

“Evidence to Action”

Debates about the use of evidence in policy often stir up discussion and debate among academics, policy makers and practitioners as well as non-governmental organizations in the field of advocacy. The shift in the language from ‘evidence-based’ policy to the more measured evidence-informed policy making is a subtle sign of change.

At the heart of the debate is the imperative for evidence-based or evidence-informed age-related policy. This plenary panel comprises several of the most experienced and published academics in the field of ageing who discuss the step-wise progression of policies against the landscape of a nation’s demographic profile.

How can the tension inherent in the use of evidence in policy making affect researchers (particularly social science researchers) and policy makers; and where can the interface of research and politics find a common ground –resulting in the best possible solution for society.

Expert Speakers



Dr. Linda Fried
Mailman School of
Public Health, Columbia
University,
UNITED STATES



Dr. William Reichman
Baycrest Health
Sciences,
CANADA



Dr. Emine Özmete
Center on Ageing
Studies, Ankara
University,
TURKEY



Dr. Hal Kendig
Center for Research on
Health and Well Being,
Australia National
University, AUSTRALIA

Panelists



Dr. Linda Fried, United States of America

Dr. Fried is the Dean and DeLamar Professor of Public Health at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, as well as the Senior Vice President of the Columbia University Medical Center and Professor of Medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Prior to joining Columbia University in 2008, Dr. Fried served as the Mason F. Lord Professor of Geriatric Medicine and Director of Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology and of The Center on Aging and Health at The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions.

An internationally renowned expert in epidemiology and geriatrics, Dr. Fried has dedicated her career to the science of healthy aging, particularly the prevention of frailty, disability, and chronic diseases, and has led the scientific discoveries as to the definition and causes of frailty. She is the co-founder of Experience Corps, a senior volunteer program to bring the social capital of older adults to bear to improve the successful academic outcomes of children, while also an evidence-based model for health promotion for older adults. Dr. Fried is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, most recently the 2012 Longevity Prize of the Fondation Ipsen and the 2012 Silver Scholars Award of the Alliance for Aging Research. Dr. Fried is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine and of the Association of American Physicians, where she serves on the governing Council. She is a member of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on an Aging World and the Task Force on Social Protection, and of the MacArthur Network on an Aging Society.

Dr. Fried has been named a "Living Legend in Medicine" by the U.S. Congress.

Dr. Fried is a board-certified internist and geriatrician, with postdoctoral training at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions in geriatrics, general internal medicine and epidemiology (cardiovascular and aging). She received her M.D. from Rush Medical College and M.P.H. from the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health.



Dr. William Reichman, Canada

Dr. William E. Reichman is President and Chief Executive Officer of Baycrest Health Sciences, one of the world's premier academic health sciences centres focused on aging and brain function. Dr. Reichman, an internationally-known expert in geriatric mental health and dementia, is also a professor of Psychiatry in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto. He is a noted global authority on the delivery of mental health and dementia services in nursing home settings. Among his accomplishments, Dr. Reichman is a former president of the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry and the

Geriatric Mental Health Foundation, and he has served as a consultant to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice on dementia and mental health-care delivery within nursing homes. For his dedication to his field, Dr. Reichman has received a variety of awards and honours. Among these, he has been named among the Best Doctors in America and Canada and he has previously been recognized by the New Jersey Society on Aging as Gerontologist of the Year.



Dr. Emine Özmete, Turkey

Dr. Emine Özmete is professor at Ankara University, at the Department of Social Work. She is the head of the Center on Aging Studies at Ankara University and is conducting her studies about quality of life, well-being, social capital, life skill education, and resource management in the family. In 2012, EU announced it as the year of active aging and international solidarity and on March there was the week of respect for elderly people in Turkey, Prof. Özmete lead the International Solidarity and Active Aging Symposium which was organized by Family and Social Policies Ministry and Center on Aging Studies of Ankara University. Also she organized the Aging and Health: Good Health Adds Life to Years Symposium with World Health Organization Turkey Office and Center on Aging Studies of Ankara University when the World Health Organization designated the aging and health as the subject of the agenda for World Health Day at April 7, 2012.



Dr. Hal Kendig, Australia

Hal Kendig is Professor of Ageing and Public Policy in the Centre for Research on Ageing, Health, and Wellbeing in the Research School of Population Health at the Australian National University. He previous served as National Convenor of the ARC/NHMRC Research Network in Ageing Well, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Sydney, and Director of the ARC Key Centre in Gerontology at La Trobe University.

He is a Chief Investigator on the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR) (2011-2017) leading research on healthy and productive ageing, aged care and health services, and social determinants of health inequalities over the life course. With Professor Colette Browning from Monash University he co-directs the NHMRC-funded Melbourne Longitudinal Surveys of Healthy Ageing (MELSHA).

Professor Kendig has more than 250 publications and he contributes actively to policy development and public debate. He is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, Distinguished Member for Outstanding Service of the Australian Association of Gerontology, and serves on the editorial boards of leading journals in ageing and public health. In 2003 he was awarded the Prime Minister's Centenary Medal for 'outstanding service to aged care and healthy ageing through social sciences' and in 2008 he was invited to contribute to the Prime Minister's Australia 2020 Summit.