

Keynote Speaker Bios

Professor Onno van Schayck

C.P. (Onno) van Schayck was born in Sorong Irian Jaya (New Guinea). After obtaining his PhD at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Nijmegen (The Netherlands), he started in 1990 as research coordinator at the Department of General Practice of the University of Nijmegen and, since 1996, also at the Department of General Practice of the University of Maastricht. In 1998 he was appointed Professor of Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Maastricht and the University of Nijmegen. For the past 12 years he has been in charge of 25 research projects, especially concerning the diagnosis and treatment of asthma and COPD in primary care.



In 1999 Onno was appointed as Research Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Maastricht. On 1 October 2000 he became Scientific Director of the Research Institute for Extramural and Transmural Health Care (ExTra) of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Maastricht. He is chair of two WHO commissions making the GINA and GOLD guidelines applicable for primary care. He is also chair of Scientific Group 1.7 (General Practice and Primary Care Group) of the Clinical Assembly of the European Respiratory Society (ERS).

Dr Christine Jenkins AM, MD, FRACP

Christine Jenkins is a thoracic physician at Concord Hospital and in private practice in North Sydney. Her clinical activity is in all areas of respiratory medicine. Her main area of interest is in airways disease, especially asthma and COPD. This began with clinical research, which formed the basis of her MD thesis on factors affecting airway hyperresponsiveness. Since then she has continued to have a strong clinical research interest in the treatment of airways disease, and runs the clinical trials unit at the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney. Christine was Chairman of the National Asthma Campaign (now the National Asthma Council) from 1996-2000 and contributed to its successful lobbying for asthma as a National Health Priority in Australia. She is a project leader in the Co-operative Research Centre for Asthma, which is funded by a joint Industry and Federal Government grant. Christine currently chairs the National Asthma Reference Group, which advises government on asthma issues. She has an active interest in guideline formulation and implementation, and in the evidence base that underpins best practice.



She is an active clinician, teaches undergraduate and postgraduate students and contributes regularly to GP educational initiatives in Australia. With Professor Ron Walls she has recently co-edited a textbook for students and GPs, Understanding Asthma. Christine was recently awarded an AM in the Order of Australia, for services to respiratory medicine, especially as a physician, administrator and educator, particularly in the field of asthma education.

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Professor David Price

After completing his medical degree at Cambridge University in 1984, David Price completed his general practitioner training in Norwich in 1989 where, apart from a year working in paediatrics in Sydney, Australia, he has worked as a general practitioner although now in a part-time capacity, and currently practices at Thorpewood Surgery, Norwich, UK.



In February 2000 he was appointed General Practice Airways Group Professor of Primary Care Respiratory Medicine at the University of Aberdeen - a 550-mile commute from Norwich! David is extensively involved in primary care education and research. He also heads a consortium of seven primary-care centres in the Suffolk and Norfolk areas of the UK. He is currently responsible for grants in excess of US \$4 million with governmental, charitable and pharmaceutical bodies.

David Price's special areas of interest in primary care respiratory management are new treatments for respiratory disease, "real-life" effectiveness and cost effectiveness, compliance/adherence and patients' attitudes to their disease. He is an active member of the UK General Practice Airways Group (GPIAG) and International Primary Care Respiratory Group (IPCRG).

Dr H. John Fardy, MBBS (UNSW), DRCOG (London), FRACGP

After some years in rural general practice, John was the inaugural Director of the General Practice Training Unit for the Illawarra Area Health Service in the Wollongong Region of New South Wales. Currently, he is on secondment to the University of New South Wales setting up the Illawarra and Shoalhaven Medical Teaching Program, a part of the St George Clinical School. His clinical practice is in general practice in Gerringong on the South Coast of NSW.



John is the Chairman of the National Asthma Council Australia's General Practitioners' Asthma Group (GPAG). He is also Co-President (with Prof. J.J. Reid of New Zealand) of the International Primary Care Respiratory Group (IPCRG).

Dr Isobel Martin, MPH, PhD

After extensive experience as a health professional, Isobel Martin worked for 10 years in full-time respiratory research with the Canterbury Respiratory Research Group, Christchurch School of Medicine, before taking up a position as Senior Lecturer and Director of the RNZCGP Research Unit, in the Department of General Practice, Dunedin School of Medicine, University of Otago, New Zealand.



Her research focus is on allergy, asthma and other respiratory diseases. Recent research in the UK looked at quality of life and patient compliance with allergen avoidance measures. Current research includes a large epidemiological study looking at the attitudes and beliefs about allergen avoidance in health professionals and patients. This experience has led to her being involved in the recent development of the New Zealand Asthma Guidelines.

Professor Richard Beasley

Richard Beasley is the Director of the Medical Research Institute of New Zealand, Visiting Professor at the University of Southampton, United Kingdom, and Consultant Physician at Wellington Hospital, New Zealand. He is a member of the Dissemination Committee of GINA and an Executive Member of ISAAC. His research interests in the field of asthma include management and epidemiology. He received the World Lung Health Award in 2002.



Associate Professor Cheong Pak Yean

Cheong Pak Yean is Adjunct Associate Professor, Community, Occupational and Family Medicine Department, Faculty of Medicine at the University of Singapore, and President of the College of Family Physicians, Singapore. He teaches undergraduate and postgraduate family medicine. His interest in respiratory medicine stems from his postgraduate internal medicine training in chest hospitals in both Singapore and Edinburgh and the development of skill courses in management of bronchial asthma for CME and post-graduate medical education.



He is the Advisor for Family Medicine, Ministry of Health Singapore, and sits on the boards of the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) and the National Healthcare Group (NHG) Singapore.