

## EFSPI Webinar: Let's talk about career development.

### An interview with Karen Facey and David Wright

**Note the new date:**

**26<sup>th</sup> October 2021, 12:00 BST / 13:00 CEST**

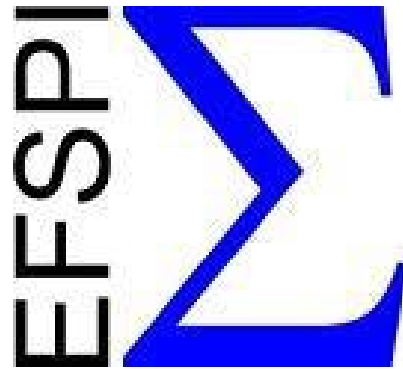
Traditionally, statisticians (and not only statisticians!) think of our career paths as being more or less linear. Starting with the first organization we join after graduation (or perhaps after obtaining a PhD), we work hard, take on more and more responsibility as we gain experience, and along the way we hope to get promotions to more senior positions. If we move from one company to another, it is common for us to take on a similar role to the one we had before – after all, that's what we are good at, and that's why the new organization hires us!

To get a different perspective on career development, we talk to Karen Facey and David Wright who both have held very different roles over the years. We will ask them how they got into statistics to start with, and what their motivation was to make career changes that, at least on paper, look quite radical.

Whether your career is going just fine, or whether you think you could do with some food for thought for your next development plan discussion – join us and listen to some inspiring reflections on career development.

Our speakers:

- Karen Facey started her career as an industry statistician, left to do a PhD, returned to a managerial position and was statistical lead for an HIV medicine in the 1990s, then she decided to join the MHRA as its second statistician. From there, she moved on to become Chief Executive of the Health Technology Board for Scotland, before becoming a self-employed "Evidence Based Health Technology Consultant" in 2003. Since then, Karen has had visiting and tenured positions at Glasgow University and the University of Edinburgh, and works with health technology assessment (HTA) bodies, industry and patient groups to promote holistic determination of the value of health technologies. For over a decade, she was a Non-Executive Director in the Scottish health service and led the development of the funding formula that allocates the annual health budget to health boards in Scotland. She is a member of the Scottish Health Technologies Group, and has held senior voluntary positions in the Royal Statistical Society.
- After obtaining a PhD in Statistics investigating hybridization sites in chromosome 16, David Wright did a Post Doc at the University of Warwick on risk scores and continued in academia as a Lecturer in Medical Statistics at UCL for 3 years where he worked on a project investigating risk factors associated with neonatal arterial switch operations. David then worked for the MCA/MHRA for nearly 17 years as a statistical assessor. During this time, amongst other things, he Chaired the Biostatistics Working Party, led the Scientific Advice Review Group at the MHRA and was Deputy Unit Manager of the Statistics and Pharmacokinetics Unit. In 2016, he joined AstraZeneca's Advanced Analytics Centre (his team is now part of the Data Science and AI group) in Cambridge where he is Head of Statistical Innovation. David is well-known to many of us as he has been a regular presenter at events such as the PSI conference. He is a member of the EFSPI Scientific Committee.



#### Registration:

This event is free to attend.

No registration required.

#### Meeting Details:

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