

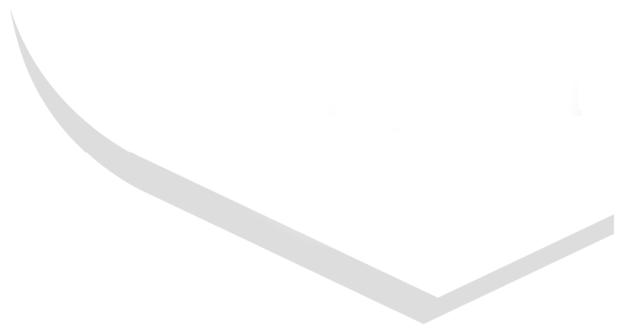
# Travellers and other minority communities: navigating the NHS and alternative approaches to health

**Thursday 28 September 2013 from 18:30 to 20:00 in the Council Chamber**

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This seminar will explore the various issues surrounding varying levels of NHS use among particular minority groups. Focusing on Gypsy and Irish Traveller communities, the orthodox Jewish community and users of Chinese Medicine, we will seek to understand what barriers some of these communities face when trying to access mainstream health services and the interplay between access issues, alternative ways of managing health and the role of the NHS. Our panel will explore these issues and what role doctors can play in addressing them.

Travellers and other minority communities			
1800	Registration		
1830	Opening remarks	Dr David Napier	University College London
1840	Panel Discussion		
	Chair:	Dr David Napier	University College London
	Panel:	Yvonne MacNamara	The Travellers Movement
		Prof Volker Scheid	University of Westminster
		Debra Lewis	Ezer Leyoldos
2000	Reception		



**Panellists:**

**Dr David Napier, University College London**

David Napier is Professor of Medical Anthropology at University College London, Director of the University's Centre for Applied Global Citizenship, and Director of its new Science, Medicine, and Society Network. Prior to his posting in UCL, Dr Napier was a fellow of Harvard University, New York University, Johns Hopkins University and Oxford among others. David's special interests in applied research include assessing vulnerability, primary health-care delivery, caring for ethnically diverse populations and migration.

**Yvonne MacNamara, The Travellers Movement**

Yvonne joined TM as CEO in 2008 and has lead the organisation and its staff team towards becoming a leading national charity in the field of inclusion and equalities for Britain's Traveller communities. Yvonne has worked within the voluntary and community sector on a wide range of issues concerning BAME (black and minority ethnic) communities and has over twenty years' experience in the field. TM has just held their annual national conference which focused on key questions such as: Is there a mental health crisis within the Traveller community? Are young Gypsy and Traveller women really forced into marriage?

**Prof Volker Scheid, University of Westminster**

Prof Scheid is a researcher, practitioner and teacher of Chinese medicine. He is professor of East Asian Medicines at the University of Westminster and Director of the university's EASTmedicine Research Centre. Much of his research has focused on the modernisation of East Asian medicines and their integration into contemporary health services, including a Department of Health funded study on the potential of Chinese medicine treatment strategies for menopausal symptoms for use within the NHS. His clinical practice focuses on internal medicine and gynaecology.

**Debra Lewis, Ezer Leyoldos**

Debra Lewis is the Client Services Coordinator at Ezer Leyoldos; a London-based charity that provides a variety of services to children and families in the orthodox Jewish community. They are commissioned by the London Boroughs of Hackney and Haringey to provide support to families with either short term or on-going difficulties through parenting training skills, home help, counselling and support groups. Established in 1993 as a support service for new mothers, the organisation now provides a wide range of support services to help families achieve stability and access culturally appropriate services.