



COMET 2020 Webinar series

Following the COVID-19 global outbreak earlier this year, the COMET Management Group has made the difficult decision to postpone COMET VIII until it is safe to go ahead with the meeting, and a new date for this meeting will be confirmed as soon as it is possible to do so. As we had already started to plan an exciting programme for COMET VIII, we still want to be able to share this with you. We are therefore planning a webinar series that will start on October the 8th and 9th 2020, with two consecutive webinars on the days that would have been COMET VIII, followed by once a fortnight after that. More details about forthcoming webinars will be announced as they become available.

You will need to register **for each** webinar separately.

To participate in a webinar you will need:

- a device such as a computer, tablet or smartphone (with sound facilities);
- access to the internet,
- the webinar link (which will be sent in an email prior to the event).

With the permission of speakers, a recording of each webinar will be made available on the COMET website after the event.

If you have any questions regarding this webinar series, please email: info@comet-initiative.org



**Professor
Hywel
Williams**

**Thursday 8th October 2020
12.00-13.00 BST**

**Hywel Williams, University of
Nottingham**

**“Are you still troubled by research
waste?”**

Despite Chalmers and Glasziou¹ calling for the research community to reduce wasteful research in 2009, I still witness a lot of research waste in my various roles as researcher and funder. I see waste in terms of uninformative duplication of effort due to failure to check what is already known, answering research questions that are not prioritised by research users, using outcomes that are of limited meaning to end users, failure to design research in a way that minimises bias, poor reporting of studies, failure to publish or publication of a selection of favourable outcomes, and the lack of use of core outcomes that enable results from one study to be combined with others in order to produce a more meaningful interpretation of the totality of evidence. I will explain what I mean through the lens of my own field of skin disease research, reflect on the reasons why such undesirable behaviour patterns persist and suggest some solutions going forward including how we are trying to tackle the problem through the NIHR adding value in research strategy.

References

¹ Chalmers I, Glasziou P. Avoidable waste in the production and reporting of research evidence. *Lancet*. 2009;374(9683):86-89. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(09)60329-9

[Register for the event here](#)



**Professor
Paula
Williamson**



**Dr Sarah
Gorst**

**Friday 9th October 2020
13.00-14.00 BST**

**Paula Williamson and Sarah Gorst,
University of Liverpool**

**“What the COMET database tells us
about the development
and content of core outcome sets”**

The COMET Initiative has successfully brought together the international core outcome set (COS) literature in an online database¹. Annual completion of a systematic review of COS for research² ensures that the database is kept up-to date, and the database is continually updated as we identify eligible studies. In this webinar we will share with you what we see as key findings across the body of evidence about COS in the COMET database, including an overview of the outcomes that are included in COS, the methods of development used, the different stakeholders involved, and the countries that participants come from, amongst other topics. We will also present and discuss work to date on COS for COVID-19³, including the lessons learnt about raising awareness of work on this topic, ways to disseminate COS more widely and the steps taken to promote the use of COS for COVID-19 research.

References

¹ <http://www.comet-initiative.org/studies/search>

² <http://www.comet-initiative.org/Resources/SystematicReviews>

³ <http://www.comet-initiative.org/Studies/Details/1538>

[Register for the event here](#)

**Tuesday 20th October 2020
14.00-14.45 BST**



**Dr Eleanor
Perfetto**



John Turner



Heather Bagley

**Eleanor Perfetto, National Health
Council (NHC)**

Title to be confirmed

**John Turner (Public Co-Chair of
COMET's PoPPIE Working Group)
and Heather Bagley (COMET's
Patient and Public Involvement
Co-ordinator)**

**“Resources to support core outcome
set developers including patients in
their work – an update”**

COMET has a range of resources to support the input of patients in core outcome set work. Join John Turner and Heather Bagley in this webinar to find out more about the resources available and the activities of COMET's PoPPIE Working Group.

[Register for the event here](#)

Tuesday 3rd November 2020
14.00-15.00 GMT

Contributed session

Speakers to be confirmed

[Register for the event here](#)



Karen Hughes



**Dr Ian
Saldanha**



**Professor
Paula
Williamson**

**Thursday 19th November 2020
14.00-15.00 GMT**

**Karen Barnes (University of
Liverpool)**

**“Can funders help to address the
variation in core outcome set uptake
across different health areas?”**

This talk will present the findings of a systematic review that brought together studies that had assessed the uptake of a core outcome set, exploring variation across health areas and the possible barriers to uptake. It will then consider the impact that a trial funder can have on facilitating core outcome set uptake.

Ian Saldanha (Brown University)

**“Are systematic reviewers using
outcomes in core outcome sets?”**

This talk will summarize recent assessments of the incorporation of core outcome sets into systematic reviews from Cochrane and from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Evidence-based Practice Centers (EPCs).

**Paula Williamson (University of
Liverpool)**

**“Uptake of core outcome sets
through the health care ecosystem”**

[Register for the event here](#)