaches short courses on this topic in Indonesia and Ethiopia, and in the past in Thailand and South Africa.

Professor Nancy F. Krebs

Nancy F. Krebs, MD, MS is a Professor of Pediatrics and Head of the Section of Nutrition in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. She obtained her M.S. in Nutrition from the University of Maryland, and M.D. from the University of Colorado. She is board certified in General Pediatrics, Pediatric Gastroenterology, and Clinical Nutrition.

Dr. Krebs’ research has focused on the impact of nutrition and feeding on both impaired and excessive growth of infants and young children in both U.S. and international settings. She has conducted extensive research applying stable isotope methodologies to characterize zinc and iron homeostasis and requirements in vulnerable populations, including pregnant and lactating women, infants and young children in austere settings consuming supplements, micronutrient powders, and biofortified foods. She has ~ 300 research and scholarly publications. The NIH, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and other foundations fund her research.

Examples of leadership and advisory roles include service on the Committee on Nutrition for the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), including 4 years as Chair; Food and Nutrition Board for the National Academy of Medicine; International Zinc Nutrition Consultative Group (IZiNCG); member of the USDA-HHS Dietary Guidance Development Project for Infants and Toddlers (B-24); and the BOND (Biomarkers of Nutrition for Development) Zinc Expert Panel.

Professor In-Sook Kwun

In-Sook Kwun is the Professor of Nutritional Biochemistry in the Department of Food and Nutrition at the Andong National University, South Korea. She has a BA and MS from the Kyungpook National University, South Korea and a Ph.D from the Texas Tech University, USA with the study of endogenous zinc and its metabolic bioavailability. She was also visiting scholar at the University of Florida and a Chevening Research Fellow at the Rowett Research Institute, Aberdeen University, UK both with the
study of nutritional aspect of zinc for human disease and health. Her zinc research now has been more than 25 years. She initially focused on zinc biomarker and appetite and recently more focused on zinc in osteogenesis and atherosclerosis, particularly in calcification aspects.

For the advisory and expertise role as zinc nutritional scientist, she published more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and is the chair of Zn committee for Korean Dietary Reference Intakes during three consecutive zinc revision (2010, 2015, 2020 KDRIs). She served as the editor-in-chief (Nutrition and Research Practice, Journal of Medicinal Food) and the editor for the academic journals. She also managed several international collaboration zinc studies, including University of Aberdeen research group (Global Research Network Program) etc. For nationwide, she served as the research program manager for Board of Bioscience of the National Research Foundation (NRF) for Korean government R&D. She received the awards, including the Distinguished Scientist Awards from Korean government, the Korean Nutrition Society and Andong National University etc. She was also served as the vice-president of the Korean Society of Food Science and Nutrition and as the executive president of Bidding Board for 2021 International Union of Nutrition Society (IUNS) in Seoul.

**Professor Christel Lamberg-Allardt**

Christel Lamberg-Allardt has served as a University Lecturer and Professor of Nutrition at the University of Helsinki. She has a MSc in organic chemistry and one in nutrition and PhD in nutrition at the University of Helsinki. She was awarded the title of Professor by the President of Finland in 2015.

Professor Lamberg-Allardt wrote the systematic reviews for vitamin D and calcium for the Nordic Nutrition Recommendations 2012. She was a member of the working group for the EFSA NDA panel for the Scientific opinions for vitamin D intake (2016), for the vitamin D UL for infants (2018) and other vitamins (2014-2017). She is right now a member if the NNR SR Centre, an expert group for the Nordic Nutrition Recommendations 2022. On a national level, she has been heading the vitamin D group for the National Nutrition Council since 2010.

Her research interests focus on a number of areas of vitamin D. Other research interests include of nutrition and bone health, especially focused on phosphorus and calcium intake and calcium metabolism. She has published more than 180 peer-reviewed publications and her WoS H-index is 47 and Google Scholar is 63. She has been involved as a partner and member of the management board in two EU-funded projects related to vitamin D, Optiford (2000-2004) and ODIN (2013-2017).

**Dr Laura Martino**

Laura Martino is a senior statistician at the European Food Safety Authority in Parma (Italy). From 2014 until January 2018, she was Team Leader of the Systematic Review and Experimental Design Team in the Assessment and Methodological Support Unit. Before joining EFSA in 2011, she served for 4 years as detached national expert at the European Statistical Institute (Eurostat) in Luxembourg. Previously Dr. Martino was researcher at the National Statistical Institute in Rome (Italy) leading the Unit Crop, forestry and hunting statistics in the Department for Statistical production. During that period, she was the Italian representative in the LUCAS EEC working groups.

She has extensive experience in the design of observational and experimental studies as well as in the food and feed risk assessment. Dr. Martino’s research focuses on modelling association between food intake and health outcomes, methods for equivalence testing, uncertainty analysis. Her
methodological expertise has led to contribution to several methodological guidance documents. She participated to numerous international conferences, technical meetings and workshops as a lecturer.

Dr. Martino holds a PhD in methodological statistic for scientific research having completed postgraduate training at the University of Bologna and 6-month scholarship at the Texas A&M University at College Station (USA). She is a member of the International Biometric Society.

**Prof. Dr Joerg Meerpohl**

Professor Joerg Meerpohl is director of the Institute for Evidence in Medicine at the Medical Center & Faculty of Medicine, University of Freiburg, Germany and founding director of the Freiburg GRADE Center, which was established 2013. He is a board-qualified pediatrician and pediatric hematologist and oncologist by training. For more than a decade Prof. Meerpohl has been an active member of the GRADE working group and has run many GRADE workshops at national and international organizations. He has worked as GRADE methodology advisor with several WHO expert panels, the European Stroke Organization and the Robert Koch Institute in Germany amongst others.

Professor Meerpohl is also the Director of Cochrane Germany. From 2015 to 2018, he has been an elected member of the Cochrane Governing Board. His main research interests include systematic review methodology, transparency in research, and guideline methodology. Professor Meerpohl has published more than 200 PubMed listed articles.

**Dr Cristina Palacios, PhD**

Dr. Palacios is an Associate Professor in the Department of Dietetics and Nutrition of the Robert Stempel College of Public Health & Social Work at Florida International University in the United States of America. She obtained her M.S, PhD, and postdoctoral degree in Nutritional Sciences from Purdue University.

She has conducted several NIH-funded randomized clinical trials in children to determine the effects of dietary supplements (such as calcium and vitamin D) and functional foods on bone and body composition. She has also designed and tested effective and novel lifestyle interventions for preventing excessive infant weight gain by incorporating short mobile messages, mobile Apps, and web-portals. She has developed and validated food frequency questionnaires in infants and children to evaluate dietary patterns and estimate nutrient intakes. She also is studying the effects of vitamin D supplementation during pregnancy on maternal and infant health outcomes.

She has extensive consultation for the World Health Organization on vitamin D, calcium, and on infant feeding in areas of Zika transmission and for the Pan-American Health Organization for infant feeding guidelines.

She has about 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals, chapters in books and in non-peer reviewed journals. She is currently the Chair of the Nutrition Education Behavioral Science RIS of the American Society of Nutrition and an active member of the Latin-American Nutrition Society (SLAN). She is also an editorial board member for the Journal of Dietary Supplements, Nutrients, and Archivos Latinoamericanos de Nutrición. She has received funding from NIH, Robert Wood Johnson Fondation, USDA, Children’s Trust, and Caplan Foundation for Children.
Emeritus Professor John M Pettifor MBCh; PhD

Dr John Pettifor is Emeritus Professor in the Department of Paediatrics at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa. Prior to his retirement, he was head of the Department of Paediatrics at the Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital in Soweto for 20 years and director of the MRC/University Mineral Metabolism Research Unit for 25 years. His research interests have concentrated on rickets and metabolic bone diseases in children, especially in the roles of low dietary calcium intakes and vitamin D deficiency in the pathogenesis of rickets. He has published some 260 research articles and 30 chapters in books, and is co-editor of a major textbook on Paediatric Bone Diseases. He is currently editor of the South African Journal of Child Health and is past president of the South African Nutrition Society and the College of Paediatricians of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa. He is also a member of the Academy of Sciences of South Africa.

Professor Harshpal Singh Sachdev, MD, FIAP, FAMS, FRCPCH

Professor Harshpal Singh Sachdev is a Senior Consultant in Pediatrics and Clinical Epidemiology at Sitaram Bhartia Institute of Science and Research, New Delhi; Honorary Senior Research Fellow, UCL Institute for Global Health, University College London, UK; Adjunct Professor, St. John’s Research Institute, Bangalore; and a practicing paediatrician. He also served as Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Maulana Azad Medical College (until February 2006); National President, Indian Academy of Pediatrics; Secretary, Nutrition Society of India; Editor-in-Chief of Indian Pediatrics; and Visiting Professor, MRC Lifecourse Epidemiology Unit, Southampton.

Professor Sachdev’s current research interest are developmental origins of adult cardio-metabolic disease, nutrition in children and mothers in low- and middle-income countries, childhood obesity, and systematic reviews on nutrition and health.

Professor Sachdev is credited with 313 indexed publications, editing 16 books and contributing to 39 reports. He has published several systematic reviews including Cochrane reviews on nutrition and child health and has been an editor for the Cochrane Developmental, Psychosocial and Learning Problems Group since 2008. Honours received include fellowships from three prestigious academies listed above. He is a National Research Awards recipient. Prof. Sachdev has provided honorary services in various advisory capacities, including as Chairperson, to the Government of India and different national and international organizations, including membership in several WHO guideline development groups.

Professor Holger J. Schünemann

Holger Schünemann is Professor in the Departments of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact (formerly “Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics”) and of Medicine. He began his research career in respiratory and exercise physiology as a medical student in the Department of Physiology at the Medical School of Hannover and with an award from the German government at the University at Buffalo (UB), State of New York. He received an MD degree (1993) and a “doctor medicine” degree (1994) from the Medical School of Hannover where he also completed an internship in internal and respiratory medicine. He went on to work in cellular and molecular lung biology at UB researching expression of cell adhesion molecules (integrins) in early postnatal lung development. Realizing the importance of high-quality skills in data analysis, general health research methods and developing a stronger sense for patient and population focused research he studied
epidemiology and biostatistics during his postdoctoral fellowship (M.Sc. in Epidemiology, 1997). He then conducted population-based studies on the association between micronutrients, oxidative stress, and respiratory health leading to a Ph.D. degree (Epidemiology & Community Medicine, 2000) and completed training to qualify for certification in internal medicine and preventive medicine/public health at UB, where he joined the faculty in 2000.

From 2005 to 2009 he was at the Italian National Cancer Center in Rome, Italy, serving as interim chair of the department of Epidemiology from 2007 to 2009, before moving to McMaster University as full-time Professor and to become Chair of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics in 2009, widely considered the birthplace of evidence-based health care and problem-based learning. In his second term as chair of this prestigious department, he has led its longitudinal strategic plan (AGENDA 2020) to refocus the department into the “Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact (HEI)”. He completed his second and final term as chair in June 2019 and focuses now on research and implementation projects related to guidelines and systematic reviews, primarily with the World Health Organization’s global tuberculosis department and the development of certification and credentialing of guideline developers (INGUIDE.ORG).

His scientific work focuses on evidence synthesis, quality of life research and the presentation and development of health care recommendations spanning clinical medicine to public health. As a key contributor to the revised methods for World Health Organization (WHO) guideline development in 2006 and the Institute of Medicine statement on trustworthy guidelines in 2011 he has been a leader in reshaping of methodology for practice guideline development. He has authored or co-authored over 650 peer-reviewed publications, has been named by Thomson Reuters as one of the most influential 3,000 scientific minds of current times yearly since 2015, has an h-index of 140/101 (google scholar/web of science) and is on the list of the 1,000 most cited scientists of all times from agricultural science to zoology (www.webometrics.info). He has been advisor to the WHO, ministries of health, other governmental organizations and numerous professional societies for their knowledge synthesis and guideline programs and is co-chair of the GRADE working group (www.gradeworkinggroup.org) where he was instrumental in the development of its methods and dissemination and the creation of 17 GRADE centers and networks globally. His work also focuses on practical application of science by researchers and clinicians through co-inventing tools like the GRADEpro guideline development tool (www.gradepro.org) and pioneering the use of GRADE evidence to decision tables, now reworked as GRADE evidence to decision frameworks (www.deci-de-collaboration.eu). With his colleagues he has recently created a “go to” crowdsourcing portal for developers of health care recommendations in collaboration with the Guideline International Network (heigrade.mcmaster.ca/guidecheck.html). He is director of Cochrane Canada, co-director of the McMaster University WHO collaborating center for infectious diseases, research methods and recommendations and the McMaster GRADE center, co-chair of the Guidelines International Network (G-I-N) and International Network of Health Technology Agencies (GINATHA) working group and on the board of trustees of G-I-N. He has served as lead on over 50 international guidelines, including WHO expert guideline committees, European Commission, ARIA, American Society of Hematology, American Society of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, and the World Allergy Organization, and served as adviser to WHO member countries. Maintaining an active internal medicine practice fulfills his passion for patient care and ensures his research is people-oriented.
**Dr Pattanee Winichagoon**

Pattanee Winichagoon, Associate Professor and Senior Advisor to the Institute of Nutrition, Mahidol University, Thailand. She received her BSc in Food Technology from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand (second class honor), MSc in Nutrition from University of Hawaii, USA, and PhD in Nutrition (majoring in International Nutrition) from Cornell University, USA.

Her research focuses on population-based community trials on micronutrient interventions. She led and conducted field intervention studies, particularly, efficacy and effectiveness of iron supplementation and micronutrient fortification among pregnant women, school children, infants and reproductive-aged women in rural communities/schools and factories. She was also involved in the application stable isotopes for studies of micronutrient bioavailability in fortified foods and iron metabolism in hemoglobinopathy. She has been involved in the study on human milk intakes, body composition and energy expenditure in children 0-24 mo., using stable isotopes in Thailand and Asian region. She has contributed to documenting and analyzing Thailand scaling-up community-based nutrition program significantly contributed to the understanding on how to implement effective nutrition programs in developing countries.

She has published about 80 publications in international and Thai peer-reviewed journals, and 20 book chapters in Thai and English. She has been members of several national, regional and international consultation related to maternal and child nutrition, especially on iron and anemia. She has been the member of WHO guideline development group on ferritin, and the on-going one on hemoglobin for assessing anemia. She has served as member of editorial board for the Maternal and Child Nutrition, and Malaysian Journal of Nutrition, as well as a peer reviewer for numerous international journals. She is recognized as the IUNS fellows (2013) and distinguished faculty member of the Institute of Nutrition, Mahidol University.

**Dr Zhenyu Yang**

Dr. Yang’s primary research areas include breastfeeding and complementary feeding, nutritional status assessment and nutrition interventions for pregnant and lactating women, infants and young children, human milk composition and international nutrition, especially nutrition improvement for these populations in the developing countries. Dr. Yang worked as nutrition specialist at Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition and UNICEF-China before joining China CDC.

Dr. Yang has authored more than 30 papers. He co-authored a few book chapters including Chinese Dietary Reference Intakes-vitamin D chapter, and a Report on national nutrition and chronic disease status in China (2015)-pregnant and lactating women chapter.

Dr. Yang is an editor of maternal and child nutrition, a reputed international journal in nutrition field. Dr. Yang has also been a peer reviewer for Food and Nutrition Bulletin, Journal of the American College of Nutrition, Nutrition Reviews, Childhood obesity, etc.