



PARALLEL SESSION 2.2

**INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES IN RESPONSE TO
NCDS**



| BACKGROUND

The burden of non-communicable diseases is expected to increase tremendously in the coming decade, driven in part by the confluence of rising obesity and rapidly ageing societies. National surveys on health and behavior offer valuable insights into the scale of the NCD burden, and the intelligence system underpinning a country can be further extended to evaluate the success of national programmes in prevention, screening, and disease management.

| OBJECTIVES

This session focuses on the importance of strategies that are data-guided and evidence-based, to highlight the importance of strengthening institutional and community-based capabilities in the use of intelligence systems to address the systemic and long-term challenges that lead to the rise of NCDs.





Moderator

Yik Ying Teo

Dean

Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore
Singapore

Professor Teo Yik Ying is Dean of the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore, and concurrently the iOmics Programme Leader at the Life Sciences Institute, and an Associate Faculty Member of the Genome Institute of Singapore. Prof Teo majored in statistical genetics, having completed his doctoral training at the University of Oxford after obtaining a Distinction for his Masters in Applied Statistics at Oxford and graduating top of the cohort for in the Bachelor programme in Mathematics at Imperial College, UK. He pursued his postdoctoral training with the Wellcome Trust Center for Human Genetics, where he was concurrently appointed as a Lecturer at the Statistics Department in Oxford University. A keen researcher by nature, Prof Teo has gained international recognition for his work in genomics, where his focus is in the development and application of mathematical and statistical techniques to understand the genetic causes of human diseases and genetic evolution in worldwide populations. He has conducted large scale genomic studies on populations from Africa, Europe and Asia, and currently chairs an international consortium investigating the genetic diversity of cosmopolitan and indigenous populations in Asia. Prof Teo has served as the Director for the Centre for Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Research, where the Centre works closely with the Ministry of Defence to develop capabilities for disease surveillance, consultation and research to deter and to control potential infectious disease outbreaks. He was also the Founding Director for the Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, which approaches systems-level healthcare issues from a multidisciplinary perspective, connecting healthcare workers, patients, researchers, policy- and decision-makers to tackle complex themes in the fast-changing nature of health services delivery. For his contributions and achievements to academic and public health, Prof Teo was the recipient of numerous awards, including the Singapore Youth Award (2011), the Young Scientist Award by the Singapore National Academy of Science (2010), the NUHS-Mochtar Riady Pinnacle Young Achiever Award (2015), and the Outstanding Young Persons of the World award in the category of Academic Leadership and Achievements (2015). He was also conferred numerous scholarships during his education, including the Public Service Commission scholarship (1997), the Shell Centenary Scholarship (2000), the Lee Kuan Yew Postgraduate Scholarship (2003) and the NUS Overseas Graduate Scholarship (2003). Growing up in a family of educators, Prof Teo is both a passionate and exceptional educator, and has won numerous faculty and university awards for teaching excellence from both NUS and Oxford.





Panelist

Alan Lopez

Laureate Professor of Global Health

University of Melbourne
Australia

Professor Alan Lopez AC PhD FAHMS is a Melbourne Laureate Professor and the Rowden-White Chair of Global Health and Burden of Disease Measurement at The University of Melbourne. He is also Director of the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Group at Melbourne, Visiting Professor of Epidemiology and Director of the IHME-Big Data Institute Strategic Partnership at the University of Oxford, and an Affiliate Professor of Global Health at the University of Washington. He held prior appointments as Professor of Medical Statistics and Global Health, and Head of the School of Population Health at the University of Queensland and several senior technical and senior managerial posts at the World Health Organization in Geneva including Chief Epidemiologist in WHO's Tobacco Control Program, Director of WHO's Epidemiology and Burden of Disease Unit and Senior Science Advisor to the Director-General. More recently, he has led the Bloomberg Data for Health global initiative to improve the registration and certification of births, deaths and causes of death to better inform global and national investments for health development. He is the co-author with Christopher Murray of the seminal Global Burden of Disease Study (1996), and subsequent updates, which have greatly influenced global and national debates about priority setting and resource allocation in health. In 2018, Professors Lopez and Murray were awarded the John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award, for their ground-breaking work in conceptualizing and quantifying the Global Burden of Disease. He was awarded the Peter Wills Medal by Research Australia in 2014 for his outstanding contributions to building Australia's international reputation in health and medical research. Since 2015 he has been listed among Thompson Reuters Highly Cited (HiCi) Researchers in clinical medicine, with over 130,000 citations to his work, and in 2015 was ranked among the top 10 most cited scientists in the world by Thompson Reuters. He is a Foreign Associate Member of the US National Academy of Medicine and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences. In 2016 he was made a Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) for eminent service to science and to the advancement of planning and policy development to improve public health in developing countries.





Panelist

Julian Flowers

Head of Public Health Data Science

Public Health England
United Kingdom

Julian Flowers is a Consultant in Public Health Medicine at Public Health England and Honorary Professor at University College London, where he is helping develop the Centre for Public Health Data Science as part of the Institute for Health Informatics. At Public Health England he leads the recently established Public Health Data Science team. He has a long standing interest in health intelligence, having established one of the regional public health observatories in England and an equivalent NHS observatory. He now leads part of PHE's work on developing precision public health combining data science, marketing and digital inputs to make best use of routine and digital data to devise interventions to improve population health.





Panelist

Pairroj Saonuam

Director, Healthy Lifestyle Promotion Section

Thai Health Promotion Foundation (ThaiHealth)
Thailand

Dr.Pairoj Saonuam was trained as a medical doctor with Thai Board Certificate in Preventive Medicine (Epidemiology). Early in his career, he had served as a medical professional in a community hospital in the Northeast region of Thailand, giving him the perfect breeding ground for practicing health in a remote area. While, his daily practices also involved Disease Prevention and also Health Promotion. The rewarding experience has convinced him to enhance his expertise further by obtaining a PhD in Community Medicine at Chulalongkorn University in 2008. Since he started his career at Thai Health Promotion Foundation (ThaiHealth), he has overseen for 3 years in the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit. Currently, he has been appointed the Director of Healthy Lifestyle Promotion Section with the main responsibility on overall NCDs management, particularly on promoting healthy food, physical activity, and healthy media system. Dr.Pairoj also managed to spend time for academic development by serving as an invited lecturer in many universities and giving consultation on Monitoring and Evaluation.



