



Meet the Faculty

Professor Bo Abrahamsen, Consultant Endocrinologist

(Holbæk Hospital, Holbæk, Denmark)



Bo Abrahamsen is an endocrinologist by training and primarily treats patients with osteoporosis, metabolic bone diseases and parathyroid disorders. He attended Medical School in Odense, Denmark and Experimental Pathology at St. Andrews, UK, and did part of his PhD lab work in Worcester, MA, USA.

A Consultant Endocrinologist at Holbæk Hospital, he is Professor of Clinical Database Research at the University of Southern Denmark and a Visiting Professor in Musculoskeletal Epidemiology at University of Oxford. His research interests include fracture- and lifecourse epidemiology, and the safety and efficacy of anti-osteoporosis drugs and supplements.

Professor Abrahamsen is President of the European Calcified Tissue Society, served on both ASBMR Task Forces on Atypical Femur Fractures, received the Golden Femur award in 2010 and has been a member of the Board of Directors of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research.

Professor David Armstrong, Consultant Rheumatologist

(Western Health Trust, Londonderry, Northern Ireland, UK)



Professor Armstrong trained as rheumatologist in Belfast and Manchester, before taking up his first consultant post in County Durham.

Moving back to Northern Ireland in 2008, he set up a Fracture Liaison Service and Osteoporosis Clinic in his Trust, and now sees a wide range of common and rare bone diseases from across Northern Ireland. He has a particular interest in Pregnancy Associated Osteoporosis, and in nutrition. He is a Visiting Professor at the Nutrition Innovation Centre for Food and Health at Ulster University, Vice Chair of the Clinical and Research Committee of the Royal Osteoporosis Society, and a member of the Expert Advisory Group for NOGG. He publishes widely on various bone related subjects including on vitamin D, and is at present the Editor of the Ulster Medical Journal.

He also co-presents the award-winning podcast BoneUp, with Dr Richie Abel from Imperial College, covering a wide range of clinical and research topics in bone metabolism and related conditions. The show features regular live episodes recorded at international conferences, giving early career professionals a chance to have their research and practice recognised.

Dr Katie Barber, GP and Women's Health and Menopause Specialist, Founder and Clinical Director
(Oxford Menopause Ltd, Oxford, UK)

	Dr Katie Barber has worked as a GP in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire since 2006. She works across the NHS and private sector as a GP, women's health and menopause specialist. From 2020-2026 Katie was Clinical Lead of the Community Gynaecology Service (NHS) in Oxfordshire, a primary care women's health hub launched in 2020 which has reduced waiting times and improved access to specialist menopause and women's health care. She has been awarded the Advanced Certificate of Menopause Care by the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare/British Menopause Society and is a registered British Menopause Society menopause specialist. In 2020, Katie launched Oxford Menopause, a private menopause and women's health service providing individualised, evidence-based advice, care and treatment for women's health led by British Menopause Society menopause specialists, with a clinic based in South Oxfordshire, expanding in 2024 to include private GP services for the local population. Katie served as a member of the British Menopause Society medical advisory council from 2022-25 and has been involved in development of national guidelines and education within this role. Katie lectures and educates across the public and private sector in the UK for the public, corporate organisations and health care professionals and provides expert insight and guidance in developing pathways for menopause and women's healthcare across the NHS.
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Professor Alex Comninou, Consultant in Endocrinology & General Internal Medicine
(Imperial College, London, UK)

	Professor Alex Comninou is a Consultant Endocrinologist and Professor of Practice at Imperial College London, where he heads the Imperial Endocrine Bone Unit. His clinical interests include reproductive-bone disorders, complex osteoporosis and calcium disorders. He also established and leads the nationally-leading Imperial Fracture Liaison Service. His research focuses on reproductive hormones and their influence on behaviour and bone health, with over 100 publications and research funding from the Wellcome Trust, NIHR and MRC. Alex performed the early discovery studies underpinning the development of the recently approved NK3R antagonists for menopausal hot flushes and is currently investigating several clinical applications of kisspeptin. Alex has contributed to national bone guidelines and holds several national and international leadership positions. He sits on the UK Society for Endocrinology Council, the US Endocrine Society Research Committee and the Pregnancy-Associated Osteoporosis UK Scientific Committee. He is also a Royal Osteoporosis Society Advisor, Co-Lead for Bone & Calcium at the European Society of Endocrinology and was Co-Chair of the UK National Osteoporosis Conference in 2026. He has delivered invited lectures internationally, including as a Visiting Professor at Harvard, and his research has received international media attention through television documentaries, live television and radio. He has also presented on bone health to senior government and NHS leaders, including the UK Health Minister.
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	His contributions have been recognised through several national and international prizes, most recently the RCP-NIHR National Research Delivery Researcher Prize, recognising NHS clinicians who successfully integrate research and innovation into clinical practice.
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Sarah Connacher (RN), Lead Specialist Nurse Practitioner

(Fracture Prevention & Osteoporosis Service, Oxfordshire Fracture Prevention Service, Oxford, UK)

	I trained at Southampton University and qualified with a Bachelor of Nursing in 2004. I began my career as a Trauma Nurse at Oxford University Hospitals before joining the Oxfordshire Fracture Prevention Service in 2011. Since then, I've progressed from Nurse Specialist to Clinical Nurse Lead for our Gold Standard FLS, a role I've held since 2020. I also chair the South Central Fracture Reduction Group and lead the Steering Group for the development of a new ICB wide Fracture Liaison Service. My specialist interests include nurse leadership, effective FLS delivery, and management of high-risk fracture patients. I recently completed my MSc in Health Sciences with a specialist focus on leadership and quality improvement.
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Professor Emma Duncan

Professor of Clinical Endocrinology *(Kings College London, London, UK)* & **Honorary Consultant**

Endocrinologist *(Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK)*

	Since her undergraduate days studying medicine at the University of Sydney, Prof Emma Duncan has been fascinated by endocrinology in general and the skeleton specifically, which has led to adventures around the globe. A long stint in the UK encompassed a PhD in osteoporosis genetics and clinical training in endocrinology; and she returned to Australia in 2005. Since then, Prof Duncan has published multiple high-impact papers into the genetics of osteoporosis and skeletal dysplasias, in addition to publications in MODY [maturity-onset diabetes of the young], pheochromocytomas and paragangliomas, thyroid cancer, and obstetric medicine. Prof Duncan's practical experience in gene mapping includes genetic epidemiology, linkage, genome-wide association studies, and massively parallel sequencing (MPS) technologies; and she has played a pioneering role in the translation of genetic technologies into clinical practice. Prof Duncan continues to practise medicine as a consultant physician and specialist in endocrinology. She contributes to leadership and governance nationally and internationally, serving as President of the Australian and New Zealand Bone and Mineral Society and on Council for the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research. Prof Duncan recently moved (mid-pandemic) back to the UK, to take up her new appointment as Professor of Clinical Endocrinology, King's College London.
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Professor Celia Gregson, Consultant Geriatrician
(University of Bristol, Bristol, UK)



Celia Gregson is a Professor of Clinical Epidemiology and a NIHR Global Health Research Professor of Healthy Ageing, leading the Global Health and Ageing Research Unit at the University of Bristol and co-directing the Health Research Unit of Zimbabwe within the Biomedical Research and Training Institute in Harare. She is an Honorary Consultant Orthogeriatrician at the Royal United Hospital NHS Foundation Trust in Bath, UK.

Following physician training she was awarded a Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Training Fellowship. She completed a one-year MSc in Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and then a PhD at the University of Bristol, during which she set up the UK DINAG consortium (DXA-databases to Identify Novel Anabolic Genes). She then worked as a Senior Scientist at the MRC Lifecourse Epidemiology Unit at the University of Southampton, before completing an Arthritis Research UK Clinician Scientist Fellowship at the University of Bristol studying the molecular genetics of High Bone Mass.

In 2018, Celia and colleagues founded the 'Sub-Saharan African MuSculOskeletal Network' (SAMSON), which she co-directs. This network aims to build musculoskeletal research capacity across the region. She leads a Wellcome funded programme 'Fractures in sub-Saharan Africa: Epidemiology, Economic impact and Ethnography' (Fractures-E3), working with colleagues in The Gambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. In 2022 Celia was awarded a NIHR Global Health Professorship in Healthy Ageing in sub-Saharan Africa.

In the UK, Celia's research, initially funded by the Royal Osteoporosis Society, identified persistent (and growing) health inequalities in hip fracture incidence and outcomes. Celia then secured funding from Arthritis UK for the REDUCE Study, which investigated unwarranted variation in the delivery of hip fracture services in England and Wales (2019-2023), launching the REDUCE Study Hip Fracture Implementation Toolkit in 2023, in collaboration with the Royal Osteoporosis Society (<https://theros.org.uk/healthcare-professionals/clinical-quality-hub/clinical-quality-toolkits/hip-fractures/>).

Celia chairs the National Osteoporosis Guideline Group in the UK and sits on the Royal College of Physicians Falls and Fragility Fracture Audit Programme Scientific and Publications Committee, she is a clinical advisor to the Royal Osteoporosis Society, and a member of the WHO Clinical Consortium on Healthy Ageing. She is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London.

Professor Kassim Javaid, Professor in Osteoporosis and Rare Bone Diseases

(Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, Oxford, UK)



Dr Javaid is an adult rheumatologist at the Oxford University Hospitals NHS trust and an Professor in Osteoporosis and Rare Bone Diseases at the University of Oxford.

He specializes in clinical and research of common and rare metabolic bone diseases. He is the clinical lead for Oxford Fracture Prevention Service and the national Fracture Liaison Service Audit for England and Wales run through the Royal College of Physicians.

Internationally, he co-chairs the International Osteoporosis Foundation Capture the Fracture programme that has audited over 400 services globally. He is clinical lead for the Oxford Rare bone disease service for adults and the national 100,000 Genomes Clinical Interpretation partnership for musculoskeletal conditions. His research interests include epidemiology of musculoskeletal diseases with a focus on rare diseases of the bone, vitamin D and secondary fracture prevention.

Professor Richard Keen, Consultant Rheumatologist

(Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, UK)



Professor Richard Keen graduated from St Mary's Hospital Medical School. After his general professional training in London and Sheffield, he started specialist training in Rheumatology. His PhD examined the genetic epidemiology of postmenopausal osteoporosis. He was appointed to the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital in 1999 and is currently Director of the Metabolic Bone Disease Centre.

The Centre sees patients both nationally and internationally with a wide range of bone diseases, and Professor Keen's team is actively involved in clinical research studies evaluating new treatments for these conditions.

Professor Tahir (Tash) Masud, Consultant Physician in Internal and Geriatric Medicine

(Nottingham University Hospital, NHS Trust, Nottingham, UK)



Professor Masud is a Consultant Physician in Geriatric and General Medicine at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and an Honorary Professor of Geriatric Medicine at the University of Nottingham. After his undergraduate training at the University of Oxford and St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, he gained his postgraduate training in London and Newcastle-Upon-Tyne and research training as a Research Fellow in St Thomas' Hospital London.

He has a research and clinical interest in osteoporosis and falls and has published widely in these areas. He has previously been a scientific advisor to the Royal Osteoporosis Society and is the main organiser of the annual International Conference on Falls and Postural Stability, and the co-organiser of the annual national Course in Osteoporosis and Metabolic Bone Disease. He also has Visiting Professorship at the University of Southern Denmark and has also served as the Clinical Sub-Dean at the University of Nottingham Medical School.

He is a recent Past President of the British Geriatrics Society (BGS), the former President of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS)-Geriatric Medicine Section, the current Secretary of the Clinical Section of the International Association of Geriatrics and Gerontology (IAGG)-European Region, and is the President Elect of the European Geriatric Medicine Society (EuGMS).

Professor Terence O'Neill, Professor of Rheumatology and Clinical Epidemiology

(University of Manchester, Manchester, UK)



Professor O'Neill qualified in Medicine (MB BCH BAO) from Dublin University in 1984. After completing general medical training in Dublin, he worked for a year as registrar in rheumatology in Bath. Following this he was appointed as clinical research fellow at the arc epidemiology research unit in Manchester. After completing an MD he completed a further two years training as specialist registrar in rheumatology on the north west rotation before being appointed as a consultant rheumatologist.

He was appointed Senior Lecturer at the University of Manchester in 1997, Reader in 2007 and Professor of Rheumatology and Clinical Epidemiology in 2011.

His research has focused on characterising the epidemiology of osteoporosis and the major osteoporotic fractures in men and women, and more recently the occurrence and predictors of musculoskeletal frailty. As a member of the 'Research in Osteoarthritis Manchester (ROAM)' team he has been involved in the design and conduct of clinical trials of therapies for osteoarthritis.

Dr Karen Partington, Consultant Musculoskeletal Radiologist
(Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford University Hospitals Trust, Oxford, UK)



Karen Partington is a Consultant Musculoskeletal Radiologist at the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust. After graduating from Glasgow University, Karen completed the MRCS and surgical training on the West of Scotland Surgical Programme, and then general radiology training and the FRCR on the Leeds Radiology Training Scheme. She completed a post CCST Musculoskeletal Radiology fellowship at the Oxford Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre before being appointed to a consultant post in Oxford in early 2014.

Karen has an active role in teaching and training in radiology and orthopaedics, and is the Head of School for Thames Valley radiology. She is the chair of the Royal College of Radiologists (RCR) Curriculum and appointed member of the RCR specialty training board and RCR anatomy examination committee.

She is the Oxford lead radiologist for the Adult bone dysplasia MDT, Regional Myeloma service and one of the three core Oxford Bone tumour/Sarcoma MDT radiologists.

Karen has authored several Musculoskeletal Radiology book chapters, and presented at several national and international radiological and orthopaedic conferences. She teaches on national courses such as the Aintree Bones & Joints and FRCR courses and the FRCS Orthopaedic Miller Course.

Dr Zoe Paskins, Professor in Rheumatology and Honorary Consultant, Rheumatologist, NIHR Clinician Scientist
(Keele University, Keele, UK)



Dr Zoe Paskins is an Honorary Consultant Rheumatologist in Stoke-on-Trent and Reader in Rheumatology at the Primary Care Centre Versus Arthritis at Keele University.

She is Clinical Lead of the Midlands Metabolic Bone Centre (Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust) which includes the North Staffordshire Fracture Liaison and DXA service. She also leads the Keele osteoporosis research group with specific interests in primary care management of osteoporosis and clinician-patient communication, holding an NIHR Clinician Scientist Award to develop and evaluate a decision support tool in osteoporosis.

She is past Chair of the Midlands Bone Interest Group, a member of the National Osteoporosis Guideline Group, Chair of the Musculoskeletal Disorders Research Advisory Group for Versus Arthritis and sits on various committees for the Royal Osteoporosis Society.