

UNIVACC 2025 Conference



**Karolinska
Institutet**

Understanding and strengthening vaccine confidence among underserved populations – with a focus on high and middle-income countries.

For two full days you will learn more about the latest research on the vaccination needs of underserved populations and on findings as to how to best address their vaccination needs. This is an excellent opportunity to expand your network and hear from a diverse range of speakers from both academia, policy and the NGO sector.

WHEN: 11th and 12th June 2025

WHERE: The conference will take place at Biomedicum at Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Solnavägen 3, on floor 3, in the lecture hall "Eva & Georg Klein".



Scan me to
download
the abstract
booklet!



Scan me to
download
speaker bios!

Day 1: Conference Programme

Topic: Understanding and defining underserved communities.

9.00-9.15	OPENING	KI Vice President
9:15-9:45	Keynote: Overview of the topic	Prof Michael Edelstein
9:45-10:00	Migration and vaccination session: an overview of the evidence	Prof Sally Hargreaves
10:00-10:20	Migration and vaccination session among newly arrived refugees and migrants	Pania Karnaki
10:20-11:00	MORNING TEA BREAK	
11:00-11:20	Explaining the high uptake of child-hood vaccinations in the underserved Bangladeshi community in East London: A qualitative study	Prof Sandra Mounier Jack
11:20-12:00	Panel discussion: Misinformation and vaccine hesitancy among underserved communities	Prof Michael Edelstein, Prof Sally Hargreaves, Pania Karnaki, Prof Sandra Mounier Jack Moderator: Dr Sibylle Herzig van Wees



Programme continues on next page

↓ Day 1

12:00-13:00	LUNCH BREAK	
13:00-13:45	Changing landscape of vaccine confidence and uptake since the pandemic	<p>Chair: Prof Sandra Mounier Jack</p> <p>Oral presentations Dr Alex De Figueiredo: <i>How has the pandemic shaped vaccine confidence?</i></p> <p>Dr Jeanine Guidry: <i>A shot in the dark? COVID-19 misinformation and parental childhood vaccine hesitancy</i></p> <p>Dr Yongjin Choi: <i>Global Trends in Vaccine Confidence Between 2015 and 2023: The Role of Local Outbreaks and Health Systems in the Post-Pandemic Era</i></p>
13:45-14:20	Reaching underserved religious communities	<p>Overview of the topic and chair: Dr Ben Kasstan-Dabush</p> <p>Oral presentations Avraham Jacobson: <i>Heterogeneity in vaccination attitudes and practice within the Ultra-Orthodox Jewish population in Safed, Israel: a cross-sectional survey</i></p>
14:20-15:00	AFTERNOON TEA BREAK	
15:00-16:00	Other underserved groups: Sexual minorities, people with disabilities, anthroposophic communities	<p>Chair: Prof Michael Edelstein</p> <p>Erik Radix: <i>Reaching men who have sex with men and transgender people with HPV vaccination</i></p> <p>Dr Michael Deml: <i>Complementary medicine and vaccine hesitancy: Findings from a mixed-methods study among healthcare providers and parents in Switzerland</i></p> <p>Oral presentations Maria Ström: <i>Vaccine hesitancy among anthroposophic communities in Sweden</i></p> <p>Caitlin Jarrett: <i>Who's Counting? Representation of underserved populations in vaccine confidence research: Initial findings from an umbrella review</i></p>
16:00-16:45	Panel discussion: Conceptualization of under vaccinated groups	Prof Michael Edelstein, Pania Karnaki, Dr Ben Kasstan, Ifrah Mohammed, Dr Michael Deml, Maria Ström
16:45-17:00	CLOSING	Dr Sibylle Herzig van Wees

Now enjoy an evening in Stockholm!

Day 2: Conference Programme

Topic: Innovative strategies to reach underserved communities.

9:00-9:15	What interventions work to counter misinformation?	Prof Sandra Mounier-Jack
9:15-9:30	Ukrainian refugees in Poland: intervention RCT	Dr Maïke Winters
9:30-9:45	Bridging the gaps: innovative strategies to boost HPV vaccination in Sweden	Fanette Caudron
9:45-10:00	Crowdsourcing as a tool to reach underserved communities	Prof Joe Tucker & Dr Eneyi Kpokiri
10:00-10:45	Using co-design to reach underserved communities	Oral presentations Helena Avermark: <i>How has co-design been used to address vaccine hesitancy globally? A systematic review</i> Dr Daphne Bussink-Voorend: <i>Co-development of a parent-facing decision aid about childhood vaccination: addressing an overlooked opportunity</i> Dr Barbara Groot-Sluijsmans: <i>Ethics Work in Participatory and Creative Vaccine Research: Navigating Trust, Dialogue, and Divergence in Underserved Communities</i>
10:45-11:15	MORNING TEA BREAK	
11:15-11:45	Using peer-to-peer support to reach underserved communities	Oral presentations Dr Holly Seale: <i>Supporting migrant immunisation: Enhancing peer-to-peer and community connector communication approaches in Australia</i> Sarah van Hameren: <i>Strategies and challenges to optimising childhood vaccination for underserved groups in the Netherlands: insights from youth health care professionals</i>
11:45-12:00	Other innovative strategies	Oral presentation Srebrenka Dobric: <i>Outreach project to increase vaccination coverage during the vaccination campaign for influenza and covid-19 vaccination</i>
12:00-13:00	LUNCH & POSTER WALK	Mingle area at Biomedicum



Programme continues on next page

↓ Day 2

13:00-13:30	WHO EU – Strategy to reach underserved groups	Dr Brett Craig
13:30-14:00	A focus on policy strategy in Sweden to reach MSM and transgender people for HPV	Erik Radix
14:00-14:30	AFTERNOON TEA BREAK	
14:30-15:15	Panel discussion: Implementing strategies to build vaccine confidence – from policy to practice	Moderator: Dr Sibylle Herzig van Wees Erik Radix, Dr Brett Craig, Dr Maike Winters, Sara Werknu, Dr Sahar Nejat
15:15-15:30	CONCLUDING REMARKS	Dr Sibylle Herzig van Wees

Prof Michael Edelstein

Keynote at 11th of June at 9:15.

Michael Edelstein is a Public health doctor and Professor of public health at Bar-Ilan University (BIU), Israel. His expertise and interests include vaccine epidemiology and policy with a focus on health equity. Prior to joining Bar-Ilan University, Michael was a consultant epidemiologist at Public Health England (now UK HSA) where he led the vaccine equity agenda. At BIU he runs a research programme that aims to understand and address, both quantitatively and qualitatively, inequity in vaccination among different population groups in Israel and beyond. He is the co-PI of RIVER-EU, a Horizon Europe funded project aiming at improving vaccination among Europe's underserved communities.



CONTACT

Thank you for attending the UNIVACC 2025 conference! If you would like to stay in touch, collaborate or have any questions, feel free to contact Dr Sibylle Herzig van Wees at sibylle.herzig.van.wees@ki.se

We would love to hear from you.