



About RISE 2023

RISE is a full-day, interactive, expert-led training programme designed to provide you with information and practical guidance on how to further your involvement in clinical research. The programme promises engaging sessions, insightful discussions and practical advice from leaders in Women's Health to enhance your professional growth.

See below for more details about the programme, including timings, session topics and faculty biographies.

Agenda

Date: Friday 3rd November 2023

Time: 09:00–17:30 (GMT)

Location: Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, 10–18 Union Street, London, UK

09:00–09:55	Welcome
09:00	Registration and coffee
09:30	Welcome, programme overview and faculty introduction Professor Andrew Horne (Chair), Dr Mory Jalali
09:55–10:55	Session 1: Research and discovery
09:55	The scientific method and beyond: Discovery-based research in Women's Health Professor Dharani Hapangama, Dr Alison Maclean
10:55–11:10	<i>Morning break</i>
11:10–12:30	Session 2: The clinical trial lifecycle
11:10	Clinical trials: Design, delivery and dissemination of data Dr Lucy Whitaker, Professor Andrew Horne (Chair)
12:10	Ethical considerations in research: Application and approval Associate Professor Katy Vincent
12:30–13:15	<i>Lunch</i>
13:15–13:50	Session 3: Building relationships in Women's Health
13:15	Networking: Meet your faculty and fellow attendees All faculty
13:50–15:15	Session 4: Funding and collaboration opportunities in Women's Health
13:50	Investing in research to transform Women's Health Jeremy Barratt, Wellbeing of Women
14:10	Navigating routes into research: Tips and tricks for success Dr Alison Maclean, Professor Andrew Horne (Chair)
14:55	The importance of public involvement in funding applications Associate Professor Katy Vincent
15:15–15:30	<i>Afternoon break</i>
15:30–16:30	Session 5: Innovation in Women's Health
15:30	Translational medicine: From bench to bedside Professor Ying Cheong, Dr Lucy Whitaker
16:30–17:30	Session 6: Exploring your interests
16:30	Question clinic: Ask the experts All faculty
17:15	Summary and close Professor Andrew Horne (Chair)



Meet the Faculty

Professor Andrew Horne (Chair)

Professor of Gynaecology, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK
Consultant Gynaecologist, NHS Lothian, Edinburgh, Midlothian, East Lothian and West Lothian, UK



Professor Andrew Horne is Professor of Gynaecology at the University of Edinburgh and Consultant Gynaecologist at NHS Lothian. He is an experienced researcher in Women's Health, with a specific focus on endometriosis and pelvic pain, and has published over 190 peer-reviewed scientific papers. He established the EXPPECT Centre for Pelvic Pain and Endometriosis in Edinburgh in 2015, consisting of a multidisciplinary team aiming to provide high-quality, evidence-based and patient-centred management of pelvic pain and endometriosis. He is Scientific Advisor to the Scottish Chief Medical Officer for Obstetrics and Gynaecology and a Trustee of Endometriosis UK. He is also a member of the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence and European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology endometriosis guideline committees and the Co-Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Reproduction and Fertility*. Professor Horne has co-authored a commonly used book for patients called *Endometriosis: The Expert's Guide to Treat, Manage and Live Well with Your Symptoms* and is committed to working with patients and academic colleagues to improve Women's Health outcomes.

Professor Ying Cheong

Medical Director, Complete Fertility Centre, Southampton, UK
Professor of Reproductive Medicine, University of Southampton, Southampton, UK



Professor Ying Cheong has a sub-specialty in Reproductive Medicine and Surgery and is Professor of Reproductive Medicine and the Associate Dean of Enterprise at the University of Southampton. She is also the Medical Director of Complete Fertility Centre in Southampton. Her research focusses on the endometrium and its environment for implantation. She also works closely with collaborators in the School of Electronics and Computer Science and Nanoscience at the University of Southampton in the development of nano-therapeutics and medical biosensors. Professor Cheong is also active in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. She holds several National Institute for Health and Care Excellence and commercial grants and is an experienced clinical trialist. She was previously an editor within the Cochrane Gynaecology and Fertility group and is a current editor of *Scientific Reports*, a journal by Nature Portfolio; *Human Fertility*, a British Fertility Society journal; and *Reproduction and Fertility*, a journal of the Society for Reproduction and Fertility.

Professor Dharani Hapangama

Professor of Gynaecology, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
Consultant Gynaecological Surgeon, Liverpool Women's Hospital, Liverpool, UK



Professor Dharani Hapangama is Professor of Gynaecology at the University of Liverpool and Consultant Gynaecological Surgeon at the Liverpool Women's Hospital, where she leads a multidisciplinary group focussing on translational endometrial research. The group studies normal and abnormal regeneration of the human endometrium, endometrial epithelial stem cells and telomerase/telomere biology in gynaecological diseases (e.g. endometriosis, adenomyosis, fibroids, ectopic pregnancies and endometrial cancer). It also conducts clinical research regarding chronic pelvic pain, heavy menstrual bleeding, postmenopausal disorders and pathologies that affect fertility and early pregnancy.

Her group consists of clinical and discovery science researchers and is funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research, Medical Research Council, Wellcome Trust, Society of Reproductive Investigation and Wellbeing of Women. They collaborate widely with researchers in the UK and internationally. Professor Hapangama's group has made significant contributions to the understanding of stem cells and the architecture of the human endometrium. They have established complex, patient-derived 3D models of the endometrium and endometrial pathologies in efforts to improve our understanding of this enigmatic organ.



Dr Mory Jalali

Medical Advisor UK and Ireland, Gedeon Richter

Dr Morteza (Mory) Jalali (MD, PhD, MBA, MRCSEng) is the Founder and Programme Lead of RISE. He is a former NHS academic clinician who trained in science at the University of Cambridge and in surgery at the University of Oxford, where he was an honorary research fellow. Dr Jalali subsequently undertook an MBA at London Business School and transitioned to industry to work as a medicines developer. As Medical Advisor to Gedeon Richter in the UK and Ireland, he is proud to be able to support the next generation of clinical researchers, having previously authored a textbook on the same topic, titled *Basic Science Methods for Clinical Researchers*. He looks forward to RISE growing in its reach and becoming an indispensable programme in the professional development of junior doctors who have a passion for transforming patient outcomes through research and innovation.



Dr Alison Maclean

MRC Clinical Research Training Fellow and Obstetrics and Gynaecology Registrar, Department of Women's and Children's Health, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK

Dr Alison Maclean (MBChB, MRes, MRCOG) is a specialty registrar (ST5) in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and MRC Clinical Research Training Fellow at the University of Liverpool and Liverpool Women's Hospital. She gained an undergraduate medical degree and an MSc in Research in Women's Health from the University of Liverpool in 2015. She began specialising in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in 2017 and spent 3 years as a National Institute for Health and Care Research Academic Clinical Fellow before successfully attaining a clinical research training fellowship funded by the MRC. Dr Maclean is also a member of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Dr Maclean's research interests include the human endometrium and its associated diseases, which cause heavy menstrual bleeding and chronic pelvic pain. She is currently undertaking a full-time PhD in Basic Science, investigating adenomyosis lesion-specific differences in gene and protein expression and generating an *in vitro* model of adenomyosis to enable the identification and testing of new, improved treatments for the condition in the future.



Associate Professor Katy Vincent

Senior Fellow in Pain in Women, Nuffield Department of Women's and Reproductive Health, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
Consultant Gynaecologist, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, UK

Professor Katy Vincent is an Associate Professor and Senior Fellow in Pain in Women at the University of Oxford and Consultant Gynaecologist at John Radcliffe Hospital. She studied Medicine at King's College London and completed her postgraduate training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in 2015. She then undertook a DPhil with Professor Irene Tracey's Pain Imaging Neuroscience group, investigating hormonal influences on the pain experience. She continued her academic work in parallel with her clinical training as a National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Clinical Lecturer. Professor Vincent's predominant clinical interest is in chronic pelvic pain, particularly in association with endometriosis and in female adolescents and young adults. She leads the Pain in Women research group, which uses a variety of methodologies to investigate the mechanisms that generate and maintain pain in women. A key focus of the group, in collaboration with the Endometriosis CaRe Centre in Oxford, is the mechanisms of endometriosis-associated pain. She is currently the Chair of the International Association for the Study of Pain Abdominal and Pelvic Pain Special Interest Group.



Dr Lucy Whitaker

Clinical Lecturer in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, MRC Centre for Reproductive Health, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK



Dr Lucy Whitaker obtained her medical degree from the University of Edinburgh. She is currently undertaking postgraduate training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Edinburgh and is an Advanced Laparoscopic Trainee for the excision of benign disease, including endometriosis and fibroids, at the EXPPECT British Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy Centre. She undertook research training at the University of Edinburgh. Following a postgraduate degree in Surgical Sciences, her MD thesis focussed on the effects of selective progesterone receptor modulators on the endometrium. She is studying for an MSc in Epidemiology and training in clinical trial methodology and delivery in the Edinburgh Clinical Trials Unit.

Her lectureship focusses on precision treatment for endometriosis-associated pain and designing and delivering clinical trials. She leads projects on pain flares in endometriosis and the identification of novel biomarkers. Her clinical work focusses on the management of endometriosis, chronic pelvic pain and menopause. She is a member of the Scottish Government Endometriosis Advisory Group and the Chief Scientist Office Translational Clinical Studies Research Committee and is an Early Career Ambassador for the World Endometriosis Society.

Contact information

If you have any questions about the RISE 2023 programme or your registration, please do not hesitate to contact us at RISE@openhealthgroup.com.