

## **A celebration of the life and work of Professor Sir David Goldberg**



---

Wednesday 4 June 2025, Wolfson Lecture Theatre  
Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience  
King's College London

---





King's College London

## Professor Sir David Goldberg

**Sir David Goldberg was Professor of Psychiatry at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience (IoPPN) at King's College London and Consultant Psychiatrist at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust. From 1993 to 1999, he was Director of Research & Development and Education at the (then) Institute of Psychiatry (IoP).**

**His research and teaching have been influential in advancing the field of psychiatric epidemiology, improving mental health services in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and primary care settings, and training psychiatrists worldwide.**

Sir David trained in medicine at the University of Oxford and undertook his clinical work at St Thomas' Hospital in London from 1957–59. He first joined the Maudsley Hospital in 1963, and over the next six years trained in psychiatry with Professors Sir Aubrey Lewis and Sir Michael Shepherd. He then spent nearly 25 years at the University of Manchester, where he was Head of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Science.

In 1993, David returned to the Maudsley Hospital and IoP to take up the prestigious Chair of Psychiatry. He became a Professor Emeritus of King's College London in 2000. After he retired, the IoP opened its David Goldberg Centre for Health Services Research (as it was originally known), which was named in his honour. The Centre is now home to the Department of Health Service & Population Research at the IoPPN.

Throughout his career, Sir David was a long-term advisor to the UK Department of Health and the World Health Organization, continuing this work long beyond his retirement. He was also Chairman of the General Old Age Psychiatry Advisory Committee (GOAPSAC), the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Guideline Development Group for Depression and the NICE Guideline for Depression in Physical Diseases.

From 1999–2016 he chaired the Psychiatry Research Trust, a UK-based organisation dedicated to advancing research in psychiatry and related fields. During his tenure, Sir David played a significant role in promoting research and supporting initiatives related to mental health and psychological assessment.

Sir David received a knighthood in 1997 for contributions to medicine. In 2009, he was presented with a lifetime achievement award at the inaugural Royal College of Psychiatrists Awards ceremony in recognition of his dedication throughout his career to alleviating suffering, and leading on research and service development.

### **Advancing psychiatric epidemiology and bridging the gap between high- and low-income settings**

Throughout his career, Sir David published over 300 papers and authored or co-authored 13 books. In the 1970s, he produced the 'Clinical Interview Schedule' (CIS) (1970) and the 'General Health Questionnaire' (GHQ) (1972), validated tools for psychiatric research which are still widely used. The GHQ is considered one of the most significant screening instruments in epidemiological psychiatry, and has been used extensively in epidemiological research around the world to screen for psychological distress and detect potential psychiatric disorders, particularly in non-clinical populations.

The tools were adapted and validated for use in LMICs, which was crucial for understanding mental health difficulties in different cultural and socioeconomic contexts. Sir David's insights into the prevalence and impact of mental health disorders influenced mental health policy in these countries, where he advocated for the improvement of mental health services and integration of mental health into primary care systems.

In the 1980s, he developed a new model of psychiatric services with Professor Peter Huxley, now commonly called the 'filter model'. The model describes the different stages people go through when seeking mental health care, rather than just categorising people into those who are receiving psychiatric care, and those who are not. By detailing the journey from experiencing initial symptoms to receiving specialist care, the model has helped identify potential barriers to care and improve the efficiency of mental health care systems.

### **Training psychiatrists around the world**

Sir David was instrumental in shaping the psychiatric epidemiology curriculum. He made significant contributions to the training of general practitioners (GPs) and psychiatrists by developing structured assessment tools such as the GHQ and CIS, and creating training materials focused on teaching effective communication techniques with patients and conducting psychiatric interviews.

He also played a key role in training researchers and healthcare professionals in LMICs in the use of mental health assessment tools and research methodologies, enhancing local expertise and self-sufficiency in mental health care.

He continued training psychiatrists around the world into his retirement, during which time he also designed new training materials aimed at developing neuropsychiatric skills among GPs and psychiatrists.



## EVENT PROGRAMME

14.15 – 15.00 **Arrival and refreshments**

**Session 1** **Chair: Professor Carmine Pariante**, Professor of Biological Psychiatry at King's College London and Chair of Psychiatry Research Trust

15.00 – 15.05 **Introductions and welcome**

**Professor Carmine Pariante**, Professor of Biological Psychiatry at King's College London, Chair of Psychiatry Research Trust, Consultant Perinatal Psychiatrist at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust

15.05 – 15.10 **Introductions and welcome**

**Professor Matthew Hotopf CBE**, Executive Dean at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience, King's College London

15.10 – 15.15 **David's contribution to the Psychiatry Research Trust**

**Professor Tom Craig**, Emeritus Professor of Social Psychiatry at King's College London, Former Chair of the Psychiatry Research Trust

15.15 – 15.20 **David and the Royal College of Psychiatrists**

**Dr Lade Smith CBE**, President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, Clinical Director of Forensic Services at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, Visiting Senior Lecturer at King's College London

15.20 – 15.35 **David in Manchester**

**Professor Sir Louis Appleby**, Professor of Psychiatry at University of Manchester

15.35 – 15.50 **David as a role model**

**Dr Frank Margison**, Consultant Psychiatrist at Greater Manchester Mental Health Trust

15.50 – 16.00 **David's arrival in London (video)**

**Professor Sir Graham Thornicroft**, Emeritus Professor of Community Psychiatry at King's College London, Consultant Psychiatrist at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust

16.00 – 16.15 **Mental health nursing and David: personal reflections**

**Professor Kevin Gournay CBE**, Emeritus Professor of Psychiatric Nursing, King's College London

16.15 – 16.30 **Comfort break**

**Session 2** **Chair: Professor Sarah Byford**, Head of Department of Health Service & Population Research, King's College London

16.30 – 16.45 **David and primary care**  
**Professor Gabriel Ivbijaro MBE**, Visiting Professor of Population Mental Health at NOVA University Lisbon, Chair at World Dignity Project

16.45 – 17.00 **David and the David Goldberg Centre**  
**Professor Sarah Byford**, Head of Department of Health Service & Population Research, King's College London

17.00 – 17.10 **David and Austria (video)**  
**Dr Johannes Fellingner**, Head of the Research Institute for Developmental Medicine at Johannes Kepler University Linz, Head of the Institute for Neurology of Senses and Language at Hospital of St. John of God Linz

17.10 – 17.25 **David and UK primary care: research and practice**  
**Professor Debbie Sharp**, Professor of Primary Health Care at University of Bristol

17.25 – 17.30 **Vote of thanks**  
**Professor Dinesh Bhugra CBE**, Emeritus Professor of Mental Health and Cultural Diversity at King's College London

17.30 – 19.30 **Evening reception**



Professor Sir David Goldberg chaired the Psychiatry Research Trust for over 15 years (1999–2016).

The Psychiatry Research Trust welcomes donations to help fund mental health research and improve treatment options.



Please scan the QR code to donate.

