

CURRICULUM VITAE – SALLA ATKINS

Contents

(kindly note : numbering matches TENK guidelines, and is therefore not sequential)

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1. Personal information

Name: Salla-Aija Ailikki Atkins
Date of birth: 24.05.1978
Nationality: Finnish, British
ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4116-893X>
Date of CV: 15.03.2022

2. Education and qualifications:

6/2021:

Title of Docent, field of Global Health, Department of Global Public Health, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden

6/2008 - 3/2011:

PhD, Medical Sciences, IHCAR, Department of Public Health Sciences, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden. Thesis: Improving adherence: evaluating the enhanced tuberculosis adherence programme in Cape Town, South Africa. Contact: Marie.Hasselberg@ki.se

1/2001 - 12/2002:

MA University of Cape Town, South Africa, Psychological Research, (2:1). Thesis: International students' experiences at three universities in the Western Cape

1-12/2000:

BSocSci University of Cape Town, South Africa, Psychology, (2:1)

1/1997 - 12/1999:

BA University of South Africa, South Africa, Psychology and Communications

1996:

Matric, Mowat Park Girls' High School, Durban, South Africa

3. Other training and skills:

15 ECTS in higher education pedagogy, and university supervision, Tampere University, 2019-2020

4. Languages:

- English (mother tongue)
- Finnish (mother tongue)
- German (intermediate)
- Afrikaans (conversational)
- Swedish (beginner)
- French (beginner)
- Portuguese (beginner)

5. Current position:

Feb 2018- ongoing

Associate professor, New Social Research and Global Health and Development Health Sciences/ Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University, Finland

Tasks: Leading and developing research projects, teaching masters and PhD students, developing university impact through mentoring others

Feb 2022 – ongoing

Research specialist, Social Medicine Infectious Diseases and Migration research group, Department of Global Public Health, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

Tasks: Leading and managing research projects in Kenya, Tanzania, India and Mozambique

Stage of academic career: 3

6. Previous work experience:

Feb 2016-Jan 2018

Project manager, Faculty of Medicine and Life Sciences, Tampere University, Finland

Tasks: Scientific management and financial management of a 1,3 million € project, supervising students, sourcing additional funding.

Sept 2011-Jan 2016

Post-doctoral Research Fellow, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

Tasks: Scientific and financial coordination of two EU FP7 funded projects with 16 partners and combined €4 million budget.

Sept 2009-Dec 2011

Researcher, Finnish institute of occupational health, Helsinki, Finland

Tasks: Coordinating the implementation of a randomized trial in occupational healthcare, including collecting data.

Aug 2006-Aug 2009

Senior scientist, Health systems research Unit, South African Medical Research Council, Cape Town, South Africa

Tasks: Conducting research and managing a project in collaboration with health services in Cape Town, seeking funding

Apr 2006-Aug 2006

Scientist, Cochrane Centre, South African Medical Research Council, Cape Town, South Africa

Tasks: Completing a qualitative systematic review for publication, participating in funding proposals, training on qualitative systematic reviews and collecting data.

Oct 2004 – Mar 2006

Scientific officer, Primary health care directorate, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa

Tasks: Initiating and conducting a qualitative systematic review and sourcing funding for it; participating in funding proposals and conducting literature reviews.

Jan 2002-Dec 2004

Researcher, Unisa Institute of Social and Health Sciences, Cape Town, South Africa

Tasks: Conducting research on a project on childhood injury prevention, literature reviews and preparing for a randomized controlled trial.

Short term contracts:

June 2014-July 2014:

Consultant, World Health Organisation, Geneva, Switzerland

April 2011:

Consultant, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Liverpool, UK

October 2004-January 2005:

Consultant, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Medicine, Baltimore, USA

7. Career breaks:

April 2012-September 2012:

100% Parental leave

October 2012-March 2013:

75% Parental leave

September 2014-March 2015:

100% Parental leave

April 2015-June 2015:

50% Parental leave

8. Research funding

As main applicant

2022-2024

€ 425,058 (SEK 4 473 699) for three years: RESTAKE: Health system and community RESilience during Covid-19 through the example of tuberculosis: A comparative mixed methods case study in TANZANIA and KENYA

2022-2025

€ 228,179.79 (SEK 2 400 000) for four years: Saving newborn and maternal life in remote "aspatial districts" in context of Covid-19 in India. Funding from Vetenskapsrådet, Sweden.

2018-2022

€ 566 953,85 (SEK 5 950 000) for four years: CHEST - Coordinating health and social protection for tuberculosis patients in Mozambique – funding from Vetenskapsrådet, Sweden

2018-2021

€ 70 035,48 (SEK 735 000) for three years: MIST – Migration as a social determinant of health”, Vetenskapsrådet, Sweden

2014

€ 37 713,40 (SEK 395 800) for one year: “Sector EE” Supporting evidence based policymaking through health research in Eastern Europe – funding from the Swedish Institute

2012-2015

€ 70 035,48 (SEK 735000) for three years: “Enhancing Global Collaboration in Health Systems and Social Determinants of Health Research” –Vetenskapsrådet, Sweden

2009

€ 22 788,05 (443 904 ZAR) for one year: Lay health worker support for HIV and TB treatment in Cape Town – funding from South African National department of health

2005-2006

€ 2874,79 (56 000 ZAR) Self initiated research grant on qualitative systematic review from South African Medical Research Council

As a co-applicant

2020-2022

€ 1 287 000 - PI Jukka Uitti, Faculty of Medicine and Technology, Tampere University. TYKYTUO – work ability through coordinating services.

2019-2022

€ 282 031,39 (SEK 2 960 625) – PI Vishal Diwan, Karolinska Institutet. Waste segregation in Ujjain, India: a pragmatic randomized controlled study.

2018-2021

€ 74 979,74 (SEK 787100) – PI Knut Lönnroth, Research links project – social protection action research network, Vetenskapsrådet, Sweden

2018-2022

€ 371 516,97 (SEK 3 900 000) – PI Knut Lönnroth, Social protection for tuberculosis patients in Uganda – Vetenskapsrådet

€ 24500 – PI Professor Jukka Uitti. Identifying frequent users of public and occupational health primary care users. Pirkanmaa hospital district funding.

2017-2019

€70 000 – PI Professor Jukka Uitti. Characterising frequent users of occupational health primary care. Finnish Work Environment Fund

2013-2016

€ 230 302 (SEK 2 418 000) – PI Professor Anna Thorson – Mobile phone intervention for lay health workers to improve continuity of care in South Africa – Vetenskapsrådet

2008

€ 59 801,76 (USD 67 532) – PI Dr Mickey Chopra – Integrating HIV and TB care in South Africa. Centers for Disease Control (Pepfar), US

Stipends for collaboration or students

2019

- Edufi – Finnish international scholarship funding for Yvonne Mwende to attend the International programme in Epidemiology in Tampere for 9 months.
- Finnceal funding for Lieve Vanleeuw to travel to Tampere for PhD courses

2018

- Finnceal funding for Wanga Zembe-Mkabile and Lieve Vanleeuw to travel to Finland from South Africa

9. Publications

Total number of publications: 63

H index (google scholar, February 2022): 22, i-10 index 39

Total number of citations (google scholar): 4300

Ten most important publications:

1.

Munro SA, Lewin SA, Smith HJ, Engel ME, Fretheim A, Volmink J. Patient adherence to tuberculosis treatment: A systematic review of qualitative research. PLOS MEDICINE 2007 4;7 e238-

Summary: This study is a meta-ethnography, a qualitative systematic review of patients' experiences of tuberculosis treatment. The study was important because it was the first time that tuberculosis patients' perspectives were being brought together, globally, to inform tuberculosis treatment strategies, particularly directly observed therapy. The findings suggest that adherence to treatment is a complex phenomenon, that is the result of an interplay of factors related to healthcare provision, personal situation, and the societal and structural environment. The study also sparked a discussion regarding the value of qualitative evidence in decisionmaking, and science in general.

Number of citations: 456 Journal impact factor: 11.048

2.

Atkins S, Reho T, Talola N, Sumanen M, Viljamaa M, Uitti J. Improved recording of work relatedness during patient consultations in occupational primary health care: a cluster randomized controlled trial using routine data. TRIALS 2020 21;1 256-

Summary: This study is a randomized controlled trial in occupational healthcare in Finland, which was evaluated using routine healthcare data. The intervention focused on electronic reminders and training of physicians and a pathway through which occupational healthcare could intervene in developing work ability problems. The study did not find an effect on client sick leaves – but did find that training combined with electronic reminders changed physicians' consultation recording practices. This study is important for several reasons: Firstly, it is the first study in Finland to randomize private occupational healthcare provision, and the first to evaluate a randomized trial through routine data, which can be considered a platinum standard of evidence in healthcare. It opens up avenues into increasingly using routine and register data in randomized controlled trials. At the same time, it suggests that client consultation recording can be changed, through targeted interventions.

Number of citations: 3.

Journal impact factor: 1.975

3.

Kredo T, Cooper S, Abrams A, Muller J, Volmink J, **Atkins S**. Using the behavior change wheel to identify barriers to and potential solutions for primary care clinical guideline use in four provinces in South Africa. BMC HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH 2018 18; 965-

Summary: Clinical guidelines are key for effective care. South Africa has been developing clinical guidelines for several years, but the development processes, distribution. Guidelines have no effect if they are not implemented well. Therefore, this study aimed to explore with primary care nurses and allied healthworkers what the barriers and facilitators to guideline use were. These barriers and facilitators were then mapped onto the theoretical domains framework and the behavior change wheel to identify potential interventions for implementation.

Number of citations: 17

Journal impact factor: 1.932

4.

Vanleeuw L, Zembe-Mkabile W, **Atkins S**. "I'm suffering for food": Food insecurity and access to social protection for TB patients and their households in Cape Town, South Africa. PLoS One. 2022 Apr 26;17(4):e0266356. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0266356. PMID: 35472210; PMCID: PMC9041827.

Summary: This qualitative study was designed to understand how people with tuberculosis experience their health and financial wellbeing in South Africa. South Africa has the strongest social security system in Africa, yet some individuals are still left behind in these systems. The paper is part of a PhD student's thesis, and was a project and paper developed, analysed and reported through an equal collaboration across North and South. This paper will be followed by another, focusing on how people with tuberculosis fared during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Number of citations: none, yet (published in 2022)

Journal impact factor: 3,241

5.

Khare S, Pathak A, Stålsby Lundborg C, Diwan V, **Atkins S**. Understanding Internal and External Drivers Influencing the Prescribing Behaviour of Informal Healthcare Providers with Emphasis on Antibiotics in Rural India: A Qualitative Study. Antibiotics (Basel). 2022 Mar 29;11(4):459. doi: 10.3390/antibiotics11040459. PMID: 35453210; PMCID: PMC9029264.

Summary: This study is important because it tries to understand what drives the prescription of antibiotics among Indian informal health providers. In India, as shown by other work I have collaborated in, individuals in poverty often first approach informal providers for healthcare, for convenience, and affordability. This study is part of an international collaboration, where we sought to understand why informal providers often choose to recommend antibiotics for children – an extremely important project when considering the increase in antibiotic resistance in many settings

Number of citations: none, as it was recently published.

Journal impact factor: 5.222 (2021)

6.

Atkins S, Lewin S, Jordaan E, Thorson A. Lay health worker-supported tuberculosis treatment adherence in South Africa: an interrupted time-series study. INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF TUBERCULOSIS AND LUNG DISEASE 2011 15;1 84-9

Summary: This study was part of my PhD project, but is not the most cited of the papers included. This study presented an interrupted time series evaluation of a tuberculosis adherence programme, where patients were counselled, assessed, and could take their treatment themselves without daily presentation at a clinic. This study is important because it highlighted how tuberculosis treatment was possible to give without directly observed therapy, which causes direct and indirect costs to patients, which may result in non-adherence.

Number of citations: 17

Journal impact factor: 2.024

7.

Paajanen A, Annerstedt KS, **Atkins S**. "Like filling a lottery ticket with quite high stakes": a qualitative study exploring mothers' needs and perceptions of state-provided financial support for a child with a long-term illness in Finland. BMC Public Health. 2021 Jan 25;21(1):208. doi: 10.1186/s12889-020-10015-w. PMID: 33494749; PMCID: PMC7830820.

Summary: The idea for this study emerged from the student's experience as a children's intensive care nurse – and her understanding of the plight of parents even in Finland, with high coverage of social protection for all. The paper interviewed parents, who turned out to be all women, about how they viewed the financial support they received and how they fared and made decisions about their children's care. The findings suggest that some are extremely poor, many forgo working, and are often dependent on their partner's income. This makes the paper an important insight into gender equality when children fall ill in Finland.

Number of citations: 1

Journal impact factor: 3,295

8.

Gilby L, Koivusalo M, **Atkins S**. Global health without sexual and reproductive health and rights? Analysis of United Nations documents and country statements, 2014-2019. BMJ Glob Health. 2021 Mar;6(3):e004659. doi: 10.1136/bmjgh-2020-004659. PMID: 33781994; PMCID: PMC8009211.

Summary: This paper was an analysis of United Nations resolution documents and country statements, over time from 2014-2019. Using qualitative methodology, the paper found that the language related to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights changed over time, with far-right populist policies strongly influencing the

language used, which can ultimately impact on these rights globally. Sadly, recent politics in Western countries have suggested that these changes are also on their way at country and state level. This is the first high-level policy analysis I engaged with, an area that I hope to engage with more in future.

Number of citations: 3

Journal impact factor: 8,056

9.

Atkins S, Lewin S, Smith H, Engel M, Fretheim A, Volmink J. Conducting a meta-ethnography of qualitative literature: Lessons learnt. BMC MEDICAL RESEARCH METHODOLOGY 2008 8; 21-

Summary: This paper was a methodological paper, focusing on qualitative systematic reviews and in that, meta-ethnography. This paper was and is important because it outlined clearly the choices made in using an essentially sociological review method in a healthcare review – and how it was adapted in order to produce a review that could contribute to policy. The paper is frequently cited in the Cochrane Handbook for qualitative reviews.

Number of citations: 985

Journal impact factor: 2.509

10.

Rodrigues R, Poongulali S, Balaji K, **Atkins S**, Ashorn P, De Costa A. 'The phone reminder is important, but will others get to know about my illness?' Patient perceptions of an mHealth antiretroviral treatment support intervention in the HIVIND trial in South India. BMJ open 2015 5;11 e007574-

Summary: This paper is a qualitative evaluation of a trial using mHealth to improve adherence to antiretroviral treatment. The evaluation focused on patients' experience of the intervention, and the mobile reminder. It is important as it highlights how in different settings, patients' experiences of their illness affects their response to interventions, and how even – relatively simple mobile interventions – can be complicated by the local context.

Number of citations: 57

Journal impact factor: 2.376

10. Supervision and leadership

PhD students, graduated:

2014-2019, co-supervisor

Tamara Kredo, registered at Stellenbosch University South Africa, working at the Medical Research Council of South Africa.

Topic: Barriers and facilitators to clinical guideline implementation and use in South Africa

2014-2019, co-supervisor

Arun Shet, registered at Karolinska institutet, working at St John's Medical College, India.

Topic: Childhood anemia control in Karnataka, India.

2017-2020, co-supervisor

Tiia Reho, registered at Tampere University.

Topic: Frequent attenders in occupational health care

PhD students, ongoing:

2021-2025, co-supervisor

Roosa Eriksson, registered at Tampere University (with Jurgen de Wispelaere)

Najmeh Aghamohsenifahsemi, registered at Tampere University (with Riikka Homanen)

2020-2024, main supervisor

Elsi Haverinen, registered at Tampere University (currently on parental leave)

Topic: Extractive economies in Finland: Health impact assessment of the mining industry in North and South

2019-2023, main supervisor

Pedroso Nhassengo, registered at Karolinska Institutet, working at Instituto Nacional de Saude, Mozambique.

Topic: The poverty-tuberculosis cycle: sequelae of TB infection in Mozambique.

2019-2023, main supervisor

Yvonne Mwendu, registered at Tampere University.

Topic: Evaluating a cloud-based maternal and child health register in Kenya

2018-2022, main supervisor

Lieve Vanleeuw, registered at Tampere University, working at the Medical Research Council of South Africa.

Topic: Supporting patients with tuberculosis in Cape Town, South Africa.

2017-2022, main supervisor

Jairous Miti, registered at Tampere University, working at University of Zambia.

Topic: Extending social security for informal workers in Zambia

Master's students supervised:

| Year | Name | Main/Co Supervisor | Course programme | University |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 2021 | Clara Akie Yoshino | Main | Masters in Global Health | Karolinska Institutet |
| 2021 | Gladys Kimani | Main | Masters in Global Health | Karolinska Institutet |
| 2021 | Fatima Kargbo | Main | Masters in Global and Public Health | Tampere University |
| 2021 | Ritika Malhotra | Main | Masters in Global and Public Health | Tampere University |
| 2020 | Robert de Meijere | Main | Masters in Global Health | Karolinska Institutet |
| 2020 | Raina Kluppelberg | Main | Masters in Global Health | Karolinska Institutet |
| 2020 | Marian Ismail | Main | Master's in Global and Public Health | Tampere University |
| 2020 | Akindayo Ogunbayo | Main | Master's in Global and Public Health | Tampere University |
| 2019 | Elsi Haverinen | Main | Master's in Global and Public Health | Tampere University |
| 2019 | Anna Paaanen | Main | Masters's in Global Health | Karolinska Institutet |
| 2019 | Maresa Du Plessis | Main | Masters in Health Systems and Services Research | Stellenbosch University |
| 2018 | Daiana Vlad | Main | Masters's in Global Health | Karolinska Institutet |
| 2017 | Lana Al Soufi | Co-supervisor | Masters's in Global Health | Karolinska Institutet |
| 2014 | Minna Kumpu | Co-supervisor | Masters's in Global Health | Karolinska Institutet |
| 2014 | Dinansha Varshney | Co-supervisor | Masters in Health Management | IHPG |

Experience in leading a research project or group:

Projects led:

2018-ongoing:

Principal investigator, CHEST project in Mozambique. Ensuring the project goes ahead as planned, supervising the Mozambique PI and meeting with team members. The project has been delayed due to the Idai hurricane, and Covid-19

2018-ongoing:

Principal investigator and manager, MIST project. Ensuring the project goes ahead as planned, collaborating with project partners, organizing meetings. The project has been delayed due to Covid-19.

2014-2016:

Principal investigator: "Sector EE" Supporting evidence based policymaking through health research in Eastern Europe. Collaborating with partners in Ukraine and Poland, ensuring the project goes ahead as planned, organizing meetings and supervising a research assistant on the project.

2012-2015:

Principal investigator: "Enhancing GLocal Collaboration in Health Systems and Social Determinants of Health Research" –Vetenskapsrådet, Sweden. Collaborating with partners in Ukraine, Poland, Moldova and Republic of Macedonia, organizing meetings, leading projects, supervising research assistant and IT personnel for the project.

2005-2006

Principal investigator: Self initiated research grant on qualitative systematic review from South African Medical Research Council. Conducting the review, ensuring the project goes ahead as planned.

Projects managed and staff supervised:

2016-2018:

Project manager, ESF funded project on occupational healthcare, supervising PhD student within the group and working together with the team.

2011-2016

Project manager, ARCADE HSSR and ARCADE RSDH, total 4 million euros projects funded by the European union. Supervising research assistants and IT personnel within the project, leading project implementation and sourcing additional funding for the project.

11. Teaching merits

15 ECTS in teaching and learning in higher education. Please see the separate teaching portfolio for details.

Courses led include:

- Social Protection and Health, together with University of Zambia, University of Kwazulu-Natal, Medical Research Council of South Africa, and Karolinska Institutet.
- Pragmatic randomized controlled trials, which focused on the methods of pragmatic randomized controlled trials with an aim to help student prepare high quality protocols for such trials – together with Stellenbosch University, South Africa and Western University, Canada.
- Practical approaches to qualitative research, which focused on training health researchers in principles of qualitative data collection analysis, together with Stellenbosch University, South Africa.
- Qualitative evaluation in healthcare, which detailed the methodology of evaluating healthcare interventions. This was conducted in collaboration with Institute of Development Studies, UK; and the Norwegian Institute of Public Health.
- Migration and health, with collaboration from THL (Finnish Institute of Health and Welfare); Nordic welfare systems, which described the key principles of welfare systems in Nordic countries, in collaboration with the Faculty of Social Sciences.
- Health and health systems in developing Asia, with a focus on examples from different Asian countries (India, China, Philippines, North Korea) and their health systems and key health issues, including examples from collaborators from Fudan University, China, RD Gardi Medical College, India, and the Asia Network.

Invited visiting lectures include:

- Sampling in qualitative evidence synthesis for meaningful results. London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, June 2021.
- Global Health: terveyden ja hyvinvoinnin edistämisen mahdollisuudet globaalilla tasolla sosiaali- ja terveystieteiden näkökulmasta [*Finnish – Global health: Possibilities of promoting health and welfare at the global level from the perspective of social and health policy*]. Centria University of Applied Sciences, May 2021
- Mixed and multiple methods: the special case of randomized controlled trials and qualitative research. Karolinska Institutet, April 2021.

- Qualitative evidence synthesis with a focus on meta-ethnography. Invited speaker for a seminar series on qualitative evidence synthesis. Karolinska Institutet, October 2019

Lecture topics include:

Mixed methods research methodology; qualitative evaluations alongside randomized controlled trials; using theory in evaluating interventions; human resources for health; social protection and health; social protection and gender; social protection and tuberculosis; health promotion for childhood injury; and global health.

13. Other academic achievements

Member of scholarly associations:

- Full member of the board, UniPID (Finnish university Partnership for International development) university network 2020-
- Cochrane Collaboration, member 2019-
- SPARKS (Social Protection Action Research Knowledge Network), member 2017-
- Health Systems Global, member 2016-
- Co-Founder, Women in Global Health, Finland

Member of appointment group

- 2021: Professor in Public Health, Tampere University
- 2021: Lecturer in Global Health, Tampere University

Professional Advisory or Consultancy Work:

2021

- Member of Health Sciences panel in Julkaisufoorumi/Publication forum 2022-
- Academic advisory, SAFINET – Finnish Universities' higher education network with Southern African universities.

2020

- Expert reviewer, Royal Society of Tropical Medicine Small grants
- Expert reviewer, EC Marie Curie Individual Fellowships
- Expert reviewer, Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Small Grants

2018-2020

- Expert reviewer, EC Marie Curie Sklodowska Innovative Training Network awards

2017

- Expert adviser, ECDC tuberculosis project, Latvia – reviewing project progress and reporting to funders

2016

- Expert adviser, ECDC tuberculosis project, Latvia – reviewing project progress and reporting to funders

Work as an Examiner

2021

- Examiner, PhD thesis, Department of Public Health, Melbourne University

2019-2020

- Examiner, PhD thesis, Faculty of Medicine, Oslo University

Master's theses examined:

2021

- Msc Global Health, KI, Johanna Pohl, Elina Leiviskä

2019

- Msc Global and Public Health thesis examiner, Tampere University – Ms Lynda Gilby
- Msc Public Health, University of Western Cape, Kemi Dorcas Dele-Ijagbulu
- Msc Global Health, KI, Mathias Provst Andreassen

2018

- Msc Public Health, University of Western Cape, A.L. Maero
- Msc Global Health, KI, Norah Ana Burchart Piccoli
- Msc Global Health, KI, Christine Weaver

2017

- Msc Public Health, University of Western Cape, Alison Best
- Msc Global Health, KI, Julie Hechler

2015

- Master in International Social Welfare and Health Policy, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences.

2014

- Msc Global Health thesis examiner, Caitlin Jackson

2011

- Msc Public Health, University of Kwazulu Natal

Work as a referee

Referee for the following journals:

- Social science and medicine
- Health Policy and Planning
- BMC Family practice
- BMC Infectious Disease
- BMC Health Services Research
- BMC Public Health
- Health policy and planning
- Evaluation and program planning
- Health Gesundheit SA
- PLoS One
- Globalization and Health
- BMJ Open
- International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease
- Global Health Action
- Cochrane Database of systematic reviews
- Trials
- Qualitative Health Research

Work as abstract evaluator for conferences

2020

Organised session evaluator and abstract evaluator for Health Systems Global Symposium 2020

2019

Abstract evaluator for the Using Qualitative Evidence to Inform decisions in the SDG era: New Frontiers and Innovations, Brazil, November 2019

2018

Reviewer and abstract curator for Health Systems Global conference, Liverpool UK , October 2018

2016

Abstract evaluator for the Health Systems Global conference, Cape Town, South Africa

Editorial Board Membership

Since 2020

Associate editor, Trials

Since 2019

Associate editor, BMC Health Services Research

Since 2016

Member of editorial Board - Health SA Gesondheid

Since 2016

Associate editor, BMC Family practice

Public Service in a Professional Capacity

2019

Mentor: First time women authors from low- and middle-income countries, SHAPES Health Systems Global

2015

Mentor: Chinese PhD students aiming for publication in an international peer reviewed journal

2014-2016

International coordinator, Graduate women of Rauma (subsidiary organization to Graduate Women International)

International and national invited presentations

2021

- Swedish Network for International Health (November 2021) – Global Social Protection in the wake of Covid-19

2019

- Coordination of social and health care for tuberculosis in Mozambique. Organised session on tuberculosis and social protection. International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, Hyderabad, India, November 2019.
- Qualitative evidence synthesis with a focus on meta-ethnography. Invited speaker for a seminar series on qualitative evidence synthesis. Karolinska Institutet, October 2019.

2018

- Coordination of social and health care for tuberculosis in Mozambique. SPARKS international meeting, Stockholm, May 2018.

2017

- Uutta tutkimustietoa: työterveysneuvottelut yksityisellä palveluntuottajalla [Finnish: New Research: Collaborative occupational health negotiations at a private service provider]. Työterveyspäivät, 12.9.2017, Helsinki, Finland.
- Gender and cash transfers: what do we need to know? Atkins, S., Koivu, A. European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI) Seminar, Tampere, March 2017

2015

- Odendaal, W., Atkins, S., Lutge, E., Leon, N., Lewin, S. Qualitative process evaluation alongside RCTs: What to consider to get relevant and valuable results. Researching complex interventions in health: The state of the art, Exeter, United Kingdom, 14 - 15 October 2015. (Oral – presented by Willem Odendaal due to inability to travel)

2011

- Atkins, S. The ARCADE projects. Presentation at the INTREC consortium kick-off meeting, October 2011, Umeå, Sweden.

2009

- Atkins, S. Barriers and facilitators to adherence. Medical Research Council TB Colloquium - Celebrating 40 years of TB research. 3-4 June 2009.

2008

- Atkins, S. Theoretical models for health behavior: How useful are these for adherence to TB or HIV treatment? International Association of Aids Physicians Conference, Adherence – New Jersey, United States, March 2008 (travel costs covered by the organizer).

2006

- Chair of session: 7th Advances in Qualitative Methods International Conference Surfers Paradise, Queensland, Australia 13-16 July 2006

2005

- Volmink, J. & Munro, S. Issues to consider when evaluating lay health worker interventions. Presentation at Walking the talk of community participation: Community-based lay health workers in TB and HIV/AIDS programmes in South Africa Workshop, Newlands, Cape Town, South Africa October 17 – 18, 2005.

Workshops and seminars organised:

2020

- Seminar: Europe's strategy to fight COVID-19: Reflections on different response strategies and the need for a gender sensitive approach. (Women in Global Health Europe – May 26th)
- Seminar: Covid DECODED – Women in Global Health Finland Launch, May 25th
- Seminar: Experimentation in public policy basic income as an example. UBIEXP, New Social Research Tampere University, May 15-16 2020. (Cancelled due to COVID)

2019

- Session organizer, Nordic Science and Technology Studies Conference 2019, Tampere, June 2019
- Workshop: Pragmatic randomised controlled trials - philosophy, conduct, and combination with qualitative research, New Social Research - University of Tampere

2018

- Roundtable at the Basic Income Earth conference: Basic income and cash transfers. Participants: Getachew Kebede, Wanga Zembe-Mkabile, Knut Lönnroth, Emmanuel Lawrence Magoti. University of Tampere, Finland. Funded by UNIPID, University of Tampere, and EU-SPS project.
- September: Seminar, Migration as a social determinant of health. Speaker: Hannah Bradby, Uppsala University. Organised by the MIST project at Karolinska Institutet.
- Roundtable at Työelämän tutkimuskeskus: Työkyky keskiössä (Work life centre: Work ability at the centre). Työelämän tutkimuspäivät, 2018.
- Evidence-to-Policy seminar series, New Social Research - University of Tampere. Sept-Oct 2018. International presentation series of 4 sessions with speakers from outside Finland, including also policymakers to discuss the connection between evidence and policy.

2015

- November: Outcomes of ARCADE projects. Seminar, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

2014-2015

- Research Clinics Seminar series – various PhD students presenting their work to international commentary. Online meetings. Organised as part of the ARCADE project.

14. Scientific and societal impact

Most of my publications are open access, where funds have permitted, in order to allow for low resource countries to access research.

Scientific and policy impact

2005-2006:

Committee member developing the PALS Plus Lung health guidelines in South Africa. In the past few years, I have supervised a PhD student in South Africa who has examined the development and implementation of primary care clinical guidelines in South Africa.

2011:

Evaluating a model of care for tuberculosis that did not involve daily directly observed therapy, but allowed patients to take their treatment at home, with counselling and an identified “treatment buddy” to support a patient in their daily lives implemented by the City of Cape Town.

2016:

The mHealth application developed in South Africa that I was part of (led by Professor Anna Thorson), which helped lay health workers in their daily work and communication with health centres, was since given to the Western Cape health department, who however chose not to use it routinely as part of their work.

2019:

Work with Mari Kähäri, a master’s student in Global Health together with Manipal University in India was well received. Manipal University considered a centre for care of disabled children partly as a consequence of this work.

2016-ongoing

Work in a group using routine healthcare registers to identify individuals at risk of work disability, developing new recording systems for risk of work disability. We work collaboratively, combining routine records with national records.

Collaboration with public institutions

I collaborate closely with THL (Finnish Institute of Health and Welfare), the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (FIOH) and the Finnish Social and Health Ministry (MSAH). With THL, I collaborate in coursework, and in supervising master’s students, as well as the recent Health Systems Monitor effort to monitor the policy and impacts of COVID-19. With FIOH we work on projects on occupational health services. I collaborate with MSAH in my work in Women in Global Health Finland.

Blogs, webinars and media are a key area of social engagement:

2021

- Podcast: Decolonizing Global Health Education with Salla Atkins - Swedish Global Health Podcast: <https://soundcloud.com/user-896654783/swedish-global-health-podcast-e9-decolonizing-global-health-education-with-salla-atkins>

2020

- December – Maailmanpolitiikan arkipäivää (World Politics Daily), Yleisradio, Finland – Rokotekilpa kiihtyy (Vaccine competition accelerates). <https://areena.yle.fi/audio/1-50693382>
- (June) – Seurannassa – series (Finnish). Discussions with experts at Tampere University on the societal impact of the Covid-19 epidemic: <https://www.tuni.fi/fi/ajankohtaista/koronasta-selviava-yhteiskunta-tampereen-yliopiston-tutkijoiden-seurannassa>
- May 26: Speaker, COVID-19 response in Finland. In the Women in Global Health Sweden, Norway, Finland and Germany webinar – Europe’s strategy to fight COVID-19: Reflections on different response strategies and the need for a gender sensitive approach.
- April 6th: Finland’s response to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Tynkkynen, L., Atkins, S., Keskimäki, I., Koivusalo, M., Rautiainen, P., Sinervo, T. <https://www.cambridge.org/core/blog/2020/04/06/finlands-response-to-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>
- April 4th: Speaker, Women in Global Health Finland Launch
- March 17th. Covid19: A challenge not only to health systems but to expertise and politics. Atkins, S., Koivusalo, M.. <https://alusta.uta.fi/2020/03/17/covid-19-a-challenge-not-only-to-health-systems-but-to-expertise-and-politics/>

2019

- December 23rd: Happy Christmas, you have tuberculosis! Atkins, S., Nhassengo, P., Vanleeuw, L., <https://alusta.uta.fi/2019/12/23/happy-christmas-you-have-tuberculosis/>

2018

- December 20th: What constitutes evidence for Policy? The New Social Research seminar series. <https://alusta.uta.fi/2018/12/20/what-constitutes-evidence-for-policy-new-social-research-seminar-series/>