

## Dr Lavanya Diwakar MSc, MRCP

Research Fellow, Health Economics

Health Economics

### Contact details

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### About

Dr Diwakar is funded by the Wellcome Trust for a PhD in Health Economics. Her project is aimed at carrying out an economic evaluation of paediatric allergy services in the West Midlands. She is looking at ways to incorporate end user preferences into planning allergy services for the West Midlands and will estimate the costs and effectiveness of various possible pathways for delivery of these services.

She is also a clinical immunologist employed as a honorary consultant at the University Hospital, Birmingham.

### Qualifications

- MSc (Health economics and Health policy), University of Birmingham 2010
- Member of Royal College of Physicians (UK) 2004
- General Medical Council (UK) 2001

### Biography

Lavanya underwent speciality training in Adult Immunology in the West Midlands region. In 2009, she completed the MSc course in health economics and health policy at the University of Birmingham in 2010. Subsequently, she obtained a Wellcome Trust research fellowship and started her PhD in July 2013.

Lavanya's PhD project aims to model various pathways that can be used for the delivery of Paediatric allergy services in the West Midlands and to work out the costs and effectiveness of these pathways specifically for our region. During the course of the PhD, she will learn to carry out systematic literature reviews, analyse data from the THIN and HES databases, carry out a qualitative study, a discrete choice experiment and improve her understanding of modelling.

Her research interests include Health economics, Immunology, allergy, pathways of service delivery and funding of rare diseases.

### Teaching

- **[Medicine and Surgery MBChB \(/undergraduate/courses/med/medicine.aspx\)](#)** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Year MB ChB module in Immunology- tutorials
- **[Health Economics and Health Policy MSc/Postgraduate Diploma \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/med/health-economics-policy.aspx\)](#)**

### Doctoral research

**PhD title** Economic evaluation of Paediatric Allergy pathways for the West Midlands

### Publications

1. Evaluation of the Cost Effectiveness of Vesico-Amniotic Shunting in the Management of Congenital Lower Urinary Tract Obstruction (Based on Data from the PLUTO Trial). Diwakar L, Morris RK, Barton P, Middleton LJ, Kilby MD, Roberts TE. PLoS ONE 2013;8(12):e82564.
2. **Book Chapter:** Anaphylaxis: Presentation and Differential Diagnosis (As a part of a book titled 'Anaphylaxis') Diwakar L, Hasan A ;Nova Publishers (Published May 2013 )
3. The Percutaneous shunting in Lower Urinary Tract Obstruction (PLUTO) study and randomised controlled trial: evaluation of the effectiveness, cost-effectiveness and acceptability of percutaneous vesicoamniotic shunting for lower urinary tract obstruction. Morris R, Malin G, Quinlan-Jones E, Middleton L, Diwakar L, Hemming K, et al. Health Technol Assess 2013;17(59)
4. **Congruence of the current practices in Hymenoptera venom allergic patients in Poland with EAACI guidelines.** (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22291828>) Cichocka-Jarosz E, Diwakar L, Brzyski P, Tobiasz-Adamczyk B, Lis G, Pietrzyk JJ. Arch Med Sci. 2011 Oct; 7(5):832-9.
5. **Diagnosis and management of hymenoptera venom allergy: British Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology (BSACI) guidelines.** (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21848758>) Krishna MT, Ewan PW, Diwakar L, Durham SR, Frew AJ, Leech SC, Nasser SM; British Society for Allergy and Clinical Immunology. Clin Exp Allergy. 2011 Sep;41(9):1201-20.
6. **Self-injectable adrenaline devices: is training necessary?** (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20945620>) Diwakar L, Heslegrave J, Richter AG, Huissoon AP, Krishna MT. J Investig Allergol Clin Immunol. 2010;20(5):452-3.

7. **Does rituximab aggravate pre-existing hypogammaglobulinaemia?** (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20203231>) Diwakar L, Gorrie S, Richter A, Chapman O, Dhillon P, Al-Ghanmi F, Noorani S, Krishna MT, Huissoon A. J Clin Pathol. 2010 Mar;63(3):275-7.
8. **Practice of venom immunotherapy in the United Kingdom: a national audit and review of literature.** (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/18727621>) Diwakar L, Noorani S, Huissoon AP, Frew AJ, Krishna MT. Clin Exp Allergy. 2008 Oct;38(10):1651-8.

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