

Making and Embedding Transformation Post-COVID

The future of managing rheumatology conditions in the community
12.30-13.45 Wednesday 26 May 2021

Speaker Bios

Dr Krisztina Szabo-Kocsis, Consultant Rheumatologist, South West Essex Community Rheumatology Service, Connect Health

Dr Szabo-Kocsis has been working as a Consultant Rheumatologist since 2008 both in NHS and private services. She has worked in the Royal Free and the Haywood Hospitals and in the Isle of Wight NHS Trust.

Krisztina has an MSc in Health Economics as well as significant experience in leadership and management of private and state health services. She has joined Connect Health in November 2018. She provides professional support for our Community Rheumatology Services nationwide and runs clinics in the South West Essex Service.



Krisztina is a keen improver and facilitates staff training, as well as service development. As an experienced NHS clinician, she provides a professional link to the local NHS Trusts to improve collaboration between the services.

[@kocsis_szabo](#)

Fen Kiple, Surviving Pain Advocate. Seronegative Inflammatory Arthritis, Raynaud's Phenomenon, Fibromyalgia, Joint Hypermobility and Osteoarthritis.

As a result of an RTA, Fen has lived with persistent pain for 16 years, undergone two spinal surgeries, tried nearly every type of medication and lost count of how many 'pain management' regimes were foisted upon her. In her own words, her pain journey has been extremely frustrating; often being subjected to condescending attitudes and disbelief by supposedly 'knowledgeable' clinicians. Their approach led Fen to spend a significant amount of time focussing on what she couldn't do rather than what she could. She became depressed, lost her identity and zest for life, and felt worthless. After making the decision to research alternative treatments, access a different pain management service, and realising that she is not just her pain, she now considers herself a pain survivor. Fen is still on her pain journey, but having a greater understanding of pain ensures that any decisions about her healthcare are no longer made without her input and agreement. Fen is actively involved in the Flippin' Pain™ campaign, and as an advocate, seeks ongoing improvements to pain management and wider, inclusive engagement for all those dealing with persistent pain.



Dr Benjamin Ellis, Consultant Rheumatologist, Head of Specialty, Rheumatology at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, Senior Clinical Policy Advisor, Versus Arthritis

Benjamin works part time as consultant rheumatologist at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, where he is Head of Specialty, and at the NW London Integrated Care System he leads the work on Personalisation of MSK Care. Since 2010 he has combined clinical work with his role as senior clinical policy advisor to Versus Arthritis. In 2008, he undertook a two-year secondment to work as both clinical advisor to the England Chief Medical Officer and programme manager at WHO Patient Safety, and subsequently completed his master of public health degree at John's Hopkins. His interests include promoting a public health approach to musculoskeletal health, improving the extent and quality of musculoskeletal health data and developing systems to support self-management for people with long-term conditions.



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[Benjamin Ellis | LinkedIn](#)

Maria Cunningham, Rheumatology Clinical Nurse Specialist, Herts Valley Integrated MSK Service

Maria is a member of the RCN, BSR and BMAS with a First-Class Honours in Midwifery. She has been providing multifaceted healthcare specialties, in the private and public sector, for eighteen years; from working as a Children's Public Health Nurse to leading nurses in a care home. She has also enjoyed running an acupuncture clinic, participating in a Coronavirus testing programme and carrying out health checks for secondary school teachers. She has taken part in many Rheumatology research studies over the years, and is passionate about bringing her knowledge to the Rheumatology Service in the community.



[Maria Cunningham | LinkedIn](#)

Dr Louise Warburton, GPwSI Rheumatology; senior lecturer Keele University, Associate Medical Director, Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust
M.B. Ch.B. DFFP.DRCOG. FRCGP. DM-SMed

I graduated from Manchester University in 1985 and have worked as a GP since then. I obtained the Diploma in Musculoskeletal Medicine in 2009. I am a fellow of the Royal College of General Practitioners. I am currently a GPwSI in Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Medicine for NHS Telford and Wrekin and Medical Lead for Telford MKS service, seeing a wide variety of patients with MSK and Rheumatology problems.



I am an Associate Medical Director for Shropshire Community NHS Trust, a Primary Care Adviser to Versus Arthritis, an Honorary Senior Lecturer at Keele University and a Fellow of NICE. I am also past President of the Primary Care Rheumatology Society and was a trustee of ARMA until recently. I was a member of the Guidelines Development Group who prepared the NICE Guidelines for the Management of Rheumatoid Arthritis in Adults which was released in 2009 and also recently updated in 2018 , and I was involved in the Guidelines for Spondyloarthritis and now the Quality Standards for Rheumatoid Arthritis.

I have edited a textbook of musculoskeletal disorders for Primary Care for the Royal College of GPs; this is part of their curriculum series. I have been involved in GP education for a number of years; Rheumatology and MSK education in the main and have arranged several MSK conferences for the RCGP and Keele University. I am a member of the British Society for Rheumatology Education and Training Committee. I was the Medical Editor of Hands On for ARUK for a number of years.

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[Louise Warburton | LinkedIn](#)