

## PLENARY SPEAKERS for ISAMValletta2021 Congress 27<sup>th</sup> Sept-1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

- **Dame Dr Clare Gerada** is a Fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioners; Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists; Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and honorary member of Malta's National Order of Merit. Clare was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in the 2000 Birthday Honours for service to medicine and to drug misusers and Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) in the 2020 Birthday Honours for services to general practice and the medical profession. She is a specialist in Addiction Medicine and has been instrumental in supporting the medical and other allied professions in the increasing occupational risk involved when working in these professions especially in the field of mental health and addictions

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- **Professor Min Zhao** is a Professor in Psychiatry and Vice President of the Chinese Association of Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment, Institute of Mental Health, Shanghai Jiao Tong University. Min does research in clinical pharmacology, psychiatry and addiction medicine and worked on more than 10 national and international research projects focused on drug abuse clinical research. She is also a member of the UNODC informal scientific network

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- **Dr Devora Kestel** is responsible for leading the World Health Organization's (WHO's) work in the areas of mental health and substance abuse. Initially studying psychology in her native country of Argentina, she went on to work in the field of mental health for ten years in Italy before joining the WHO's office in Kosovo in 2000. Prior to being appointed as the current WHO Director of Mental Health and Substance Abuse in 2018, she was Unit Chief in Mental Health and Substance Abuse at the Pan American Health Organization.

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- **Dr Joao Castel-Branco Goulao** is a Portuguese physician and the current national drug coordinator for Portugal. He is credited as being an architect of Portugal's drug policy established in 2000. From 2009 to 2015, he served as chairman of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and has been a delegate at the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs. Since 2005, Goulão has been head of the General-Directorate for Intervention on Addictive Behaviours and Dependencies (*Serviço de Intervenção nos Comportamentos Aditivos e nas Dependências*) (SICAD), within Portugal's Ministry of Health. He is also chairman of Portugal's Institute on Drugs and Drug Addiction (*Instituto da Droga e da Toxicodependência*) (IDT).

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- **Professor Nadine Ezard** is Conjoint Professor Nadine Ezard and Director of NCCRED. Nadine is also the Clinical Director of the Alcohol and Drug Service at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney Australia home to one of NSW's first specialist stimulant treatment programs. Nadine's academic achievements include MBBS in Medicine and Surgery and BA in History and Philosophy of Science from the University of Melbourne, Masters of Public Health from Harvard School of Public Health and PhD in Public Health from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Nadine has over 25 years experience in the addiction medicine field and over that time has received multiple accolades including Commonwealth Scholarship and Australian Financial Review's 100 Women of Influence. Nadine's body of peer-reviewed research involves building the evidence base for improved health interventions for marginalised populations. Her current research focusses on working with people who use stimulants to develop new and effective interventions. Nadine is a registered medical practitioner and Fellow of the Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine (FACHAM) of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP). She has previously worked for the World Health Organization, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime.

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- **Dr Mindy Fullilove** is a social psychiatrist who explores the ties between environment and mental health. She received her bachelor's degree from Bryn Mawr College and her MS and MD degrees from Columbia University. She completed residency at NY Hospital Westchester Division and Montefiore and is board certified in psychiatry. With her colleagues at the Cities Research Group and the University of Orange, Dr Fullilove explores the consequences of social fracture for our society and our health and seeks ways to reconnect the broken parts. Prior to joining the New School full-time in 2016, Dr Fullilove taught at Columbia University and was a lecturer at Parsons. She has published numerous articles and six books including *Main Street: How a City's Heart Connects Us All*, *From Enforcers to Guardians: A Public Health Primer on Ending Police Violence* (with Hannah L. F. Cooper), *Urban Alchemy: Restoring Joy in America's Sorted-Out Cities*, *Root Shock: How Tearing Up City Neighborhoods Hurts America and What We Can Do About It*, and *House of Joshua: Meditations on Family and Place*. Professional affiliations include: American Psychiatric Association (APA), American Public Health Association (APHA), and the American Institute of Architects

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- **Professor John Dillon** is Professor of Hepatology and Gastroenterology in the Division of Molecular and Clinical Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Dundee, based at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee. He is also an Honorary Consultant with NHS Tayside. His award winning research interests included; new pathways of care for patients with abnormal LFTs, for people infected with HCV, new therapies for HCV infection, as well as novel diagnostics and treatments for NAFLD. His research activities stretch from the bench to the bedside and out into the community. He has published over 200 peer reviewed original research papers. He chairs the Scottish HCV Action Plan Clinical Leads Group, is a member of the Scottish Government's Ministerial advisory board for Blood Borne viruses and sexual health. He was President of the Scottish Society of Gastroenterology. He previously led the development group of the UK consensus guidelines for HCV and has chaired the Hepatitis C SIGN guideline development group. He Chaired the SHAAP group that produced the recent "Alcohol-related liver disease: guidance for good practice" documents. He has delivered over 200 international lectures on liver disease.

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- **Dr Asmus Hammerich** is Director for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and mental health (NMH) at the World Health Organization's Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (WHO EMRO), based in Cairo, Egypt where he has led the department since November 2015. Prior to this, he served as WHO Representative (WR) in Uzbekistan, EURO (2012-15) and as Deputy WR in Laos, WPRO (2008-12). Before that, he led bilateral German BMZ/GIZ- and British DFID-supported public health programs in Indonesia (2005-08), India (2000-04) and Rwanda (1996-99) and practiced as family physician in the United Kingdom (UK) and Germany after being affiliated as a doctor with different teaching hospitals in Devon, Berkshire and Oxfordshire, UK (1991-1996). Dr Hammerich holds an MBBS (1991) and a research MD (1992) from Kiel University, Germany, as well as a Master degree in Public Health in Developing Countries (MScPHDC, 2000) from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. He also holds a UK Membership of the Royal College of General Practitioners (MRCGP, 1996) and a Fellowship as family medicine specialist in Germany (FAAM, 2000). He possesses cutting edge public health and executive management knowledge based on further education at some of the leading institutions in the field (e.g. Oxford, LSHTM, Harvard, World Bank Institute Washington, UNSSC Turin) and speaks fluent English, French and German as well as basic Spanish, Russian, Indonesian and Arabic.

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**Professor Amy Justice** is the CNH Long Professor of Medicine and Public Health at Yale University. Dr Justice is a Clinical Epidemiologist who has developed multiple large national cohorts based on data from the Veterans Affairs Healthcare System Electronic Medical Record enhanced with National Death Index and CMS data, patient completed surveys, DNA and tissue repositories, and stored pathology samples. She has two decades of experience in the processes required to clean, validate, and standardize raw EMR data and in its analysis using standard statistical methods, machine learning techniques, and cross cohort validations. The oldest and best known of her projects is the Veterans Aging Cohort Study (VACS). VACS is an ongoing, longitudinal study of >170,000 United States veterans with and without HIV infection continuously funded by National Institutes of Health (NIH) since 1996. She has developed and validated widely used indices including a prognostic index, the VACS Index, and a patient reported symptom index, the HIV Symptom Index. She is the principal investigator of the National Cancer Institute provocative questions grant HIV and Aging Mechanisms for Hepatocellular Cancer, is co-principal investigator of the VA Genetic Vulnerability for sustained multi-substance use in MVP and the VA-DOE Exemplar Cancer Project. She is Scientific Liaison for VA-DOE Research for the Department of Veterans Affairs, has published over 400 peer reviewed manuscripts, has presented work at the United Nations, The International AIDS Society, The Royal

Medical College in London, the White House, and Congress. She is a member of the National Cancer Institute Ad hoc Subcommittee on HIV and AIDS Malignancy and the HIV and Aging Working Group, NIH Office of AIDS Research. She has recently joined the International Advisory Boards of *Lancet HIV* and *Journal of the International AIDS Society*.

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