

Meeting May 22, by invitation only:

## Teaching children to assess claims and make informed choices

On Monday 22nd May, the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), the Education Endowment Foundation, The Research Council of Norway and The Lancet are hosting a meeting at the RCPCH. Attendance is by invitation only, and you are cordially invited to attend. To hold your place, please confirm your interest in participating in this meeting by responding to Patricia Atkinson: [patkinson@jameslind.net](mailto:patkinson@jameslind.net)

**2-5 pm Monday 22 May 2017.**  
**Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health**  
**5-11 Theobald's Road**  
**London WC1X 8SH**

The meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss shared health and education interests in teaching children to think critically about claims in general, and especially claims about the effects of treatments - any actions intended to improve the health of individuals or communities. The discussion will also consider the value of developing critical thinking more widely, as a key educational outcome.

The reason that the meeting has been organised on this date is that it coincides with the publication of two randomised trials of educational strategies to promote critical assessment of treatment claims. Over 10,000 children in 120 Ugandan schools tested the effects of the Informed Healthcare Choices primary school resources. The second trial tested the effects of a podcast for the parents of some of these children.

Both interventions were designed to promote learning how to apply some key concepts essential for assessing treatment claims. Both were effective. The resources and some background information about this project can be found here: [www.informedhealthchoices.org](http://www.informedhealthchoices.org). At the meeting, Allen Nsangi and Daniel Semakula, the principle investigators of these trials, will present the results and there will be an opportunity to ask questions and discuss them.

Following presentation of the trials there will be opportunities to discuss the relevance of this research for education, healthcare, and development. Sir Kevan Collins, Chief Executive of the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF), will discuss the relevance of these findings for education in the UK and globally, and put them in the context of other relevant research. Professor Neena Modi, President of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, will discuss the relevance of the findings for the health of children and their participation in decisions about their own healthcare and participation in research. There will then be a panel discussion. Throughout the meeting the audience will be invited to participate in the discussion.

We hope that you will be able to join us.  
Sincerely,

**Professor Neena Modi**, President, Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health

**Sir Kevan Collins**, Chief Executive, Education Endowment Foundation

**Dr Jannikke Ludt**, Department Director, Research Council of Norway

**Dr Richard Horton**, Editor-in-Chief, The Lancet