

ORAL HEALTH & HOMELESSNESS MASTERCLASS

21st October 2025, 3.30-5pm

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Dr Sarah Kaddour

Dr Sarah Kaddour is an NHS Consultant in Dental Public Health. Since graduating as a dentist from the University of Sheffield she has worked in both primary and secondary care. After completing a Masters in Dental Public Health, she joined the specialty training in London. During her time in speciality training, she developed a keen interest in homeless health and inclusion health.

She chaired London's Homeless Oral Health Steering group and led an extensive pan-London oral health needs assessment for those experiencing homelessness. This work has since been published and directly contributed to equitable dental service design in London. Sarah was intensely involved in the public health COVID-19 response for homeless populations, including working at the London Coronavirus Response Cell, COVID-19 vaccination and flu vaccination programmes. She now leads on inclusion oral health in the West Midlands.

Lyndsey Withers

Lyndsey's background is in biological and agricultural research and development, with 35 years of experience in national and international activities. She has also held training, information, science writing and senior management roles. Since retiring, Lyndsey has been involved in volunteering with community projects supporting people experiencing homelessness, and in research and teaching within the University of Plymouth Faculty of Health. The latter activities have emphasised health equity, inclusion and access.

Lyndsey has been involved from its earliest stages in the development of the Community Clinic within Plymouth's Peninsula Dental Social Enterprise, also contributing to related teaching and research. The Clinic comes under the umbrella of HIPP - the Health Inclusion Pathway, Plymouth - a vital partner in reaching some of the most disadvantaged patients in the community. In parallel with these activities, Lyndsey volunteers with University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust as a Patient Safety Partner, endeavouring to bring the patient voice and perspective to clinical discussions and practice as impacting on patient safety and experience.

Dr Martha Paisi

Martha is the Research Lead at Peninsula Dental Social Enterprise (PDSE), the clinical provider for the Peninsula Dental School at the University of Plymouth. She also holds a Senior Research Fellow position in Public Health within the School of Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Plymouth. She currently leads the multidisciplinary

Southwest Oral Health Inclusion Group and has been a community volunteer for several years supporting people experiencing homelessness and other disadvantage. Martha is a strong advocate for inclusive and multidisciplinary health services, with a deep commitment to improving population health and reducing health inequalities. Her primary research focuses on health equity and advancing dental care for individuals with complex needs. Martha has led numerous funded projects aimed at improving oral health and expanding access to dental services for vulnerable populations. Her work spans diverse groups, including those experiencing severe and multiple disadvantages (such as homelessness, repeat offending, and problematic substance/alcohol use), asylum seekers, refugees, looked-after children, care leavers, and autistic children and young people.

Martha's inclusive approach to research with marginalised populations has resulted in the co-development of innovative dental care pathways tailored to vulnerable groups, including the pioneering work at the PDSE's Community Clinic, now part of the Health Inclusion Pathway Plymouth team. These efforts have garnered national recognition and awards.

Dr Laura Smith

Dr Laura Smith is a Specialty Registrar in Special Care Dentistry with a university background in Biochemistry and Dentistry. After completing her Dental Foundation Training, she undertook Dental Core Training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Special Care Dentistry before beginning her Specialty Registrar training within Birmingham Community Health Care (BCHC) NHS Foundation Trust.

Laura's clinical and academic interests focus on enhancing care for vulnerable patient groups and has authored publications on this topic. With an active involvement in service development and education, she is the dental representative for the BCHC Homelessness Steering Group and is supporting the development of the Postgraduate Virtual Learning Environment (PGVLE) platform for Specialty Registrars. As a contributing member of the Special Care Dentistry Special Interest Group, she is involved in conducting critical appraisals to support evidence-based practice within the specialty. In addition, she delivers undergraduate teaching lectures to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) students at the University of Birmingham.