

Cellulitis Priority Setting Partnership Steering Group Member Biographies

Patient representative/s:

Anita Wallace



Anita has been the Chair of the Lymphoedema Support Network (LSN) since 2000. Her role involves acting as a spokesperson for the LSN and liaising with other organisations relevant to the LSN. Prior to this role, Anita was a Trustee of the LSN for two years and has been a member of the organisation since 1996.

Julie Hooper



In March 2015, Julie was diagnosed with cellulitis. This was extremely painful, totally unexpected, not diagnosed for 48 hours and presented with other symptoms.

Julie is a Clinical Trial Coordinator and has worked in Primary Medical Care at the University of Southampton for the last five years on over 15 clinical trials. Julie has previously worked as a Practice Manager for seven years in a complementary health clinic with 14 practitioners. She has also run her own business as a qualified CBT and TA group counsellor.

Barry Gamble



Barry has been a cellulitis sufferer for many years. He was born in Derby in 1944 and worked most of life in electricity generation finally as Shift operations manager. He is married with 2 daughters and 2 grandsons. He retired 11 years ago and now spends his free time golfing, walking, holidaying and looking after grandchildren or elderly mother.

Clinical representative/s:

Miriam Santer

Miriam is a GP in Bournemouth and Associate Professor in Primary Care Research at the University of Southampton.

Miriam is interested in developing evidence to help GPs manage a range of common conditions including eczema, gout, heavy menstrual bleeding, cellulitis and depression/distress. She is also particularly interested in how people can be supported to self-manage their own long-term conditions.

Nick Francis



Nick is a GP in South Wales and Clinical Reader in Primary Care and Public Health at Cardiff University, where he leads the Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance research theme. His other main research interest is skin conditions, and he has conducted a trial on infected eczema in children and epidemiological research on cellulitis using primary care routine data

Nick Levell



Nick is Dermatology Clinical Director at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital, which provides an innovative service for lower limb cellulitis, giving accurate diagnosis and managing care in the community, whenever possible. As national lead for dermatology research for the NIHR he has published research on cellulitis treatment, some in collaboration with other departments. As President-elect of the British Association of Dermatologists (BAD) he is involved with patient support groups, guidelines and patient information. He was on the steering group for the acne PSP, published in 2015.

Vaughan Keeley



Vaughan is a Consultant Physician working full-time in Lymphoedema. He leads 3 clinics in the East Midlands. He chairs the British Lymphology Society / Lymphoedema Support Network Consensus group on the Management of Cellulitis in Lymphoedema, which produces clinical guidelines. His research interests include: breast cancer related lymphoedema, quality of life measurement and leg oedema in Multiple Sclerosis.

Richard Brindle

Richard has been treating and studying cellulitis for over 15 years. He was a principal investigator for the PATCH (prophylaxis) trial and is currently the chief investigator for the C4C (adjunctive clindamycin) trial. He is the lead author of the updated Treatments for Cellulitis Cochrane Review and was co-author of the original.

Denise Hardy

Denise has a background of palliative care nursing and is currently a Trustee on the Board at her local Hospice. Being involved in Lymphoedema management for over 25 years, she has set up numerous services including Kendal Lymphology Centre. As an independent Clinical Nurse Specialist, she now oversees the care of all patients suffering from lymphoedema/chronic oedema in Cumbria and North Lancashire. She is also the Nurse advisor for the Lymphoedema Support Network and Lipoedema UK.

The Partnership and the priority setting process will be supported and guided by:

Leanne Metcalf



Leanne is the independent Chair for the Cellulitis Priority Setting Partnership (PSP), working on behalf of the James Lind Alliance (JLA). Her career has been focused within medical research charities funding research into a variety of different health conditions, and she has a strong background in project management and facilitation. She was involved in the very first PSP in asthma in 2006/7 and, since 2013, has been chairing a number of partnerships as a JLA Adviser.

Sally Wilkes



Sally is an Assistant Professor in Medical Statistics. She joined the Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology in September 2014. Prior to this she worked as a medical statistician within the NHS and as a researcher at the University of Leicester. Sally has collaborated with research groups at institutes across the world including several national and international cancer registries, the University of Cambridge, the University of Birmingham, the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in Lyon. She has experience working on large epidemiological studies and has been involved in several clinical trials.

Kim Thomas



Kim is Co-Director of the Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology and Professor of Applied Dermatology Research. She has long been a supporter of patient and public involvement in research and has helped to run several skin-related Priority Setting Partnerships over the last 5 years. Her main research interests are in eczema, vitiligo, cellulitis and rare skin conditions.

Shelley Dowey



Shelley is the Clinical Trial Development Manager for the UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network (UK DCTN) and has been with the network since early 2014. She works with a number of dermatologists on a wide variety of projects and assists clinicians to develop protocols, secure external funding, and project manages the network trials portfolio.

Her previous career was largely focused in clinical research within the pharmaceutical industry and she has a strong background in Clinical Trials Management.

Margaret McPhee

Maggie is co-ordinator of the UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network and provides support to both the Clinical Trials Development Manager and Network Manager. Her role involves co-ordinating submissions of research ideas to the network and supporting subsequent pilot/ feasibility work (surveys, focus groups). Maggie has been involved in several priority setting partnerships in dermatology, including eczema, acne and hidradenitis suppurativa, and is currently project manager of a PSP on cystic fibrosis.

Sadaf Akhtar

Sadaf joined the Centre for Evidence Based Dermatology in May 2016. Prior to this she achieved her PhD in Health Sciences at the University of Warwick. Her research interests are in rare skin conditions and psychological health interventions to improve human health and wellbeing.