

**BASHH**



# **BASHH Scientific Meeting**

Organised by HIV/BBV SIG & ASIG

20<sup>th</sup> March 2026

NCVO, Regents Wharf, 8 All Saints Street, London, N1 9RL

CPD Pending.

## Programme

Time	Session	Speaker
12:30	<b>Registration Opens</b>	
13:00	<b>Welcome Address</b>	Matthew Grundy-Bowers
13:05 – 14:35	<b>Session 1: HIV &amp; BBV Special Interest Group</b> <i>Session Chairs: Eleanor Hamlyn &amp; Lisa Hamzah</i>	
13:10	<b>UKHSA overview of PrEP stats</b>	Hamish Mohammed
13:30	<b>Exploring novel PrEP delivery</b>	Vikki Pearce
13:50	<b>PrEP in Community Pharmacy</b>	Deborah Gold
14:15	<b>Q &amp; A</b>	-
14:35	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	
14:55 – 16:20	<b>Session 2: Adolescent Sexual Health Special Interest Group   Communication &amp; interactions with Young People in Sexual Health</b> <i>Session Chairs: Nell Romilly Freeman &amp; Rebecca Thomson Glover</i>	
14:50	<b>Working with neurodiversity in sexual health</b>	Vicky Romilly and Robyn Lees
15:15	<b>Intimate examination and the neurodiverse patient – creating a realistic framework for clinicians</b>	Nell Freeman-Romilly
15:40	<b>Contextual safeguarding and confidentiality</b>	Najette Ayadi O'Donnell
16:25	Event Close	

## Sponsors

This meeting has been supported by pharmaceutical companies by way of exhibition stand space and sponsorship which is limited to funding the educational content of the meeting.



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## Speakers

### **Najette Ayadi O'Donnell**

Dr Najette Ayadi O'Donnell is a Consultant General Paediatrician at University College London Hospitals (UCLH) with specialist interests in adolescent health and complex safeguarding. She is Clinical Lead for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Adolescents and Children with Complex Conditions Service (TRACCS), where her work focuses on chronic fatigue syndrome, functional neurological disorders, and complex adolescent medicine. She was previously Lead for Health at The Lighthouse, the UK's only Child House for young people affected by sexual abuse.

She graduated in Medicine from Imperial College London (2010) and also holds an MSc in Child Health (UCL, 2021) and a BA in Political Science (University of Leeds, 2004). She is a member of the RCPCH and YPHSIG, with SPINs from the RCPCH in young people's health and child safeguarding. She was the first recipient of the Michelle Zalkin Scholarship and was named RCPCH Educational Supervisor of the Year by the RCPCH in 2023.

Alongside her clinical role, Dr Ayadi O'Donnell is College Tutor for the London School of Paediatrics at UCLH, an Honorary Lecturer at the UCL Institute of Child Health, and an experienced educator in adolescent health and safeguarding. She has developed Conversations for Life, a simulation-based

training course on communicating with vulnerable adolescents, and regularly contributes to national teaching and conferences.

**Nell Freeman-Romilly**

Dr Nell Freeman-Romilly BA (Hons Oxon), MA (LCC), MSc (LSHTM), MBBS (Imp) is a Sexual Health doctor and clinical academic at Oxfordshire Sexual Health Service, Oxford University Hospitals and a lecturer in Sexual Health for the University of Oxford Medical School. Nell reported on health and development for Getty Images in French and English speaking sub-Saharan Africa and worked in HIV and sexual health outreach at Terrence Higgins Trust before pursuing training and a career in clinical medicine. She is OSHS's departmental Young Persons' Champion and continues to provide regular teaching and outreach work to young people on HIV and sexual health.

**Deborah Gold**

Deborah Gold is a freelance consultant supporting organisations in the HIV sector. She is currently working with Terrence Higgins Trust to make progress on overcoming the barriers to making PrEP available via community pharmacies, following THT's publication of her report on this topic earlier this year. She is also the Independent Chair of the Patient and Public Voice Assurance Group for NHS England Specialised Commissioning. Previously, Deborah was the Chief Executive of the National AIDS Trust and of Galop, and has worked in a wide range of voluntary sector roles.

**Matthew Grundy Bowers**

Matthew has worked in HIV/Integrated Sexual Health since 1994 and in advanced practice roles since 1997. He became a consultant nurse (HIV/Sexual Health) at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust in 2005, Trust Lead for Advancing Practice in 2018. He was one of the first tranche of the National Institute for Health Research doctoral clinical fellows in 2010, his PhD research explored sexual risk-taking among HIV negative gay men. Matthew is Visiting Professor of HIV and Integrated Sexual Health at University of Greenwich, and is on the editorial board of the journal Sexually Transmitted Infections. He is the new chair of the Education Committee and Officer to the board of the British Association of Sexual Health & HIV. He is a former STI Foundation chair and executive member of the National HIV Nurses Association. In 2020, he was awarded the prestigious Fellowship of the RCN for his contribution to HIV/Sexual Health, advanced clinical practice, and interdisciplinary education.

**Eleanor Hamlyn**

Dr Elly Hamlyn is Consultant in HIV at the Royal Free Hospital where she is also the HIV antenatal lead and has a special interest in women living with HIV. She also has an interest in lifestyle medicine and

runs a weight loss programme for all patients attending the Ian Charleson Clinic at RFH. She is also a BASHH BBV Sig Co-chair.

**Lisa Hamzah**

Lisa Hamzah is an HIV and sexual health consultant at St George's Hospital, London and the BASHH Blood Borne Virus Specialist Interest Group co-chair

**Robyn Lees**

Robyn Lees is an autistic woman and qualified teacher for adults with a subject specialism in mental health recovery, social inclusion and autism.

Robyn worked in the voluntary sector within front line mental health services for a decade, following this she spent over another decade within NHS secure services where she led on recovery orientated education and coproduction within secure services. In the last 3 years Robyn established herself as an independent consultant and supports providers around a range of commissions that help shape, enable and foster better access, experiences and outcomes for communities that traditionally find themselves excluded.

Robyn is a mother of two and wife, and lives in the East Midlands, she passionately believes that communities concerned hold the best answers to the challenges they face and that compassion, regard and equality of opportunity are key. Robyn can be reached on [robyn.lees@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:robyn.lees@hotmail.co.uk)

**Hamish Mohammed**

Dr. Hamish Mohammed is a Consultant Epidemiologist at UKHSA leading national STI surveillance. He trained at Morehouse College and completed an MPH and PhD at Tulane University in the USA. His career includes serving as a CDC Epidemic Intelligence Officer, academic posts in the Caribbean, and extensive outbreak response work in the UK and internationally (mpox, COVID 19, Zika, Ebola, and polio). He is an Honorary Associate Professor at UCL. At UKHSA, he uses surveillance and research to address inequalities in STIs.

**Vikki Pearce**

Vikki Pearce is an experienced programme manager specialising in HIV and sexual health, with over 25 years' experience working across clinical services, commissioning and system improvement. She currently works as UK PrEP Grants Manager for the Elton John AIDS Foundation, managing pilot programmes designed to increase access to PrEP for underserved populations and to generate practical, evidence-informed blueprints for scale, spread and long-term sustainability across England. Vikki leads V Pearce Consulting and Associates Ltd and has extensive experience

supporting integrated sexual health services and service redesign. She is also a Trustee of the Martin Fisher Foundation and a Fellow of the Royal Society for Public Health.

**Vicky Romilly**

Vicky Romilly is a Speech and Language Therapist and a Consultant in Learning Disability and Autism. Vicky works part of her week for Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and has worked within her profession for many years recognising communication and interaction as central to safe and effective cultures across teams and in clinical practice. Vicky has worked across community services, psychiatric inpatient services and secure care, and more recently has loved the opportunity to work in partnership with voluntary sector organisations. Vicky works to influence how we amplify signals to be learning organisations. She is passionate about addressing health inequalities, and with others enabling communities to be confident in offering adjustments and views collective leadership as central to such transformation.

**Rebecca Thomson-Glover**

As Chair of the BASHH Adolescent Special Interest Group (ASIG), Rebecca spearheads national efforts to improve safeguarding and clinical standards for young people. Alongside her role as a Consultant at Mersey and West Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, she champions youth healthcare access and leads professional education programmes designed to bridge the gap in specialist adolescent care.