

## INVITED SPEAKERS



### PROF. KEN STEIN

Ken Stein is Professor of Public Health at the University of Exeter Medical School. Ken graduated in medicine from Bristol University, then trained and worked as a general practitioner before specialising in public health medicine in Southampton, where he subsequently became Deputy Director, NETSCC, HTA. In 1999 he moved to Exeter to be Consultant in Public Health Medicine at North and East Devon Health Authority, then Director of Public Health for Mid Devon Primary Care Trust. Ken combined this NHS work with academic work at the University of Exeter as Director of the Peninsula Technology Assessment Group (PenTAG), before becoming a full time academic public health physician in 2003. He was appointed to a Chair in Public Health in 2007 and is now also Deputy Director of the Peninsula Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care (PenCLAHRC), which works closely with the local NHS to identify and answer key health service research uncertainties. Ken has been a member of the NICE Appraisal Committee since 2003 and vice chairman since 2006. In addition, he chairs the Editorial Board of the monograph series *Health Technology Assessment* and is Associate Editor of the International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care.



### DR. EDMUND JESSOP

Edmund Jessop has been practising public health for the NHS in England since 1981 in various jobs at district, regional and national levels. Since 2002, Edmund has been medical adviser to the team which plans, funds and monitors services for patients with very rare disease. This has included decision making on the so-called “ultra-orphan” drugs as well as other highly specialised technologies. He is Vice President of the UK Faculty of Public Health (FPH) and has taught courses on public health including health economics and health technology assessment for over 15 years. At FPH he is responsible for professional standards and revalidation, and chairs the Standards Committee. Edmund was a member of the Rare Disease Task Force (RDTF) to the European Commission and a UK representative to the EU Committee of Experts on Rare Disease (EUCERD).

Dr. Jessop runs a weekly blog (<http://wintonscriptor.typepad.com/>), offering comments on journal articles and other pieces of interest for people studying to Master’s level in public health.



### PROF. RUMEN STEFANOV

Rumen Stefanov is Professor of Public and Dean of the Faculty of Public Health at the Medical University of Plovdiv. Dr. Stefanov is an expert on rare diseases and orphan drugs policy. He is a member of the Interdisciplinary Committee of the International Research Consortium for Rare Diseases (IRDiRC), member of the Rare Disease Task Force (RDTF) to the European Commission (2004-2009), Board member of the Central and Eastern European Genetic Network (CEEGN), a Board member of the International Conferences on Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs (ICORD) society.

Dr. Stefanov is a member of the working group that drafted the European Commission’s Communication on rare diseases, as well as many public health and research projects, funded by the EU (Orphanet, EUROPLAN, BURQOL-RD, EPIRARE, Rare Diseases Best Practices, etc.).