University College
London
Dental Public Health Group
Annual Report 2009
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**Introduction**

The Dental Public Health (DPH) Group is one of the 12 research groups within the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at University College London (UCL). This report summarises the main research, teaching and NHS/policy activities undertaken by the DPH Group in 2009.

**Staffing**

- Professor Richard G Watt, Professor and Honorary Consultant in Dental Public Health
- Dr George Tsakos, Senior Lecturer in Dental Public Health
- Professor Aubrey Sheiham. Emeritus Professor in Dental Public Health
- Professor Martin Hobdell, Visiting Professor in Dental Public Health
- Dr Wael Sabbah, Research Fellow
- Louise Gregory, Teaching and Research Administrative Assistant

**Honorary Staff**

- Huda Yusuf, Specialist Registrar in Dental Public Health
- Jenny Donaghy, Consultant in Dental Public Health, Islington and Camden Primary Care Trusts.
- Dr Paul Batchelor, Consultant in Dental Public Health, Berkshire West Primary Care Trust.
- Dr George Gillespie, Honorary Lecturer in Dental Public Health
- Habib Benzian, Honorary Lecturer in Dental Public Health

**Current research projects**

Adult Dental Health Survey (England, Wales & Northern Ireland). Lead contractor Office for National Statistics with consortium of university partners including DPH UCL.

Exploratory and developmental trial of a family centred nutrition intervention delivered in Children’s Centres and the home environment. PI Richard Watt. Awarded by Food Standards Agency.
Development and testing of a social determinants model of oral health. PI Richard Watt. Awarded by National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, USA.


Testing the effects of tooth extraction (the OUT component of the WHO Basic Package of Oral Health Care) on increased velocity of weight gain and improvement in oral health related quality of life. A study on preschool underweight Filipino children with severe dental decay. Awarded by FDI World Dental Federation.

Publications

Journal publications


Other publications


NHS and Other Health Services Activity

Donaghy, J. (2009). Advice on implementation and evaluation of social marketing programme in NHS Islington to promote universal service uptake and reduce inequalities in access to NHS dental care.


Donaghy, J. (2009). Lead/Support to commissioning of research to identify barriers and motivators to dental service uptake among residents of Camden and Islington


Gillespie, G. (2009). CODEX – Contribution to revised labelling instructions for fluoride in food additives; discussions with WHO and FAO Representatives (Argentina, Peru); member electronic working group.

Gillespie, G. (2009). Continuous monitoring of salt fluoridation programmes and community impact. Involves analysis of legislative actions used internationally to implement various programmes; factors affecting implementation and evaluation of health impact, participation, costs, and sustainability.

Gillespie, G. (2009). Development of combined iodized and fluoridated salt for prevention of IDD and reduction in caries prevalence, with community wide access at sustainable cost


Postgraduate students

MSc in Dental Public Health
2009 was another very successful year for our MSc course with all students passing their exams in August and 2 distinctions were awarded to Mustaffa Jaapar and Salwana Supaat. The external examiner Dr Blanaid Daly (KCL) praised the performance and quality of our students work.

PhD students

Current students


Rai, H. Factors which may affect health care seeking behaviour following symptoms of angina amongst South Asians and Whites.

Dashti, S, Social determinants of early childhood caries.
Damaskinos, P. Exploring the oral health gradient in older people in Athens, Greece.

Abdul Murat, N. Oral health personnel planning in Malaysia.

Alzahrani, S. Clustering of oral and general health related behaviours in Saudi adolescents

Yusuf, H. Exploratory randomised controlled trial of an obesity prevention motivational interviewing intervention delivered in general dental practice.

Mathur, M. Social determinants of oral health inequalities in India.

Delgado-Angulo, E. Depression and oral health.

**PhDs awarded in 2009**

Congratulations to the following students who gained their UCL PhDs in 2009:


**Conference presentations**

Gillespie, G. 9th World Salt Symposium, Beijing, China,. Observations on the implementation of salt fluoridation. September 2009.

Gillespie, G. College of Dentists, Lima, Peru. Forum on Implementation of Salt Fluoridation, October 2009


Hobdell, MH. Master's Programme in Dental Public Health, University of Health Sciences, Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Course Coordinator and Teacher) April and November, 2009
Hobdell, MH. Master’s Programme in Dental Public Health, University of Health Sciences, Kingdom of Cambodia (Course Coordinator and Teacher) April and November, 2009


Tsakos G. Measuring Health Outcomes. Forum for Health Policy and Services, Kalambaka, Greece, 12th November 2009.


Watt, RG. Community participation for oral health promotion and evaluation. World Congress on Preventive Dentistry, Phuket, Thailand, 8th September 2009.


Watt, RG. Evaluation of oral health promotion programmes. UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico, 6th February 2009.


Watt, RG. Priorities and perspectives in dental public health research. University of Sao Paulo, Brasil, 25th May 2009

Watt, RG. Strategies and approaches in oral disease prevention and health promotion. UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico, 4th February 2009.

Watt, RG. The role of the dental community in smoking cessation interventions. Ministry of Health, Brunei, 12th September 2009.