

PPP Academic Environment

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The Population, Policy and Practice Research and Teaching Department (PPP) is one of the five academic departments at GOS ICH. It has an international reputation based on its exceptional track record and multi-disciplinary expertise in the study of health and disease in childhood and for its teaching relating to child health.

We study the biological, behavioural, psychosocial and socioecological influences and processes that operate across an individual's life course to influence growth and development, broader health outcomes and the impact on family life. Our work spans the full translational pathway from population discovery science to clinical and health service delivery and policy implementation, developing the methods that best suit the research purpose.

With over 120 substantive and 60 honorary staff and over 40 PhD students at any time, PPP is a large and wide reaching department with mature active collaborations with clinicians and researchers from other disciplines across UCL, such as health economists and clinical operational researchers, as well as nationally and internationally.

In the three years to 2020, PPP attracted a grant income of over £24 million from various sources such as the Medical Research Council, National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), Economic and Social Research Council (in order of most frequent awarding bodies), and the European Union. A number of members of PPP are Fellows of the Academy of Medical Sciences or NIHR Senior Investigators. Many members provide independent scientific expertise on children's health to the World Health Organization, UK and other Governments, the NHS, and the UK's Health Research Authority and National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). Additionally many members contribute to policy, public health and clinical decision-making for children through roles in national and international bodies including relevant professional bodies such the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, the Faculty of Public Health, the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and the Royal Statistical Society. Several members are practicing clinicians at partner NHS Trusts, in particular at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

PPP makes significant contributions to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, leading and co-leading Masters Courses (Paediatrics and Child Health; Child and Adolescent Mental Health) and modules for the BSc in Population Health (The Life Course; Child and Adolescent Public Health), organization of the paediatrics component within the UCL MBBS course as well as contributing to teaching courses led by other departments. PhD students and early career researchers are actively encouraged and supported to make teaching contributions.

PPP has a strong track record in doctoral training of both clinical and non-clinical scientists.

PPP has both an Early Career Researcher Group and a Junior Faculty Group. Scientific exchange is promoted through a range of events from scientific special interest groups including the Informatics (or ICING) Group, the Statistics Group, and the Qualitative Research and the Public and Patient Involvement Group.

PPP is active and fully committed to advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, and to anti-racism, in the work place and in wider academia, with a PPP EDI group within which sit members of the ICH EDI and Race Equity Group.