

National Asthma and COPD Audit Programme (NACAP)

NACAP: Meet the team

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Management, coordination and administration



Lara Amusan, programme manager

Lara grew up in Nigeria and worked alongside her grandmother in an orphanage from an early age, developing a passion for helping people and providing them with better opportunities. Lara has worked in the UK's social care field for 30 years in different settings including prisons, secure units, hospitals and the community. She has supported a number of different patient groups including older people, and people with learning disabilities and mental health support needs.

Lara has spent the past 15 years of her role in senior leadership. Having joined the RCP in 2019 as programme manager for the Falls and Fragility Fracture Audit Programme (FFFAP), Lara is now programme manager for NACAP. She is passionate about improving patient outcomes and ensuring that the Programme team reach their full potential while having fun at the same time.



Rachael Andrews, deputy programme manager

Rachael has a background in project management and has been supporting or managing the delivery of confidential enquiries and national audit programmes for approximately 15 years. She was actively involved in the National Review of Asthma Deaths (NRAD) and the Asthma Audit Development Project (AADP) before NACAP came into being and became part of the NACAP team in 2018. She thrives in an environment that supports services to improve their care and management of patients, and actively collaborates with patients in doing this.



Sophia Baker, Project Manager

Sophia has a strong project management background having worked mainly in the charity sector. She has worked for Cancer Research and The Alzheimer’s Society on quality improvement projects – working with a wide range of external stakeholders to improve services and provide patients with a better experience. She has also worked on audit programmes including the National Cancer Diagnosis Audit (NCDA). Now a part of the NACAP team, Sophia is leading on the delivery of a number of the Programme’s objectives including investigation into the feasibility of automated data extraction, the development of real-time data presentation, and the production of a report to highlight the opportunities for policymakers to drive improvements in respiratory care.



Katharine Smith, project manager, COPD and pulmonary rehabilitation

After studying modern languages and history at the University of London, Katharine joined the education team of a medical society and worked for several years to deliver online and in-person medical education. She joined the RCP in 2021 and works within NACAP as project manager of the COPD and pulmonary rehabilitation audit workstreams.

Cheyenne Kailla, project manager, adult asthma and children and young people’s asthma



Cheyenne graduated from Aston University in 2012 (BSc in human biology) and from Cranfield University in 2014 (MSc clinical research), and has since accumulated over 9 years of experience in healthcare and research. She has spent time working in various clinical and non-clinical research posts. She has worked on a diverse range of clinical trials in public health and has found working on respiratory trials particularly rewarding. Cheyenne manages NACAP’s adult and children and young people’s asthma workstreams, pursuing her interest in improving health services and outcomes for patients and the wider multidisciplinary team through audit.



Patsy Emblem, programme coordinator

Patsy graduated from Nottingham Trent University in 2007 with a degree in business studies. She has since worked in multiple procurement positions for the NHS and has pursued her passion for travel through positions abroad and as cabin crew for British Airways. She has also acted as an interim executive office administrator for Liverpool Health Partnership. Patsy is a programme coordinator for NACAP, focusing on the

asthma workstreams.



Ann Marie Fowles, project coordinator, COPD and pulmonary rehabilitation

Ann Marie has experience of administration within a wide range of organisations in the Liverpool area, including Tate Gallery, Liverpool Hope University and most recently the University of Liverpool. She has experience in higher education governance, committee servicing and the development of policy and procedural guidance. Within NACAP, she is responsible for the coordination of COPD and pulmonary rehabilitation audit workstreams.

Clinical leadership



John Hurst, senior clinical lead

John is passionate about improving outcomes and experience for people with respiratory disease and supporting staff to deliver better care, and that's what NACAP is about – improving outcomes. His NHS role involves working across secondary and community COPD services in Camden, based at the Royal Free Hospital. He also leads an active research programme examining strategies to prevent and mitigate exacerbations. As lead for the COPD audit at his trust, he knows how challenging this is to deliver – but he

firmly believes that improved patient outcomes will result from this work. Please do contact him with any comments or suggestions (j.hurst@ucl.ac.uk).



Tom Wilkinson, NACAP COPD clinical lead

Professor Tom Wilkinson is professor of respiratory medicine at the University of Southampton and honorary NHS consultant physician at University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust, specialising in asthma and COPD. He leads the Southampton COPD research group and the airways disease theme of the NIHR Southampton Biomedical Research Centre.

Tom trained in Cambridge and London before moving to Southampton as a clinical lecturer. He has worked in COPD research and clinical service development for 20 years.



Sally Singh, NACAP pulmonary rehabilitation clinical lead

Sally Singh works at the University of Leicester and the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust and has led the pulmonary rehabilitation programme there for many years. Her early career was spent developing exercise-based outcome measures used widely to evaluate rehabilitation programmes internationally. Her research interests focus on improving rehabilitation services delivery for individuals with respiratory disease, most recently delivering rehabilitation in low- and middle-income

countries.



Katherine Hickman, NACAP primary care clinical lead

Katherine qualified from Leeds University in 2000 and acquired her MRCP(UK) before settling into general practice. She is a GP partner in Bradford. Over the years, Katherine has developed a keen interest in respiratory medicine and is respiratory lead for West Yorkshire Health and Care Partnership. She is primary care lead for NACAP and vice chair of the Primary Care Respiratory Society. Outside work, Katherine spends most of her time running around after her three young children, but also enjoys

cooking, yoga, swimming in Leeds Dock and has recently rediscovered her love for singing and has joined a choir.



James Calvert, adult asthma clinical lead

James qualified in medicine from Oxford University in 1992 and went on to study public health as a Fulbright scholar at Harvard University before completing his PhD in asthma epidemiology in South Africa and London. He was a consultant in Bristol from 2006–21, where he was lead clinician for respiratory medicine and associate medical director. He worked with colleagues in the south-west and at NHS England to improve access to

integrated services for respiratory patients. He is now medical director of Aneurin Bevan University Health Board in Wales, where he maintains an interest in the care of patients with asthma and is executive lead for the Respiratory Board. He has also chaired the British Thoracic Society (BTS) Professional and Organisational Standards Committee and is NACAP's clinical lead for adult asthma. He has a longstanding interest in quality improvement in healthcare and has worked with the BTS, NHS Improvement, the RCP and the University of Bristol in this field.



Ian Sinha, children and young people's asthma clinical lead

Ian is a consultant in paediatric respiratory medicine based at Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool. His main clinical interests are asthma and wheeze, complex breathlessness and neonatal lung disease. His research interests lie in evidence-based medicine, with particular focus on integrating evidence into routine clinical practice. He is also a member of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health respiratory paediatric Specialist Advisory Committee for training.

Data analysis



Jenni Quint, analysis lead

Jenni is a respiratory epidemiologist at Imperial College London and an honorary consultant at the Royal Brompton Hospital. She is head of a research group that uses routinely collected health record data to study respiratory disease and is the analysis lead for NACAP.

Webtool provision and digital solutions



Tim Bunning, principal consultant, Crown Informatics

Tim has over 20 years' experience working with informatics, data collection and analytical systems in healthcare, retail, banking and professional services. He founded Crown Informatics in 2013 to create new audit solutions after working on several national clinical audits within the NHS. Tim and his team at Crown Informatics provide the bespoke webtool that collects NACAP data, enable real-time and retrospective reporting, and support NACAP to introduce innovative solutions to increase the effectiveness of clinical audit.