

**Department of Sexual Reproductive Health and Research (SRH)  
Maternal and Perinatal Health (MPH)**

**Induction of Labour Guideline Development Group  
21-22 October 2021**

<b>Guideline Development Group (GDG)</b>	
<p><b>Edgardo Abalos</b> Vice Director Centro Rosarino de Estudios Perinatales Santa Fe, Argentina Email: <a href="mailto:edgardoabalos@crep.org.ar">edgardoabalos@crep.org.ar</a></p>	<p>Edgardo Abalos is an obstetrician and serves as deputy director and researcher in perinatology at the Centro Rosarino de Estudios Perinatales (CREP), Rosario, Argentina, an NGO funded in 1984 and designated by the World Health Organization (WHO) as Collaborating Center in Maternal and Child Health. His main interests include disseminating the principles of evidence-based medicine and evidence-informed health policies, and conducting epidemiological and clinical studies related to disease burden and clinical and policy interventions aimed at reducing the main causes of maternal and infant morbidity and mortality, particularly in constrained resources settings. He is also associate editor and reviewer of the Pregnancy and Childbirth Review Group of the Cochrane Collaboration. He is co-coordinator of the Observatory of Sexual and Reproductive Health of Argentina. He has experience in collaboration with health authorities on implementation research integrated into existing policy processes, contributing to the effectiveness of health programs and policies with research as part of the policy implementation process. He performs his clinical practice as Head of the Obstetric Department at Maternidad Martin, the largest maternity Hospital of the Province of Santa Fe, dependent of the Secretary of Public Health of the Municipality of Rosario.</p>
<p><b>Niveen Abu Rmeileh</b> Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health Birzeit University Birzeit, Palestine Email: <a href="mailto:nrmeileh@birzeit.edu">nrmeileh@birzeit.edu</a></p>	<p>Niveen Abu-Rmeileh is a full Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health at Birzeit University. She obtained her doctoral degree from the University of Glasgow. Dr Abu-Rmeileh has led national, regional and international research. She is a board member of the Global Implementation Society (GIS). She is a member of the Eastern Mediterranean-Advisory Committee for Health Research (EM-ACHR) and the WHO-Eastern Mediterranean Research Ethics Review Committee (ERC). Dr Abu-Rmeileh research interest is focused on three broad categories: Non-Communicable Diseases (with special focus on diabetes, cancer and tobacco smoking), Reproductive Health, and Information Systems for Health. Dr Abu-Rmeileh is currently building a research team in reproductive health mainly focusing on implementation research and systematic review approaches. Current research includes understanding existing digital reproductive health initiatives and policies; strengthening adolescents' health information system and validation of the World Health Organization tool developed to assess respectful care during childbirth.</p>



<p><b>Ebunoluwa Adejuyigbe</b> Professor of Pediatrics Obafemi Awolowo University Osun, Nigeria Email: <a href="mailto:ebunadejuyigbe@hotmail.com">ebunadejuyigbe@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p>Ebunoluwa Adejuyigbe is a Professor in the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health of the College of Health Sciences, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Her interests include Neonatology. HIV infection in children and adolescents, and breastfeeding. She has been the Principal Investigator for Nigeria in several international research projects in neonatal health such as the AFRINEST trial, Exploratory study on Neonatal emollient, and of recent the Immediate Kangaroo Mother Care, and the ACTION trial. Egun has also participated in several WHO guideline development meetings in maternal and newborn health. In Nigeria, she is a member of the National Taskforce on HIV, HIV/TB, and the technical working group on the Essential Newborn Care and Integrated Community Case Management of the Ministry of Health, and has been involved in the adaptation of international guidelines for local use. She is involved as a Course Director in the training of Health Care providers on Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses and Essential Newborn care course in Nigeria. Prof Egun Adejuyigbe has held various positions including Dean of her Medical School from 2012 to 2016, Chairman of the local organizing committee of the Paediatric Association of Nigeria Conference in 2012 and Editor of the Journal of Science and Technology in the Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria. In 2014, she was a recipient of the International Women Forum Leadership award in Washington DC.</p>
<p><b>Melania de Amorim</b> Instituto Paraibano de Pesquisa Professor Joaquim Amorim Neto and Instituto de Medicina Integral Professor Fernando Figueira, Brazil Email: <a href="mailto:profmelania.amorim@gmail.com">profmelania.amorim@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>Melania Amorim, MD, PhD, is a Brazilian obstetrician, a university lecturer and researcher. She received her MD degree from UFPB - Brazil (1989) and finished her medical residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at IMIP - Brazil (1992). She obtained her MSc degree from Instituto de Medicina Integral de Pernambuco - IMIP (1995) and her PhD from the University of Campinas – Unicamp - Brazil (1998). She did her post-doctoral work at Unicamp (2010) with a post-doctoral fellowship in the World Health Organization – WHO - Switzerland (2009). Her professional interests include humanization of childbirth, obstetric violence, evidence-based medicine, translational research, high-risk pregnancy with emphasis on hypertension in pregnancy, obstetric emergencies, intensive obstetric care, near miss and maternal mortality. Melania currently teaches at the Federal University of Campina Grande (Paraiba) and IMIP (Pernambuco). She is a Senior Researcher of Instituto Paraibano de Pesquisa Professor Joaquim Amorim Neto - IPESQ (Paraiba) and has more than 260 articles published in national and international medical journals. She is a feminist, activist, fighter against gender violence, promoter of humanization of childbirth, and defender of reproductive rights and women’s autonomy.</p>
<p><b>Shabina Ariff</b> Associate Professor of Paediatrics and Child Health Department of Pediatrics &amp; Child Health Aga Khan University Karachi, Pakistan Email: <a href="mailto:shabina.ariff@aku.edu">shabina.ariff@aku.edu</a></p>	<p>Shabina Ariff is a physician scientist and work as Associate Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Child Health at the Aga Khan University, Pakistan. Her primary research interests include maternal, neonatal, and child health in the country and globally. Specifically, she’s dedicated to improving neonatal and childhood nutrition, promoting breastfeeding, building healthcare provider capacity, and introducing innovation in education and service delivery. She has significant experience in developing and implementing hospital and community-based trials. She has received research support from several national and international organizations and universities including the World Health Organization, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Oxford University, and University of Sydney. She has successfully led several research projects as principal investigator, collaborated with other</p>

	researchers as a co-investigator, and produced several peer-reviewed publications from every project. Her academic bibliography includes more than 80 journal articles published in high-impact journals including the Lancet, New England Journal of Medicine and JAMA pediatrics. As director of the neonatal intensive care unit, she introduced several research and quality improvement projects to gather evidence and improve newborn care.
<b>Michel Boulvain</b>	To be added
<b>Maria De Costa</b> Professor of Gynecology and Obstetrics State University of Campinas Campinas, Brazil Email: <a href="mailto:mlaura@unicamp.br">mlaura@unicamp.br</a>	Maria Laura Costa is an Associate Professor within the Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics of the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP) in Brazil. Dr Costa has a broad research portfolio on different aspects of obstetrics care, including audit/feedback techniques to enhance guideline-based care, postpartum evaluation and bone metabolism, maternal morbidity and near-miss and translational science of pre-eclampsia, Zika virus and COVID-19; with a post-doctoral training at Washington University, Saint Louis, Missouri (USA). She has great interest in the prevention and accurate diagnosis and management of maternal infection in low and middle-income settings.
<b>Christine East</b> Professor of Nursing and Midwifery College of Science Health and Engineering La Trobe University Bundoora, Australia Email: <a href="mailto:C.East@latrobe.edu.au">C.East@latrobe.edu.au</a>	Chris East is a Professor of Nursing & Midwifery with a joint appointment between Mercy Health and La Trobe University in Victoria, Australia. Her bridging of the clinical setting and academia enhances her capacity to promote person-centred, evidence-based health care.
<b>Lynn Freedman</b> Professor of Population and Family Health at Mailman School of Public Health Columbia University New York, USA Email: <a href="mailto:lpf1@cumc.columbia.edu">lpf1@cumc.columbia.edu</a>	Lynn P. Freedman is Professor of Population and Family Health at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. She currently directs the Mailman School's Averting Maternal Death and Disability (AMDD) Program, a global program of research, policy analysis, and technical support that, since 1999, has worked with UN agencies, NGOs, and governments in more than 50 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America as well as the United States to reduce maternal mortality. Before joining the faculty at Columbia University in 1990, Prof. Freedman worked as a practicing attorney in New York City. Building on her legal background, Prof. Freedman became an early advocate in the movement fighting for human rights in health. As Director of the Law and Policy Program at the Mailman School of Public Health in the 1990s, her work focused on building a rights-based approach to sexual and reproductive health, dedicated to the principles of equity, dignity and social justice. Prof. Freedman has published widely on issues of maternal mortality and on health and human rights, with a particular focus on gender and women's health. She

	received a law degree (JD) from Harvard University, a Masters of Public Health (MPH) from Columbia University, and a bachelor's degree (BA) from Yale University.
<b>Justus Hofmeyer</b> Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology University of Botswana Gaborone, Botswana Email: <a href="mailto:justhof@gmail.com">justhof@gmail.com</a>	To be added
<b>Jiji Mathews</b> Head of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Christian Medical College Vellore, India Email: <a href="mailto:coronistrial@yahoo.co.in">coronistrial@yahoo.co.in</a>	Jiji Elizabeth Mathews is currently the Head of the department in Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Christian Medical College, Vellore a large not-for-profit tertiary care center. Her research interests are in the field of gestational diabetes, induction of labor, urinary tract infections complicating pregnancy and intrapartum care. She trained in Christian Medical College and has worked in Flindins Medical Centre and Women and Children's Hospital in Adelaide South Australia.
<b>Jim Neilson</b> Emeritus Professor Coordinating Editor Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth Group University of Liverpool Liverpool, United Kingdom Email: <a href="mailto:jneilson@liverpool.ac.uk">jneilson@liverpool.ac.uk</a>	James Neilson is Emeritus Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Liverpool, UK. He graduated at the University of Edinburgh in 1975 and trained in Scotland and Zimbabwe. As a research fellow in Glasgow, he led one of the first randomized trials of routine ultrasound in pregnancy and became, following a chance meeting with Iain Chalmers in Zimbabwe, an early author of systematic reviews for the Oxford Database of Perinatal Trials – the forerunner of the Cochrane Library. He was Co-ordinating Editor of the Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth Group 1995-2020, consistently the most productive of Cochrane review groups, worldwide. He served as co-Chair of the Cochrane Collaboration Steering Group 2002-05. As a clinical obstetrician, based in Liverpool Women's Hospital 1993-2015, James Neilson continued a long-standing interest in multiple pregnancies, which complemented a Wellcome Trust funded research programme on preterm birth in Malawi, with Professor Nynke van den Broek of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. James Neilson was centrally involved in the UK Confidential Enquiry into Maternal Deaths (latterly as part of MBRRACE-UK) between 1995 and 2015, and was inaugural National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Dean for Faculty Trainees in England 2008-2015, overseeing a £100m annual support for research training at different levels in medicine, dentistry, nursing and allied health professions, and other areas of applied health research. He has been involved in a number of projects with WHO, including the production of evidence-based clinical guidelines, clinical trial oversight, and research capacity development in low- and middle-income countries. James Neilson was given an NIHR Senior Investigator Award for applied health research excellence in 2008, renewed 2011.

<p><b>Hiromi Obara</b> Coordinator, Disease Control Team Deputy Director Health Planning and Management National Center for Global Health and Medicine Tokyo, Japan Email: <a href="mailto:h-obara@it.ncgm.go.jp">h-obara@it.ncgm.go.jp</a></p>	<p>Hiromi OBARA, MD, MSc, Specialist of Ob/Gyn, has over 20 years' experience providing technical, programmatic and management support in reproductive, maternal and newborn health (RMNH) to several countries in the Western Pacific Region and elsewhere. Positions held include JICA Health Policy Advisor in Lao PDR, Reproductive Health Medical Officer in WHO Western Pacific Regional Office, Deputy Director of the International Affairs Division of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan, Chief Advisor of JICA MCH project in Cambodia, Ob/Gyn doctor in Jichi Medical University Hospital in Japan. She obtained an MSc in Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She assisted countries in the Western Pacific Region to conduct maternal death reviews, improve newborn care, eliminate unsafe abortions, develop policy strategy frameworks and conduct monitoring both at country and regional levels. She has also contributed to regional and global meetings as an RMNH expert, to WHO publications, as a member of the Guideline Development Group and the Independent Review Group. Her professional interests include programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation, quality of care, updating country policies/strategies/plans/clinical guidelines, and improving financial access to care.</p>
<p><b>Andrew Weeks</b> Professor of International Maternal Health Sanyo Research Unit University of Liverpool Liverpool, UK Email: <a href="mailto:aweeks@liverpool.ac.uk">aweeks@liverpool.ac.uk</a></p>	<p>To be added</p>
<p><b>Lumbiganon Pisake</b> Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology Faculty of Medicine Khon Kaen University Khon Kaen Thailand Email: <a href="mailto:lumbiganon.pisake@gmail.com">lumbiganon.pisake@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>Pisake Lumbiganon is a Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Convenor of Cochrane Thailand and Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Research Synthesis in Reproductive Health based at Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Thailand. He is currently the President Elect of the Asia Ocenia Federation of Obstetrics and Gynecology. He has published more than 150 papers including many Cochrane reviews in various international journals. He was a dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Khon Kaen University from 2009 to 2013 and the President of the Royal Thai College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists from 2016 to 2018. In 2019 he received Honorable Fellowship from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. His main areas of interest includes maternal and perinatal health, evidence-based practices, systematic review and meta-analysis</p>

**PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS/OBSERVERS**

<p><b>Deborah ARMBRUSTER</b> Senior Maternal and Newborn Health Advisor United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Bureau for Global Health Washington, Washington,DC, USA Email: <a href="mailto:darmbruster@usaid.gov">darmbruster@usaid.gov</a></p>	<p>Deborah Armbruster is a nurse-midwife with a Master’s in Public Health and a fellow of the American College of Nurse-Midwives. In April, 2010, she joined USAID and is currently a Sr. Maternal and Newborn Health Advisor. She has been USAID’s lead on the UNCoLSC and convener for the Maternal Health Technical Resource Team. She came to USAID from PATH where she was the director of the research project, the Oxytocin Initiative. From 2004-2009, she was the Director of the Prevention of Postpartum Hemorrhage Initiative (POPPHI) project. She has over 25 years’ experience in safe motherhood and reproductive health programs in over 15 countries. She has been actively involved in the Safe Motherhood Initiative for over 15 years and is a founding member of the White Ribbon Alliance for Safe Motherhood. She has been involved in the development of Home-Based Life Saving Skills program. She serves as a peer reviewer for the Journal of Midwifery and Women’s Health</p>
<p><b>Lia Brigante</b> Consultant Midwife in Public Health Development Post Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust London, United Kingdom Email: <a href="mailto:lia.brigante@rcm.org.uk">lia.brigante@rcm.org.uk</a></p>	<p>Lia Brigante is a Consultant Midwife in Public Health at Guy’s and St Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust in London. Lia has also been working since 2017 at the Royal College of Midwives as Quality &amp; Standards Advisor, contributing to improvement of maternity policy and midwifery practice across the UK. Lia is part of the Royal College of Midwives Expert Clinical Group on COVID-19, producing national guidance on midwifery care during the pandemic. Lia is passionate about providing holistic women-centred care, building relationships and facilitating choices; particularly around place of birth having extensive experience in facilitating homebirths. Lia has conducted research on place of birth, the role of consultant midwives and women’s experiences of continuity of career (POPPIE trial) at King’ College London as part of her MSc in Implementation Science.</p>
<p><b>Bill Grobman</b> Vice Chair, Clinical Operations Maternal Fetal Medicine Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Leadership The Ohio State University Columbus, USA Email: <a href="mailto:William.grobman@osumc.edu">William.grobman@osumc.edu</a></p>	<p>Bill Grobman has BA from Amherst College and his MD from Harvard Medical School. Dr. Grobman undertook training in Obstetrics and Gynecology as well as Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Northwestern University. During his fellowship training, he completed an MBA in Health Services Administration and Decision Sciences at Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management, and then continued as faculty at the Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, until his move in 2021 to The Ohio State University. There, he is Professor with tenure and Vice-Chair of Clinical Operations of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. His research has focused on the prediction and prevention of adverse obstetric outcomes, and he has been the PI on multiple NIH and foundation grants, authored over 400 peer-reviewed publications, and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine.</p>

<p><b>Jeff Smith</b> Deputy Director of Implementation Research and Demonstration for Scale Maternal, Newborn &amp; Child Health Bill &amp; Melinda Gates Foundation Seattle, Washington, USA Email: <a href="mailto:jeffrey.smith@gatesfoundation.org">jeffrey.smith@gatesfoundation.org</a></p>	<p>Jeffrey Smith is an obstetrician/gynecologist and public health strategist with 25 years of clinical and public health experience in developing countries, across Asia, Africa and Latin America. He works for Jhpiego as the Vice President for Technical Leadership based in Baltimore where he leads Jhpiego's clinical interventions and implementation approaches. He holds faculty positions in Gynecology and Obstetrics at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and in International Health in the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. He spent 10 years working for Jhpiego in Asia leading maternal and reproductive health programs in Nepal, Afghanistan and Thailand.</p>
<p><b>EVIDENCE SYNTHESIS GROUP (ESG)</b></p>	
<p><b>Leanne Jones</b> Deputy Managing Editor Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth Department of Women's and Children's Health University of Liverpool Liverpool, UK Email: <a href="mailto:L.V.Jones@liverpool.ac.uk">L.V.Jones@liverpool.ac.uk</a></p>	<p>Leanne Jones is the Deputy Managing Editor at Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth (CPC) (University of Liverpool, UK). As well as managing the production of Cochrane systematic reviews, she is an experienced Cochrane systematic review author and provides methodological support to CPC review author teams. For the past four years she has coordinated the production and synthesis of evidence from Cochrane reviews to inform the WHO living guideline process. She has a master's in medical science (University of Liverpool) and a BSc (First Class Hons) in Biology with Psychology (Manchester Metropolitan University). Her research interests include maternal and reproductive health, systematic review methodology and knowledge transfer.</p>
<p><b>Frances Kellie</b> Managing Editor Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth Department of Women's and Children's Health University of Liverpool Liverpool Women's NHS Foundation Trust Liverpool, UK Email: <a href="mailto:f.kellie@liverpool.ac.uk">f.kellie@liverpool.ac.uk</a></p>	<p>Frances Kellie is the Managing Editor of Cochrane Pregnancy and Childbirth (CPC) (University of Liverpool, UK). As well as managing the production of Cochrane systematic reviews, she is a Cochrane systematic review author and provides methodological support to CPC review author teams. For the past four years she has coordinated the production and synthesis of evidence from Cochrane reviews to inform the WHO living guideline process. She has a PhD in Psychology (University of Wales, Bangor) and a BSc (First Class Hons) in Psychology (University of Wales, Bangor). Her research interests include maternal and reproductive health, evidence-based medicine, and the scientific integrity of randomized controlled trials used in Cochrane systematic reviews.</p>



<p><b>Melissa Murano</b> Senior Research Officer Cochrane Australia Monash University Clayton, Australia Email: <a href="mailto:melissa.murano@monash.edu">melissa.murano@monash.edu</a></p>	<p>Melissa Murano is Senior Research Officer at Cochrane Australia. She contributes to research that aims to (i) advance methods for research synthesis and the uptake of these methods, and (ii) develop and apply practical, evidence-based approaches for enabling decision-makers to use research evidence. She also contributes to various projects and commissions related to systematic reviews and other types of evidence syntheses, as well as translation of research into healthcare policy and practice. She has over a decade's experience working with colleagues in low- and middle-income settings to optimize the use of research evidence in policymaking and practice in maternal and neonatal health.</p>
<p><b>Tari Turner</b> Associate Professor Director Evidence and Methods National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce Clayton, Australia Email: <a href="mailto:tari.turner@monash.edu">tari.turner@monash.edu</a></p>	<p>Tari Turner is Associate Professor and Director Evidence and Methods, National COVID-19 Clinical Evidence Taskforce, leading development of living guidance for COVID-19 prevention and treatment, and an Associate Professor (Research) at Cochrane Australia. Dr Turner leads research developing and evaluating methods for living evidence syntheses, including living systematic reviews and living guidelines; and translating synthesised evidence into improved healthcare practice and policy.</p>