



## Symposium 3: Heterogeneity and validity in national and international Multi-Databases Pharmacoepidemiologic Studies (MPES): lessons learned in North America, Europe and Asia

### Darren Toh, Harvard University, USA



Darren Toh, ScD is an Associate Professor in the Department of Population Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute. He is a pharmacoepidemiologist with an interest in the comparative safety and effectiveness research of medical products. His research has been focused on 1) assessing the risks and benefits of medical products using electronic data collected as part of routine healthcare delivery, and 2) developing and applying privacy-protecting analytic methods to conduct multi-center studies in distributed data networks.

Darren is Director of Scientific Programs of the Therapeutics Research and Infectious Disease Epidemiology (TIDE) group. He also leads the epidemiology group at the Operations Center of the FDA-funded Sentinel System, a congressionally mandated national medical product safety surveillance system. Darren received his doctoral degree in Epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health.

### Robert Platt, McGill University, CANADA



Robert Platt is Professor in the departments of Pediatrics in addition to Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Occupational Health (EBOH) at McGill University, and Director of Graduate Programs in the department of EBOH. He holds the Albert Boehringer I endowed chair in Pharmacoepidemiology.

Dr. Platt is the Executive Co-Lead of the Canadian Network for Observational Drug Effect Studies (CNODES). He has been the leader of the Methods team of CNODES since its inception. In this role, he has led a methods research and training program for the network and has participated as methods liaison (senior methods author) in numerous CNODES studies.

Dr. Platt is on the editorial board of the American Journal of Epidemiology, Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety and Current Epidemiology Reports, and is Associate Editor of Statistics in Medicine and the International Journal of Biostatistics. He has published over 300 articles, one book and several book chapters on epidemiology.

**Kenneth Man, UCL School of Pharmacy, UK**



Kenneth is a medical statistician currently a Visiting Scientist and upcoming a CW Maplethorpe Fellow at the University College London School of Pharmacy and chair of the Asian Pharmacoepidemiology Network (AsPEN). He has been involved in various multi-national pharmacoepidemiological studies including project funded by the European Union and studies held by the AsPEN. He is interested in medication research with database and novel epidemiological methodologies, in paediatrics and psychiatry.

**Edward Chia Cheng Lai, National Cheng Kung University, TAIWAN**



Dr. Edward Lai is an Assistant Professor for School of Pharmacy, Institute of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, at National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan. His research interests include drug safety, comparative effectiveness and international multi-databases pharmacoepidemiologic studies. He chairs the Asian Pharmacoepidemiology Network SIG, and currently works on international projects for psychiatric medications, biologic agents as well as oncologic treatments. He receives governmental grants for developing pharmacoepidemiologic and analytic methods to protect data privacy for multiple databases studies. He is also working with Taiwan Drug Relief Foundation to improve drug safety, signal detection and post-marketing surveillance using electronic healthcare databases.