
Professor Carukshi Arambepola

Carukshi Arambepola is a Professor and a Specialist in Community Medicine. She graduated from the University of Colombo with MBBS and pursued a career in Community Medicine. Her research interests are in the field of epidemiology of non-communicable diseases with a public health perspective. Her MSc dissertation was on the influence of epilepsy on psychosocial wellbeing of patients and her MD thesis was on abdominal obesity and its relationship with cardiovascular disease risk in adults. During her overseas training at the University of Oxford (2005–2007), she researched into nutrient profiling and validation of models to assess healthiness of diet. She was awarded a Commonwealth Fellowship to the United Kingdom in 2014 to explore novel technology enabled approaches in lifestyle modification. She was the sole corresponding member representing Sri Lanka and a co-author in the 2008–2010 Global Burden of Disease Project to produce comprehensive estimates of nutrient estimates. She was the Project Coordinator (2009–2016) of NIROGI Lanka (Empowering vulnerable populations through health promotion against diabetes) of the Sri Lanka Medical Association. She has been the recipient of the highest research award in Sri Lanka, the President’s Award for Excellence in Research, for 10 consecutive years. She was awarded the University of Colombo Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research in 2017. Her publications have accrued 1899 citations with an H-index of 18 (Oct 2018). She has been the co-editor of the Journal of College of Community Physicians of Sri Lanka since 2016.

Professor Gastón Ares

Gastón Ares is Associate Professor in Sensometrics and Consumer science at Universidad de la República, Uruguay. He leads an interdisciplinary research group specialized in consumer eating behavior and several research projects related to the evaluation of consumer reaction towards public policies targeted at achieving healthier eating habits. He has been working on consumer perception of nutrition labelling since 2011 and he has participated in the design of the Uruguayan front-of-pack nutrition labelling decree. He has authored more than 230 articles in international refereed journals, several book chapters and numerous presentations in scientific meetings. Gastón was awarded with the 2011 Food Quality and Preference award for a young researcher, for his contribution to sensory and consumer science. He serves as Associate Editor of Journal of Sensory Studies and Food Research International.

Dr Arantxa Colchero

Arantxa Colchero is a health economist currently working as an associate professor at the Center for Health Systems Research, National Institute of Public Health (INSP) in Mexico.
She earned her PhD at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She is National Researchers II by the National System of Researchers, D by the Institute of Health. Since 2007 she has been the President of the Health Economics Academic Committee at INSP and Coordinator of the Masters in Science Committee since 2015. Dr Colchero has more than 10 years of experience working on the economics of nutrition and HIV. She has studied the determinants of overweight and obesity in developing countries, particularly among women. She is currently working on the design and impact evaluation of innovative strategies to prevent and reduce obesity, including fiscal policies in Mexico and front of pack labelling and marketing regulations in Chile. She is also part of a multidisciplinary group that has estimated the economic and health burden of suboptimal breastfeeding in Mexico. Other interests are the design and evaluation of structural interventions for HIV prevention and treatment among high-risk populations. She is National Researcher I by the National System of Researchers and Researcher D by the National Institutes of Health in Mexico.

**Dr Maria-Bernardita Flores**

Ms. Maria-Bernardita T. Flores is Former Executive Director, National Nutrition Council. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Community Nutrition, a Master’s Degree in Professional Studies on Food and Nutrition Planning, and an Applied Diploma in Administrative Management. She was instrumental in developing and refining many of the program tools and guidelines for national and local nutrition planning and management, many of which are still in use today by the National Nutrition Council (NNC) in the Philippine nutrition program. She spearheaded the formulation of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition, the country’s response to malnutrition right after the 1st International Conference on Nutrition organized by FAO/WHO. Almost two decades later, she also directed the formulation of the current PPAN 2017-2022 consisting of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions, including support mechanisms, and the Plan’s integration into the national development plan for the same period. She added broadcasting to her skills and talents, as anchor of multi-awarded radio programs promoting good nutrition and aired through top-rating commercial radio stations, through the internet, and through the 45 Nutriskwela Community Radio Stations established by NNC in nutritionally-challenged towns of the country. Under her leadership, NNC was awarded the certificate to the ISO 9001:2008 Standard, after conforming with the requirements of ISO through effective implementation of the NNC Quality Management System. She was appointed as a member of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Executive Committee from January 2018-December 2019. In February 2019, she retired after 43 years of continuous, committed service to the National Nutrition Council and to the Filipino nation.

**Professor Sharon Friel**

Sharon Friel is Professor of Health Equity and Director of the School of Regulation and Global Governance (RegNet), Australian National University. She is also Director of the Menzies Centre for Health Policy ANU. She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences Australia and co-Director of the NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in the Social Determinants of Health Equity. Between 2005 and 2008 she was the Head of the Scientific
Secretariat (University College London) of the World Health Organization Commission on Social Determinants of Health. Her interests are in the political economy of health; policy, governance and regulation in relation to the social determinants of health inequities, including trade and investment, food systems, urbanization and climate change.

**Dr Nawal Al Hamad**

In May 2015, Dr. Nawal Al Hamad was appointed Deputy Director General at the Public Authority for Food and Nutrition (PAFN). She heads the Community Nutrition Sector which aims is to develop and improve the health and nutrition status of the population by way of translating the WHO nutrition promotion strategies into applicable and adaptable national intervention programs with related sectors. Previous to that, Dr. Nawal held the position of Director of Food and Nutrition Administration (FNA), Ministry of Health, from 2001 to May 2015. Dr. Nawal is a Consultant Nutritionist consulted as a nutrition adviser at the national, regional and at the Eastern Mediterranean Regional office of the World Health Organization (EMRO-WHO) and at the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) food and nutrition committees.

Current activities include, for example salt intake reduction initiatives, sugar intake reduction initiative, implementation of the maternal, infant and young child nutrition strategy and code of marketing of breast milk substitutes, WHO Nutrition Friendly schools initiative, Front of Pack Labelling, and a training program for inspectors to monitor implementation of Gulf Standards on food items (SFA, TFA, labeling, health claims).

**Dr Cho-il Kim**

Dr. Cho-il Kim is Executive Director at the Korea Health Industry Development Institute (KHIDI), a government-affiliated research institute in Korea. She received her undergraduate degree and MS from Seoul National University in Food & Nutrition and, her Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences from Cornell University in US. After working at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine for her postdoctoral research and subsequent positions of lecturer and research assistant professor for 6 years, she returned to Korea and joined KHIDI to support government in developing, implementing and evaluating food and nutrition policies and programs. With more than 100 research projects conducted, she developed methodology and tools for national nutrition survey, which is a part of the Korea National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, and a special supplemental nutrition program for vulnerable population, ‘NutriPlus’. She also has set up Korean Total Diet Study to ensure food safety, and developed a program called ‘Diet-related Health Risk Appraisal’ for Koreans supporting healthy dietary practice of general population.

She has been serving as an advisor and/or a chair to dozens of government committees on food and nutrition policies.
Dr Knut-Inge Klepp

Knut-Inge Klepp, Ph.D. MPH is the Executive Director of Mental and Physical Health at the Norwegian Institute of Public Health. Klepp served as the Director General for Public Health at the Norwegian Directorate of Health from 2006 to 2015. Klepp is an adjunct professor at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Oslo where he served as a professor in public health nutrition from 1996-2006. Prior to this, he was a professor in international health promotion at the Faculty of Psychology, University of Bergen, Norway. Klepp has published more than 250 papers in peer-reviewed journals, primarily in the fields of adolescent health promotion, nutrition and HIV/AIDS prevention. He has coordinated and served as investigator on a large number of European Union research projects. From 2008 to 2016, Klepp chaired the WHO Euro member state Action Network on Reducing Marketing Pressure on Children, and he served as rapporteur for the Ad-hoc Working Group on Implementation, Monitoring and Accountability for the WHO Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity (2014 – 2016). Klepp has previously chaired the Norwegian National Council on Nutrition and Physical Activity. He is former president of the International Society of Behavioural Nutrition and Physical Activity.

Professor Mo-suwan Ladda

Ladda Mo-suwan, MD (Mahidol University), MSc (Human Nutrition, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine), is Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Prince of Songkla University, Thailand. She currently serves as President of the Nutrition Association of Thailand under the patronage of HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn. Dr Mo-suwan was pioneer in obesity research in Thailand. She chaired the Technical Working Groups on “Control of Overweight and Obesity” for the 2nd National Health Assembly in 2009 and “School Catering System Management” for the 6th National Health Assembly in 2013. Her other research includes the studies of influence of early life nutrition on insulin resistance and respiratory functions later in life; all of which were derived from the birth cohort of the year 2000-2001. She has also participated in the National Health Examination Survey IV (2008-2009) and V (2014), and in the preparation of the NHES VI in 2019. Findings from these studies has been utilized in the strategic planning of relevant departments of the Ministry of Public Health. She has served as a short term consultant for WHO and other international agencies. In 2017, she was awarded the title of Fellow of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences (FIUNS).

Professor Joerg J. Meerpohl

Professor Joerg Meerpohl is head of the Institute for Evidence in Medicine at Medical Center, 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.
Prof. 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. Prof. Meerpohl has published more than 180 PubMed listed articles.

Dr Musonda Mofu

Musonda J Mofu is a nutritionist and currently working as Deputy Executive Director for the National Food and Nutrition Commission which is a government institution responsible for coordinating national food and nutrition policy implementation in Zambia. During the past 23 years, he has undertaken research in areas of food intake, dietary diversity, micronutrients and anthropometry. He has also actively worked in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of impact of various food and nutrition programmes and policies.

Ms Monica Muti

Monica Muti is the Nutrition Intervention Manager in the Ministry of Health and Child Care, Zimbabwe. She holds a Master of Public Health (University of Zimbabwe), a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nutrition (University of Zimbabwe) and a Certificate in Leadership and Management in Health (University of Washington) as well as a Certificate in Fundamentals of Implementation Science (University of Washington). Monica has sixteen years’ experience in public health, nutrition policy, programming and implementation in the areas of Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition, Severe Malnutrition, HIV and Nutrition, Nutrition Surveillance and Emergencies. She was also involved in the Sanitation Hygiene Infant Nutrition Efficacy (SHINE) Study in Zimbabwe as a technical nutrition expert. Monica has a keen interest in healthy diets, Non Communicable Diseases and is currently coordinating the development of the Food Based Dietary Guidelines and Food Composition Tables for Zimbabwe. She has participated in the WHO Guideline Development Group Meeting on the control of soil-transmitted helminth infections in high-risk groups and WHO Guideline Development Group Meeting on Crimean Congo Viral Haemorrhagic Fever. She has published papers on Infant and Young Child Feeding, Maternal Health and Public Health.

Dr Celeste Naude

Dr Celeste Naude is a senior researcher at the Centre for Evidence-based Health Care (CEBHC), Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University, South Africa; and Co-Director: Cochrane Nutrition. She is a registered dietitian (SA and UK), and her academic interests and experience includes evidence synthesis, knowledge translation and evidence-informed decision-making in policy and practice for nutrition, health and other sustainable development outcomes.

Dr Naude is a member of technical author teams for preparing systematic reviews, meta-analyses, rigorous evidence appraisals, tailored evidence summaries (including the use of GRADE, AMSTAR and ROBIS), scoping reviews, as well as primary research. She is involved in African and international research networks via the Research, Evidence and
Lisa M. Powell, Ph.D. is a Distinguished Professor and Director in the Division Health Policy and Administration in the School of Public Health and Director of the Illinois Prevention Research Center in the Institute for Health Research and Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Powell has extensive experience as an applied micro-economist in the empirical analysis of the effects of public policy on a series of behavioral outcomes. Much of her current research is on assessing the importance of economic and environmental factors (such as food prices, sugar-sweetened beverage (SSB) taxes; access to food stores, fast-food restaurants, other eating places, and facilities for physical activity; and, television food advertising exposure) on food consumption and physical activity behaviors and as determinants of obesity, including related disparities. Her work has made substantial contributions to the evidence base for policymakers in the areas of SSB taxes and child-directed marketing. Dr. Powell is the recipient of the 2013 University of Illinois at Chicago Researcher of the Year Award in the Social Sciences. Dr. Powell’s research has been funded by Bloomberg Philanthropies, the Laura and John Arnold Foundation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and she serves on a number of national and international advisory committees.

Mike Rayner is a Professor of Population Health at the Nuffield Department of Population Health at the University of Oxford and Director of the Centre on Population Approaches for Non-Communicable Disease Prevention, based in that department. The Centre, which Mike founded in 1993, is a World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre and its main focus is on research into the promotion of healthier and more sustainable diets. Mike is also Chair of Sustain: the alliance for better food and farming in the UK and Chair of its Children’s Food Campaign. He is Chair of the Nutrition Expert Group for the European Heart Network. He is also an ordained priest in the Church of England.

Eva Rehfuess holds the Chair of Public Health and Health Services Research at Pettenkofer School of Public Health at Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich and is an Adjunct
Professor at the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering at the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. She is a founding member of Cochrane Public Health Europe and coordinates the Collaboration for Evidence-Based Healthcare and Public Health in Africa. Eva holds a Bachelor and Master degree in Biological Sciences from the University of Oxford and a PhD in Epidemiology and Public Health from Imperial College London. Nine years of working for the World Health Organization inspired her keen interest in evidence-based public health and her passion for global health. Much of her methodological research relates to the evaluation of complex interventions, including epidemiological study designs to assess intervention impacts, quantitative and mixed-method systematic reviews and innovative approaches for engaging with stakeholders. Eva applies this broad suite of methods to environmental health problems, in particular household air pollution from solid fuel use, as well as many other public health concerns in Europe as well as low- and middle-income countries, usually with a focus on environmental, structural or regulatory interventions at the population level.

Dr Lorena Rodriguez Osiac

Dr Rodriguez Osiac is a Medical Doctor of the University of Chile, and a trained Pediatrician, with a Master in Science in Human Nutrition, and qualifications in Social Management and Public Policy Management. With 15 years of experience in development, management, implementation and evaluation of public policies in the areas of food programs, food safety, breastfeeding, malnutrition, healthy eating, food fortification, food environments and food regulation such as labeling and advertising. In the international sphere she has had to represent Chilean position in conferences of FAO, PAHO, WHO, WTC, Codex Alimentarius, OECD and others. She has also performed management duties as Head of the Nutrition and Food Department of the Ministry of Health in Chile, leading the design and implementation of the Labeling and Advertising Law that introduced the Frontal Warning Labeling in Chile and Banned Advertising of these foods, and their sale in schools. She is currently an academic at the School of Public Health of the University of Chile.

Professor Franco Sassi

Franco Sassi is Professor of International Health Policy and Economics and Director of the Centre for Health Economics & Policy Innovation at Imperial College Business School, formerly Head of the OECD’s Public Health Programme. His work aims at assessing the impacts of public policies to tackle major chronic diseases and their predisposing risk factors, including poor nutrition, physical inactivity, alcohol and tobacco use, environmental, and social risks. He is the author and editor of a large number of economic publications, including the books “Obesity and the economics of prevention: Fit not fat” and "Tackling harmful alcohol use: Economics and public health policy".
Dr Barbara O. Schneeman

Dr Barbara Schneeman is emeritus professor of nutrition in the department of Nutrition and of Food Science and Technology at the University of California, Davis. From 2004 to 2013 she served as the Director of the Office of Nutrition, Labelling, and Dietary Supplements at the US Food and Drug Administration. In that position, she oversaw the development of policy and regulations for dietary supplements, labelling, food standards, infant formula, and medical foods and served as US delegate to two Codex committees (Food Labelling and Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses). From 1976-2004, she was a member of the nutrition faculty at University of California (UC) Davis. At UC Davis she served in several administrative roles, including Chair of the Department of Nutrition and Dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. She has been a visiting scientist at UC San Francisco, and Assistant Administrator for Nutrition in the Agricultural Research Service of the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Dr Schneeman received her BS degree in Food Science from UC Davis, PhD in Nutrition from UC Berkeley, and postdoctoral training in gastro-intestinal physiology at UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital Oakland. Professional activities include serving as Higher Education Coordinator at the US Agency for International Development, participation in Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committees, the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Academies of Science (NAS), committees for NAS, USDA, FAO, WHO, the American Society for Nutrition, and the Institute of Food Technologists. She has been Associate Editor for the Journal of Nutrition and on several editorial boards including Nutrition Reviews, Journal of Nutrition, and Journal of Food Science. Her professional honours include Fellow of the American Society of Nutrition, Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Carl Fellers Award from the Institute of Food Technology, the FDA Commissioner’s Special Citation and the Harvey W. Wiley Medal, the FDA Merit Award, the Samuel Cate Prescott Award for research, Future Leader Award, and several honorary lectureships. She is recognized for her work on dietary fibre, gastro-intestinal function, development and use of food-based dietary guidelines, and policy development in the area of food and nutrition.

Professor Reema Tayyem

Professor Reema Tayyem obtained her BSc in biochemistry and MSc and PhD in Human Nutrition from University of Jordan. Professor Tayyem served as Clinical Nutrition and Dietetics Department chair and assistant dean at the Hashemite University for about 8 years. She joined the Department at 2001 and moved to Nutrition and Food Technology Dept. at the University of Jordan in 2016. She got UNESCO-L'Oreal Fellowship for Young Women in Life Sciences – 2005. She performed her postdoc study at UCSD Cancer Center/University of California, San Diego/CA/USA. Professor Tayyem taught many courses in nutrition for undergraduate and graduate students. She got research funding from different agencies inside and outside Jordan. Her main research interest is nutrition and dietary patterns associated with chronic diseases including cancer, diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases. Professor Tayyem attended many international, regional and national conferences and workshops. She serves or has served on the Editorial Boards of many Journals. She has published more than 80 papers in peer-reviewed journals. Professor Tayyem is now the Editor in Chief for Pakistan Journal of

**Dr Alison Tedstone**

Dr Alison Tedstone is Deputy Director with responsibility for diet, nutrition, obesity and physical activity in the Health Improvement Directorate of Public Health England (PHE). Her teams work areas include the National Diet and Nutrition Survey, nutrient composition of foods, scientific advice on nutrition (including the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition), and advice on nutrition and actions to improve diet, including work underpinning the government’s Childhood Obesity Plan with the food industry to reduce the sugar, salt and calorie content of everyday foods and promotion of Physical activity. The division also coordinates, across PHE, a programme of work aimed at tackling the nation’s obesity problem which supports national and local level delivery, including actions aimed at improving systems leadership and addressing the environmental causes of obesity. Dr Tedstone transferred with other nutrition colleagues from the Department of Health in 2013 and before that from the Food Standards Agency (FSA) in 2010. Before joining the FSA, in 2001, Alison was an academic at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Alison completed post doctorate research in Oxford and is a registered public health nutritionist.

**Dr Anne Marie Thow**

Dr Anne Marie Thow is senior lecturer and co-lead of the Public Policy and Health theme at the Menzies Centre for Health Policy at the University of Sydney, Australia. Dr Thow’s training is in nutrition and macroeconomic policy, and prior to completing her PhD she worked for the governments of Australia and Fiji. She has also worked for the World Trade Organization and consulted to the International Food Policy Research Institute (New Delhi). Dr Thow’s research uses theories of public policy making to explore facilitators and barriers to best practice public health nutrition policy globally, with a particular focus on the interface between economic policy and nutrition. She has current research collaborations across Asia, Africa and the Pacific, designed to strengthen nutrition policy making. Dr Thow regularly acts as expert consultant to international agencies and national governments regarding nutrition policy, and is an Observer to the Civil Society Mechanism of the Committee on World Food Security. Dr Thow has published over 70 peer reviewed publications, which have been cited over 2000 times, and has been an investigator on grants worth over $AUD10 million. She is committed to building capacity within public health nutrition for rigorous policy analysis research, and currently supervises 9 PhD students, in addition to supporting research capacity internationally.
Professor Edelweiss Wentzel-Viljoen

Edelweiss Wentzel-Viljoen, PhD Dietetics, a national of South Africa, with experience in both rural and urban areas in South Africa and registered as a Dietitian and Nutritionist with the Health Professional Council of South Africa. She has extensive expertise in nutrition research, dietary methodology, food composition data, curriculum development, continuing professional development for health professionals, leadership development, project management (including the organization of international congresses), policy development and monitoring and evaluation. She has more than 35 years of experience in the field of nutrition at a provincial and national level in South Africa. Recently she was part of the multi-sectoral team responsible for the legislation regarding salt reduction content of certain food stuffs and the use of a nutrient profiling model to assess if food stuffs are eligible to carry a nutrient and/or health claim. She is passionate about leadership development, development of young people and is part of the African Nutrition Leadership Programme (ANLP) team. She has published and presented research nationally and internationally. She has served as the Chairperson for the Professional Board for Dietetics and Nutrition, President of the Association for Dietetics in South Africa and Chairperson of local nutrition congresses. She was employed full time as Professor in Nutrition, Faculty of Health Sciences, North-West University from 1 April 2011 to 31 January 2015 were she also acted as the Programme Leader for the Dietetic undergraduate programme and the Masters modules. Research focus includes dietary intake, nutrient and dietary patterns, nutrition transition, nutrient profiling, infant and young child nutrition, development of food-based dietary guidelines, nutrition-related policy development and salt reduction and hypertension. She is currently appointed as extra-ordinary professor of nutrition at the Centre of Excellence for Nutrition (CEN), Faculty of Health Sciences, North-West University and a free-lance nutrition consultant.