Welcome

Another busy few months at HEHTA with a particular highlight being the inspiring inaugural lecture of Professor Jim Lewsey which was held in the Senate room in the wonderful surroundings of the University’s main building with Jim’s family, friends and colleagues attending. Another highlight was HEHTA PhD student Yulia Anopa being awarded first prize in the GSK research awards at the European Association of Dental Public Health and fellowship success for HEHTA Alumni Dr Nicki Boyer in the highly competitive US NIH awards. In August HEHTA spent a day strategising about future plans for the team where there were lots of discussions around future directions including new research topics, methodologies, themes and teaching plans. A number of the HEHTA team travelled to the HTAi annual meeting in Cologne to present research and enjoy the surroundings. Finally, we wish our ‘HEVigilante’ Professor Andrew Briggs all the best with his new adventure at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine however delighted that Andrew retains HEHTA affiliate status.

Emma McIntosh

YULIA ANOPA WINS EADPH GLAXOSMITHKLINE RESEARCH AWARD

Yulia Anopa, part-time PhD student and research assistant at the Dental School, won first place at the European Association of Dental Public Health (EADPH) in Ghent, Belgium, on 13th September for her presentation on the economic evaluation of the Protecting Teeth @ 3 (PT@3) randomised controlled trial. Yulia competed with three other oral presenters for the EADPH GlaxoSmithKline Research Award and was awarded the first prize of €2,000. This is the second year in a row that the Community Oral Health section team of the University of Glasgow Dental School came first.

Yulia’s PhD research project is a collaboration between HEHTA (supervisor: Prof Emma McIntosh) and the Community Oral Health section at the Dental School (supervisor: Prof Lorna Macpherson).

Professor Jim Lewsey: TO LILYBANK (AND BACK AGAIN)

On 20th September 2019, Professor Jim Lewsey delivered his inaugural lecture titled ‘Using Routine Data to Complement and Enhance the Results of Randomised Controlled Trials’ – Reflections over 20 years on - a.k.a to Lilybank (and back again).

Over 100 friends, family and colleagues turned up at the university’s senate room to listen to Jim’s lecture, the title of which was taken from the heading of a chapter written by Jim and colleagues towards the end of his first research assistant post in the Public Health Research Unit at Lilybank Gardens.

Jim joined HEHTA in 2010 and he has previously held posts at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of Otago and Eastman Dental Institute, UCL.

Contact us

More information about HEHTA, all our CPD courses and our online MSc is available by contacting our administrators at ihw-hehta@glasgow.ac.uk or on our website.
TIMELINE OF EVENTS

2 July
Robert Heggie, Kathleen Boyd, Francesco Manca & Jose Robles-Zurita attend HESG in Norwich.

18 July
Andy Briggs, Nicola McMeekin & Jose Robles-Zurita attend the SCOT writing meeting in Glasgow.

26 July
Summer newsletter published.

1 August
GhESS seminar with Dr William Padula from the University of Southern California. Title: Application of Machine Learning to develop effective analysis of pressure injury prevention for improving hospital safety.

23 August
Andrew Briggs delivers an open guest lecture at the Health Economics Unit at University of Cape Town.

28 August
Strategy day for 2020-2025 takes place at Hotel Du Vin with Robin Henderson.

30 August
Alumni Fernando Zanghelini visits the team.

4-6 September
Robert Heggie attends the 6th EuHEA PhD Student-Supervisor and Early Career Researcher Conference in Porto, Portugal.

13 September
Yulia Anopa wins first prize in the EADPHEV/GSK Research Award at EADPH 2019 in Ghent, Belgium.

16 September
Alumni Nicki Boyer awarded NIH fellowship, supported by Emma McIntosh, Jim Lewsey & Kathleen Boyd.

18 September
Prof. Dr. Usa Chaikledkaew (supervisor of Saowalak Turongkavaree & Ong The Due) visits from Mahidol University in Thailand.

20 September
The inaugural lecture of Professor Jim Lewsey takes place at the University’s Senate Room.

23-27 September
Decision Analytic Modelling for Economic Evaluation takes place at the Hilton with other 50 participants.

24 September
Professor Stephen T. Parente from the University of Minnesota presents a GhESS seminar: US Health Policy at Crossroads: Future Options & Implications.

27 September
The team wishes Professor Andrew Briggs well on his new journey at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine with celebrations at Balbir’s.

TANZANIA 2020
Team members Emma McIntosh, Ping Hsuan Hsieh and Manuela Deidda travelled to Tanzania on 14th October 2019 for an NIHR Global Health Research Group project meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS
22 November 2019
The NIHR Complex Reviews Support Unit (CRSU) is holding the second CRSU-Cochrane Joint Training Day in London on 22nd November 2019, for UK based Cochrane Editors, Cochrane Networks and Cochrane Programme Grant holders.

HESG
Four HEHTA researchers attended the summer edition of the Health Economists’ Study Group (HESG) hosted by the University of East Anglia, 3rd-5th July. Robert Heggie discussed part of his PhD work on the importance of implementation for health economists; Dr Kathleen Boyd presented the result of a HEHTA joint collaboration on the value and usefulness of Health Economics Protocols. Jose Robles-Zurita and Francesco Manca discussed methodological issues on randomisation and cost-effectiveness of screening strategies on HCV, respectively.

The next HESG will be in January 2020 in Newcastle.

NEW GRANT
KATHLEEN BOYD – JUNE 2019
NIHR: Health Technology Assessment 18/47: Project Ref NIHR127569: Cervical Ripening at Home or In-Hospital – prospective cohort study and process evaluation (CHOICE Study).

MONKLANDS INDEPENDENT REVIEW
A Independent Review panel was formed in response to Scotland’s Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sports’ decision for an independent review of the processes undertaken by NHS Lanarkshire to plan for replacement/ refurbishment of the Monklands Hospital. The panel consisted of health economists, a clinician, a health planner and a member of the Scottish Government. HEHTA’s Prof. Emma McIntosh and Prof. Olivia Wu co-chaired the review team while Ms. Moira Sim, Dr. Yiqiao Xin and Ms. Dikshyanta Rana were a part of the team.

The review team concluded that NHS Lanarkshire had indeed followed the guidance, however some improvements could have been made to increase public confidence in the process. The final report was published in June 2019.

PEDAL SCOTLAND: ON YER BIKE…
On 8th September, seven team members took part in the Pedal for Scotland 20th anniversary bike ride from Glasgow to Edinburgh, joining colleagues from the wider Institute of Health and Wellbeing team.
Professors Andrew Briggs and Olivia Wu, Lecturer in Qualitative Methods Evi Germeni, Research Associate Eleanor Grieve and PhD student Ping Hsuan Hsieh attended the 16th Health Technology Assessment International (HTAi) Annual Meeting in Cologne from 17th–19th June. Bringing together over 1,000 researchers, policymakers, industry, agencies, health service providers and patients from around the world, the HTAi Meeting was a key international gathering for sharing the latest research on health technology assessment, advancing discussions in policy and methods, and building global networks.

On October 1st Professor Olivia Wu was honoured with the highly prestigious William R Lindsay Chair of Health Economics, making her the third holder of the post after Professor Andrew Briggs. Founded in 1999, the professorship is named after William Roberts Lindsay (1931-2010), an American benefactor of the University.

HEHTA's Dr Rafael Venson and Dr Kathleen Boyd attended the National Infertility Group (NIG) Meeting in Edinburgh. One of the main topics during this NIG was the presentation of the final results of the "Cost of IVF" project led by Dr Boyd. The focus of this research was to find out the average cost of IVF across different Centres, and analyse the variation of costs according to different characteristics of the patients, providing the NHS and the Scottish Government with transparent, accurate, and reliable values for the real cost of IVF. For the Scottish Government, it is important to keep providing high quality services to the population in Scotland, and they know how much running the assisted conception service costs. The main question now is: how much should it cost? The results were very well received and NHS representatives from England have already shown an interest in the research developed by HEHTA. Such an impact case reaching an outcome is very exciting to Rafael, Kathleen, and both NIG and HEHTA teams are looking forward to concluding the amendments of the study to give it visibility and apply it to policies for an improved transparent NHS-Scotland.

UPCOMING COURSES

Online
Statistical Methods for HTA and Evidence-Based Medicine
13th January - 27th March
This course aims to equip students with the necessary statistical skills so they can analyse and interpret data that commonly arise from health technology assessments and evidence-based medicine more generally. Click here for more info. https://bit.ly/2OJFtZn

Survival Analysis for HTA
24th February - 27th March
This course aims to equip students with the necessary statistical skills so they can analyse and interpret survival data that are commonly used in health economic analyses within health technology assessments. Click here for more info. https://bit.ly/2GJ4YO3

HTA in a Global Context
13th January - 27th March 2020
This course will cover HTA in different contexts, exploring geographical variation between high-income countries as well as looking more in-depth about how and why decision-making in healthcare may differ in low- and middle-income countries. Click here for more info. https://bit.ly/2GJ8WGr

Foundations of Decision Analytic Modelling
13th January - 14th February 2020
This course aims to equip students with the necessary skills so they can design and conduct decision analytic modelling, including: the role of modelling in health care decision-making, designing decision-making problems, decision trees, Markov models. Click here for more info. https://bit.ly/2YpsCJn

Face-to-Face
Evidence Synthesis for Health Technology Assessment
6-8 May 2020
This three-day course is designed for clinicians, health service researchers and other healthcare professionals who are involved in systematic reviews and meta-analyses as a piece of independent work or an integral part of a health technology assessment (HTA). Click here for more info. https://bit.ly/2BPm7JM

HTAi 2019 Annual Meeting

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Director Appointed as Lindsay Chair

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NEW FACES & GOODBIES

This quarter HEHTA welcomed lots of new faces and said goodbye to an old one (for now)!

In June, University student Amy Drysdale-Dykes joined the team for a six-week summer internship on the BeST project, supervised by Emma McIntosh, Manuela Deidda & Kathleen Boyd.

The inimitable Professor Andrew Briggs officially said goodbye to HEHTA on August 31st to take up a new position at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. However, he will stay on as an affiliate, so it’s not goodbye forever!

This September we welcomed two visiting PhD students: Ong The Due from Mahidol University and Wendy Zhang from Hong Kong university.

Nurzhibek Beisembinova joined us from Khazak National Medical University as a guest of Olivia Wu for two-week visit in September, during which she participated in the Decision Analytic Modelling for Economic Evaluation Course.

Publications

June


July


Draper C E, Tomasz S A, Zbindula G, Bunn C, Gray C M et al. (31 July 2019). Development, feasibility, acceptability and potential effectiveness of a healthy lifestyle programme delivered in churches in urban and rural South Africa. PLOS ONE.


August
Henderson M, Wittkowski A, McIntosh E, McConnachie A, Buslon K et al. (14 August 2019). Trial of healthy relationship interventions for the very early years (THRIVE), evaluating Enhanced Triple P for Baby and Mellow Bumps for those with additional social and care needs during pregnancy and their infants who are at higher risk of maltreatment: study protocol for a randomised controlled trial. BMC Trials.


September


Briggs A. The evolution of methods for economic evaluation: lessons from established Health Technology Assessment systems. The Health Economics Unit at University of Cape Town. 23 August 2019.


Venson R & Boyd K. Presentation of results to the National Infertility Group Meeting, Royal College of Surgeons. Edinburgh. 9 September 2019.


Boyd K A. Health Economic Analysis & Modelling Plans: To HEAP or not to HEAP? Why should we bother? HESG. 3 July 2019.

Manca F. Should we still be screening for HCV in Scotland and the UK? HESG. 5 July 2019.

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