



UCL Elizabeth Garrett Anderson
Institute for Women's Health



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University College 
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NHS Foundation Trust



A joint venture between University College London and
University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

*"the academic strength of UCL
and the clinical strength of UCH"*

*We are pleased to have this
opportunity to introduce you to the...*



UCL Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Institute for Women's Health



Director's foreword

Ian Jacobs
Director, Institute for Women's Health

What is the Institute for Women's Health?

The Institute is a new initiative established to bring together the highest levels of expertise in research, education and clinical care across the spectrum of women's health. The creation of the Institute is a joint venture between University College London (UCL), one of the world's leading universities, and University College Hospital (UCH), a flagship NHS Trust.

Why did we set it up?

We live in a time of enormous change in the health issues facing women and the way that women perceive their health and wellbeing. At the same time there is ever-increasing knowledge, information and understanding about health leading to extraordinary opportunities to make a difference in health care. The Institute has been set up to provide coherence and a focus of expertise in using these developments to improve the lives of women. The importance of empowering women through education about health care and provision of greater access to health care resources is on the agenda of national and international organisations. The current socio-political environment is

therefore ripe for a major initiative in women's health, both nationally and internationally.

Why women's health?

Women worldwide suffer from poorer health than men but receive a smaller share of health care resources and a smaller proportion of the research and development effort. Women's health has traditionally been considered in a fragmented way either alongside men's health or as specific conditions unique to women. A focus on 'women's health' will enable resources to be mobilised and expertise assembled in the concerted fashion needed to make real progress.

Who are we?

The Institute team consists of internationally renowned researchers and innovators in education and training as well as leading experts in all aspects of women's health, including doctors, nurses, surgeons, psychologists, sociologists, geneticists and laboratory scientists. The team are based at the University College Campus in central London and have extensive links with major centres and experts in the UK and worldwide.

What is our mission?

Our mission is to bring together the expertise of clinicians and researchers from a diverse range of disciplines so that they can deliver excellence and innovation in research, clinical practice, education and training. We are committed to making a real and sustainable difference to women's health locally, nationally and worldwide.

Introduction

to the UCL Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Institute for Women's Health

The UCL Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Institute for Women's Health is an exciting new venture. It was established in 2004 with the objective of making a major contribution to the health of women in the UK and internationally. Its aim is to create a leading centre of excellence for research, clinical care, education and training in women's health. The Institute links the academic strength of University College London (UCL), one of the world's leading universities, and the clinical strength of University College Hospital (UCH), a flagship NHS Trust with a state-of-the-art new hospital building. As a result the Institute is able to combine the clinical expertise and skills of staff at UCH with the highest quality research expertise of staff at UCL.

The scope of the Institute

Cutting edge expertise in research and education at UCL is integrated with clinical excellence across the spectrum of women's health at UCH, which draws on the commitment of many dedicated professionals in medicine, nursing and associated disciplines. The work of the Institute team also involves professional education, public consultation and community projects, to support important health care initiatives and to meet the scientific challenges of our changing world. Alongside its work in the UK the Institute has embarked on a major venture in women's health in Africa.

Specialist expertise in the Institute:

- Neonatology
- Fetal Medicine
- Maternal Medicine
- Obstetrics
- Midwifery
- Family Planning
- Sexual Health
- Pelvic Pain
- Endometriosis
- Surgical Technology
- Fertility Treatment
- Menopause
- Cancer Screening
- Cancer Genetics
- Cancer Surgery
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Alternative Care
- Ethics
- Education & Training
- Health in the Developing World
- Reproductive Health
- Urogynaecology
- Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology

In all of these areas, our clinical teams work seamlessly with research groups and are established as international leaders in fields such as fetal medicine, neonatology and gynaecological cancer. We have more than one hundred researchers whose expertise ranges from psychology and epidemiology to clinical trials and laboratory based molecular genetics/cell biology. This team includes world-ranking senior academics with access to the latest research technology and facilities.

The UCL Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Institute for Women's Health: A short history

The Institute has direct links to a rich history of women's health care and rights dating back over more than a century. This tradition provides an inspiring background to our endeavours to make a difference in women's health.

Elizabeth Garrett Anderson

Elizabeth Garrett Anderson was a pioneer of women's rights in medicine and society. Born in 1836, she made history in 1865 by becoming the first

woman to become a doctor in the UK despite vigorous opposition from the medical establishment. She was also Britain's first woman mayor and an early suffragette. She fought tirelessly for women to have access to high quality health care and for the right of women to practise medicine. In 1872, at the age of 36, she founded the first British hospital for women in London – which became the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital after her death and is now based at UCH.

University College London (UCL)

Founded in 1826, UCL was the first university in England to admit students of any race, class or religion. It was also the first university to welcome women on equal terms with men and the first English university to offer the systematic teaching of medicine, law and architecture. UCL has retained this strong tradition of equal opportunity for all whilst consolidating its status as one of the world's leading universities.

The Obstetric Hospital, Huntley Street, London

The Obstetric Hospital on Huntley Street was founded in 1923 as part of UCH. It was the birthplace of many historic innovations in women's health including the development of ergotamine, which has saved millions of lives worldwide by preventing and treating haemorrhage associated with childbirth. The Fetal Medicine department pioneered the treatment of Rhesus babies, which has become one of the most important life-saving interventions for newborns in the last 100 years. The Neonatal Unit at UCH, founded in the 1960s, was one of the world's first dedicated intensive care units for newborn babies, and has

initiated developments in neonatal care which are now used throughout the world.

Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Obstetric Hospital

In 1999 as part of NHS reorganisation the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital merged with the Obstetric Hospital at UCH and moved to Huntley Street. Gynaecology services have recently moved to the 16th floor of the new state-of-the-art University College Hospital. Obstetric services will also move in 2008 when phase 2 of the new hospital build is complete and the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Wing is opened.



“a broader and more holistic approach”

The UCL Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Institute for Women's Health

Our mission statement

- 🕒 To bring together the expertise of clinicians and researchers from a diverse range of disciplines
- 🕒 So that they can deliver excellence and innovation in research, clinical practice, education and training
- 🕒 In order to make a real and sustainable difference to women's health locally, nationally and worldwide

The changing sphere of women's health

In the developing world, women's health is devastated by adverse social and economic conditions. Even in post-industrial nations where women live longer, they suffer more ill health than men.

The boundaries of women's health have altered. For example, technological advances in assisted reproduction raise new issues not just for the health services but also for society. The increase in smoking and obesity amongst young women needs to be understood in its social and economic context to enable change. Women have higher expectations of the services providing health care and expect their choices to be heard. We now realise that good

medical care balances quality of life with physical wellbeing – we need to work with models of health, illness and health care that move beyond the traditional.

Progress

Impressive progress has been achieved in medicine and nursing to improve many areas of women's health. Equally important are the ground-breaking contributions from disciplines such as genetics, biochemistry, psychology, sociology, economics, law and ethics. Consumer and advocacy groups have done much to raise awareness of women's health issues and their influence has enriched research, practice and policy.

Improving the future

What is missing is coherence. A single vision and effort is needed to harness the multiplicity and richness of ideas from widely varying groups that share the same aim: to improve the health of women. The Institute for Women's Health will bring together experts from diverse disciplines and interest groups to support important health care initiatives and engage with scientific challenges yet to come.

Why an institute for women's health?

The Institute will make it possible to focus expertise, resources and energy on women's health in a way that has not previously occurred. High profile centres of excellence have facilitated progress in many areas of health care, including neurology, paediatrics, cancer and cardiac disease – but this has not yet happened in women's health.

Traditionally, women's health care in the UK has been organised around the narrow focus of clinical obstetrics and gynaecology. The creation of the Institute will facilitate a broader and more holistic approach and help to mobilise the resources and expertise required for major progress.

Pathway to change

- 🕒 Incorporate clinical care, research, education and training in a coordinated programme of activity
- 🕒 Encompass the full range of women's health issues, not only those specific to women but also those in which

there are important differences between men and women

- 🕒 Bring together individuals with expertise crossing the spectrum of women's health issues – from laboratory science, through clinical science, to social and behavioural sciences
- 🕒 Address wider health issues of importance to society – the social, psychological, economic, ethical and legal implications of health care interventions
- 🕒 Take a global perspective, supporting initiatives to improve the health of women in the emerging world

Achieving this integration of women's health issues will bring exciting opportunities for progress and will break down many of the existing barriers. The Institute can provide the focus, structure, leadership and resources required for this ambitious venture.

The Institute will change the way in which women's health issues are tackled.

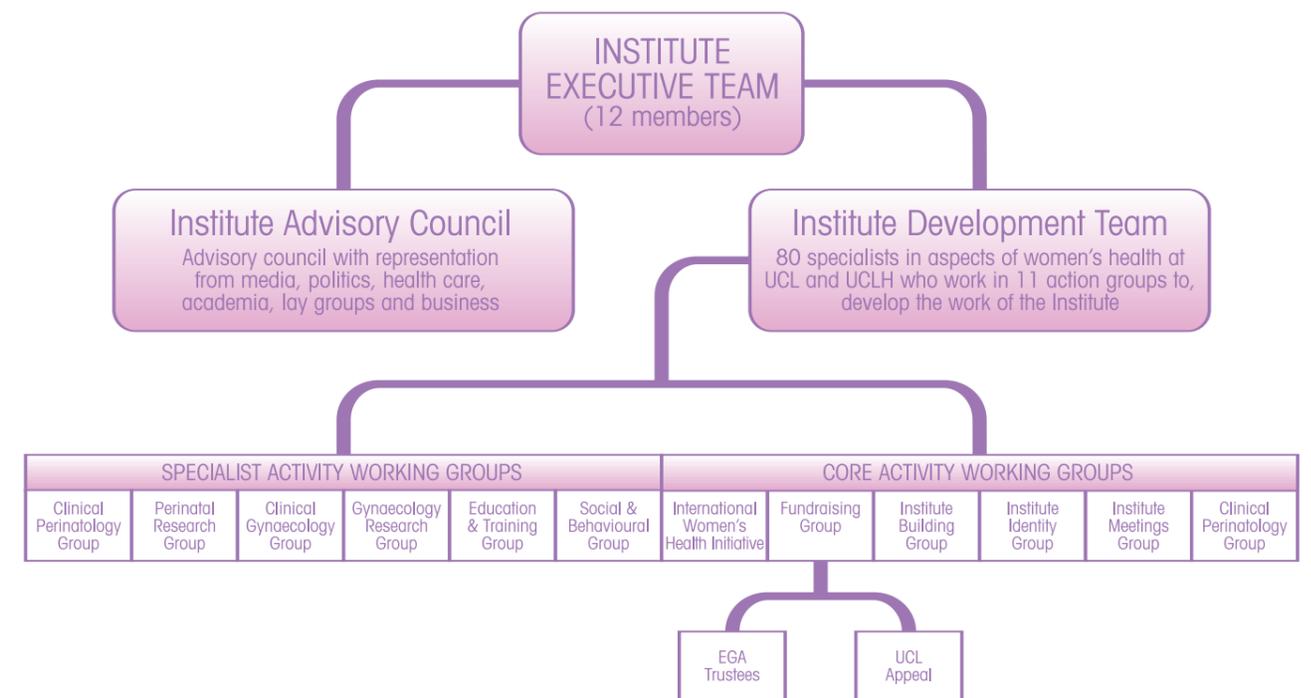
The structure of the Institute

The Executive Team is at the core of the Institute structure. It meets on a monthly basis and is chaired by Professor Ian Jacobs, UCL Professor of Women's Health and UCH Consultant in Gynaecological Cancer Surgery. The Executive Team is made up of the leads of eleven Institute Working Groups which meet regularly to take forward both the specialist and the core activities of the Institute. Nearly one hundred senior clinical and academic staff at UCL

and UCH are members of the eleven Working Groups.

The Institute is in the process of creating an Institute Advisory Council to give external advice with representation from media, politics, health care, academia, lay groups and business.

The Institute Fundraising Working Group liaises closely with UCL Corporate Development and the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson (EGA) Special Trustees.



We believe that things could be better for women and their families

The objective of the Institute is to make a difference to the health of women in the UK and internationally by creation of a leading centre of excellence for research, clinical care, education and training.

From childhood to puberty, motherhood to menopause, maturity to old age, the lives of women around the world are a fascinating and complex journey filled with great joys and also suffering. From developmental problems to menstrual

abnormalities, infertility to hormone deficiencies, premature labour to neonatal death, bladder problems to cancer, there are now amazing opportunities to make this journey better.

The Institute team are dedicated to making things better. We believe that medicine must be holistic and combine the health of the body with the health of the mind. We aim to improve knowledge, practice and education in all aspects of women's health.

“one vision, harnessing a multiplicity of ideas”

How will the Institute make a difference ?

1. Leadership in women's health

The Institute will be a focus bringing together leading professionals working in women's health in the UK and worldwide to:

- ① Develop a new model for women's health care, integrating all aspects of health provision
- ① Influence governments and health care organisations worldwide, to increase the resources and priority given to women's health issues
- ① Facilitate dissemination of advances in research and clinical care
- ① Improve women's health care in the emerging world

2. Research excellence

- ① We will build on existing research strengths – in fetal medicine and infertility, gynaecological cancers, urinary disorders and perinatal brain research – translating new basic and molecular understanding into practical clinical applications.
- ① We will appoint new professorial chairs and establish new research programmes in key areas of women's health such as:
 - Pre-implantation genetics
 - Preterm labour
 - Minimal access surgery
 - Bladder neurophysiology and tissue culture
 - Infertility and assisted conception
 - Fetal and early life interventions
 - Management of acute and chronic pain
 - Care of women in labour
 - Scanning and imaging in gynaecology
 - Care of women suffering from incurable gynaecological cancers
 - Brain protection and repair in the newborn
 - Social and behavioural sciences

3. Clinical care

- ① We will push the boundaries of medical care in all aspects of women's health, combining the outcomes of the latest research and technological advances to reduce mortality and morbidity in women and newborns.
- ① We will develop and provide:
 - New approaches to nursing care, with specialist nurses and nurse consultants in fertility, gynaecological cancer, and neonatology and specialist midwives in fetal medicine and obstetrics
 - Psychological support and counselling in all aspects of women's health.
 - Minimal access technology and robotic advanced surgical equipment, to make surgery safer and better tolerated

- New approaches to non-invasive imaging of the fetus and neonate using state-of-the-art magnetic resonance and optical technology
- New ways of caring for premature babies that enhance normal brain development and minimise injury
- The most sophisticated new methods for cancer screening, detection and prevention
- A new ethos in medical care appreciating the quality of life issues that surround any medical treatment. Care will be holistic, respecting both traditional and alternative medical practices.

4. Education and training

We will develop the Institute's role as:

- ① A comprehensive educational and information resource both physically with modern educational facilities and lecture halls, and also virtually on the internet so that the material can be accessed worldwide. This resource will be available to students, doctors, nurses, therapists, educationalists, governments and policy makers
- ① A leading provider of educational courses in all aspects of women's health, allowing health care workers around the world to be taught by and interact with the best teachers and lecturers and to learn the philosophies and practice of the best clinical care
- ① A forum and focus for the development of advocacy and leadership in women's health issues

5. The emerging world

We will build collaborative links with women's health programmes and centres in countries with limited resources:

- ① Providing support and educational resources to health professionals in low resource countries
- ① Translating advances in understanding and clinical practice into practical initiatives in the local environment
- ① Initiating a series of well defined projects to introduce sustainable and cost effective ways of preventing and treating women's diseases
- ① Establishing an international centre for reproductive rights and ethics in collaboration with other institutions in both the developed and emerging world.

Current activity in the Institute

Clinical

Our NHS team at UCH have a range of clinical expertise which provides a sound basis for initiatives in women's health care. The delivery of clinical care is led by a team of over 200 doctors, nurses, and other health care professionals specialised in areas of women's health including:

- Neonatal medicine
- Fetal medicine
- Midwifery
- Obstetrics
- Early Pregnancy
- Emergency Gynaecology
- Menopause
- Fertility
- Reproductive Medicine
- Urogynecology
- Paediatric and Adolescent gynaecology
- Minimal Access Surgery
- Endometriosis
- Gynaecological Cancer
- Breast Care and Cancer
- Cancer Screening
- Familial Cancer
- Psychology
- Counselling

Research

Our research team includes over one hundred doctors, nurses, scientists and technicians. The Institute has internationally recognised research groups at UCL in the areas of neonatology, fetal medicine and gynaecological cancer. The UCL campus also includes expertise in many of the other areas and technologies important for progress in women's health. Current research activity is supported by funding from UCL for research infrastructure and academic staff, and by external grants from the Medical Research Council, Cancer Research UK, NHS Research & Development, Wellcome Trust and Wellbeing which total in excess of £30m.

Education:

There are high quality educational training programmes at undergraduate level for medical students and at postgraduate level leading to PhDs, as well as a programme of courses and meetings on topics in women's health. UCL and UCH also have recognition from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists for specialist higher medical training in gynaecological cancer, urogynaecology, reproductive medicine and fetal medicine.

The Institute Executive Team

Director:

Ian Jacobs BA, MA, MBBS, MD, FRCOG. Consultant Gynaecological Oncologist, UCH. Professor of Women's Health, UCL.

UCH Directorate Representative:

Jane Hawdon BSc, MBBS, FRCP, MD. Consultant Neonatologist & Clinical Director, UCH. Hon. Senior Lecturer, UCL.

Clinical Perinatology Lead:

Pranav Pandya BA, MBBS, MRCOG, MD. Consultant Fetal Medicine, UCH. Hon. Senior Lecturer, UCL.

Perinatal Research Lead:

Donald Peebles BA, MBBS, MD, MRCOG. Consultant Fetal Medicine, UCH. Reader Fetal Medicine, UCL.

Clinical Gynaecology Lead:

Tim Mould MBBS, MA(Oxon), DM(Oxon), MRCOG. Consultant Gynaecological Oncologist, UCH. Hon. Senior Lecturer, UCL.

Gynaecology Research Lead:

Jonathan Ledermann BSc, MBBS, MD, FRCP. Consultant Oncologist, UCH. Reader Medical Oncology, UCL.

Social & Behavioural Sciences Lead:

Anne Lanceley BSc, PhD. Nurse Specialist, UCH. Nursing Research Fellow, UCL.

Developing World Lead:

Pat O'Brien MB BCh, MFFP, MRCOG. Consultant Obstetrician, UCH. Hon. Senior Lecturer, UCL.

Institute Identity Lead:

Jo Modder MBBS, MRCOG. Consultant Obstetrician, UCH. Hon. Senior Lecturer, UCL.

Institute Meetings Lead:

Usha Menon BSc, MBBS, MRCOG. Consultant Gynaecologist, UCH. Senior Lecturer Gynaecological Oncology, UCL.

Fundraising Lead:

John Osborne BSc, MBBS, MD, FRCOG. Consultant Urogynaecologist, UCH. Hon. Senior Lecturer, UCL.

Education & Training Lead:

Ray Noble BSc, MBBS, PhD. Reader Education & Ethics, UCL.

Institute. Coordinator:

Shahina Mohamed MMSA, Executive Assistant to Director, Institute for Women's Health.

Institute Working Groups

Clinical Perinatology

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Patricia Jones
Heulwen Morgan
Janet Rennie
Yana Richens
Fiona Walker

Clinical Gynaecology

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Melanie Davies
Lindsay Fraser
Sue Gessler
Joseph Iskaros

Perinatal Research

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Joyce Harper
Heulwen Morgan
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Janet Rennie
Nikki Robertson
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Allan Maclean
Ozkan Ozturk
Susan Ramus

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Dimitra Dafou
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Melanie Hill
Helen Mitchell
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Susan Ramus
Siobhan Sengupta

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Sue Gessler
Ian Jacobs
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Shahina Mohamed
Isabella Ramsay

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Usha Menon (Meetings Lead)

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Frances Greenall
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Rena Melnyczuk
Jo Modder
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Graham Scambler
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Jackie Baxter
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Mary Burgess
Maryann Barone-Chapman
Michelle Johnson
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Nancy Pistrang
Patrick O'Brien
Sue Gessler
Susan Michie
Usha Menon