

2018 CJ Littlejohns Global Health Prize

Bios of winning group

Zhandos Salpynov



Zhandos is a recipient of the *Bolashak International Scholarship* initiated by the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev. He started his academic career in Public Health at the Astana Medical University (Kazakhstan), graduating from the University with high distinction. Zhandos is a member of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) and author of different scientific articles and abstracts. His scientific papers on “Internet-addiction Among Students in Different Countries” and “The Assessment of Efficiency of Using Information Management in Medical Institutions” were published in international scientific journals exhibiting an impact factor such as *The Journal of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research* called *Value in Health* and *The Journal of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (The FASEB)*. Also, he was awarded the *best scientific article / project in English* by engaging in the *G-Global info-communication platform*. Zhandos actively took part in the International Scientific Public Health Conferences in Russia and Kazakhstan.

He worked as a senior researcher at the Radiobiology Research Institute at the Astana Medical University. Later, Zhandos continued his professional experience in Public Health as a leading specialist at the Republican Centre for Health Care Development at the Health Technology Assessment Department. Whilst working at the Centre, he participated in organizing the International Scientific and Practical Conference Health Technology Assessment Development in Eurasian Economic Union.

His desire to gain new knowledge and professional skills in Public Health led him to undertake a Master’s in Public Health at King’s College London.

Esther Amofa-Afriyie



Esther Amofa-Afriyie is a postgraduate student of Master of Public Health at KCL, holder of BSc (Hons) Pharmacology, a member of the British Pharmacological Society, and former HND graduate in Health and Social Science. As well as a holder of many work-related certificate courses, she is currently working for a local authority in London with previous work experiences in hospital, university science laboratories, and a number of local authorities in London. She has a 'can do' approach to work and has developed many 'soft' and transferable skills as well as having the passion for saving lives and making a great impact in solving many of the global health challenges. She recently volunteered for the Anthony Nolan blood cancer society in motivating people in joining the blood donor register with the aim of saving lives.

Her interest in undertaking a poster focusing on Malaria comes from her unforgettable experiences when she suffered Malaria on quite a number of occasions as a child born in Africa. Hence interventions and preventative measures in eradicating Malaria is her paramount goal as many lives including some distant family members lost their lives as a result of the illness. Therefore, her career ambition after postgraduate studies is to work for the World Health Organization or any Pharmaceutical industry focusing their research studies into new and effective vaccination against Malaria and many other deadly diseases with the aim of eradicating these infectious diseases.

Sara Parfett



Sarah is studying at King's College London for a master's degree in public health. She is part time student, combining her studies with full-time training with the Great Britain Rowing Team. She graduated from the University of Bath with a degree in Biology. Her dissertation involved testing the toxicity of an MRSA strain. It was used to develop a model to predict the virulence of MRSA, based on the genetic information at certain sites. In the clinical setting, infected patients could have their sample sequenced and the information could be used to improve and tailor their treatment specifically to them. Being involved in this project that was later published in Genome Research, triggered her interest in public health and how treatments and services could be improved. It also inspired her to look further, and notice the difference between health services globally, and the different pressures exerted on these health services, and the effects this had. Her initial interest of human health and disease was due to my studies and being an athlete, which requires her to try to maintain a healthy mind and body. A master's in public health at King's felt like the next step to increase her knowledge in a field that combines my interests and passions. As a broad field it presented many opportunities, discover new areas of interest and to push myself into thinking more openly. This happened more so within the Global Health module where our group poster was about eradicating malaria. From there search, different approaches were undertaken to target malaria, neither were wrong, but each were appropriate to their country. This project further demonstrated how useful an open mind and an holistic approach is to solving health issues and how countries can still learn from each other, and work together to reach a mutual goal.

Chidimma Anyanw

Karashash Menlibayeva

Sassi Attarad