

# KURT TAYLOR

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## CURRENT POSITION

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PhD Student, MRC Integrative Epidemiology Unit, University of Bristol

## EDUCATION

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### University of Bristol, UK

September 2017-Present

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Integrative Cardiovascular Science (Epidemiology)

Thesis title: *The epidemiology of congenital heart disease: identifying causal maternal risk factors*

Fully funded studentship via the British Heart Foundation

### University of Surrey, UK

September 2014-July 2017

Bachelor of Science (BSc Hons), Sport and Exercise Science; First

## EXPERIENCE

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### University of Copenhagen

January 2020

Visiting researcher

Copenhagen, Denmark

- Visiting researcher for 2 weeks undertaking analyses as part of a wider project.

### Population Health Sciences, University of Bristol

January 2019 - January 2020

Teacher

Bristol, UK

- After completing the ‘starting to teach’ training course, I was enrolled as a teacher on the Bristol Medical School short course: *Introduction to Epidemiology*.

### Aspire Scientific

August 2019 - ongoing

Freelance medical writer

Remote work

- As a freelance medical writer, I help produce a diverse range of high-quality scientific materials. This role often has strict deadlines.

### MRC Integrative Epidemiology Unit, University of Bristol

2019

Events organisation

Bristol, UK

- I was part of the organisation committee for the 2019 International Mendelian Randomization conference.

### Surrey Human Performance Institute

May 2016 - August 2016

Clinical exercise science intern

Surrey, UK

- A patient-facing position located within a lab at Surrey Sports Park, as well as carrying out Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing at Ashford and St Peter’s Hospital.

## PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

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I am an advocate of open science and the publication of pre-specified analysis plans to improve reproducibility and prevent publication bias. A list of my past, current and future projects can be found here: [OSF Page](#). My Google Scholar Profile can be found here: [Google Scholar Profile](#).

### Published research

1. **Taylor K**, Elhakeem A, Nader JLT, Yang T, Isaevska E, Richiardi L, et al. The effect of maternal pre-/early-pregnancy BMI and pregnancy smoking and alcohol on congenital heart diseases: a parental negative control study. *Journal of the American Heart Association*; (2021). [Open-Access link](#)
2. Richardson TG, Mykkänen J, Pahkala K, Ala-Korpela M, Bell JA, **Taylor K** et al. Evaluating the direct effects of childhood adiposity on adult systemic metabolism: A multivariable Mendelian randomization analysis. *International Journal of Epidemiology*, dyab051 (2021). [Open-Access link](#)
3. **Taylor K**, McBride N, J Goulding N et al. Metabolomics datasets in the Born in Bradford cohort. *Wellcome Open Res* (2020), 5:264 [Open-Access link](#)
4. **Taylor K**, Thomas R, Mumme M et al. Ascertaining and classifying cases of congenital anomalies in the ALSPAC birth cohort. *Wellcome Open Res* (2020), 5:231 [Open-Access link](#)
5. **Taylor, K.**; L. Santos Ferreira, D.; West, J.; Yang, T.; Caputo, M.; A. Lawlor, D. Differences in Pregnancy Metabolic Profiles and Their Determinants between White European and South Asian Women: Findings from the Born in Bradford Cohort. *Metabolites* 9, 190 (2019). [Open-Access link](#)
6. **Taylor, K.**, Davey Smith, G., Relton, C.L. et al. Prioritizing putative influential genes in cardiovascular disease susceptibility by applying tissue-specific Mendelian randomization. *Genome Med* 11, 6 (2019). [Open-Access link](#)

#### Pre-prints under review

1. McBride N, Yousefi P, Sovio U, **Taylor K**, Vafai Y, Yang T, et al. Do mass-spectrometry-derived metabolomics improve prediction of pregnancy-related disorders? Findings from a UK birth cohort with independent validation. *MedRxiv*; (2021). [Pre-Print link](#)
2. Corbin LJ, Taylor AE, White SJ, Williams CM, **Taylor K**, den Bosch MT van, et al. Epigenetic regulation of PAR4-related platelet activation: mechanistic links between environmental exposure and cardiovascular disease. *bioRxiv*; (2018). [Pre-Print link](#)

#### GRANTS AND AWARDS

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1. University of Bristol Open Research Prize for Increasing Quality (£100 prize), March 2021 - *Why and how I have adopted Open Research practices to improve the quality of my research.*
2. British Heart Foundation Accelerator Award Pump Priming Grant (£50,000), March 2020 - *Cardiovascular risk factors other than the heart defect in children with congenital heart disease.* Lucia Cocomello, **Kurt Taylor**, Rosie Cornish, Katie Skeffington, Deborah A. Lawlor, Massimo Caputo.

#### SUPERVISION

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1. Dental student placement (2021, Qui-Yi)

#### PRESENTATIONS, TALKS AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

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##### Oral presentations

University of Bristol Open Research Awards, *Virtual* March 2021  
*Why and how I have adopted Open Research practices to improve the quality of my research.*

Longitudinal Studies Conference, *Virtual* March 2021  
*The effect of maternal pre-/early-pregnancy BMI and pregnancy smoking and alcohol on congenital heart diseases: a parental negative control study.*

Society for Epidemiologic Research, *Boston, USA* June 2020  
 Invited for oral presentation (meeting cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic) - *Using an untargeted*

*metabolomics platform to explore associations between maternal metabolites and congenital heart disease in the offspring.*

University of Surrey, *Surrey, UK*

*October 2019*

I was invited to give a one hour talk about my time at the University of Surrey and how I progressed to a PhD student.

Born in Bradford Science Festival, *Bradford, UK*

*September 2019*

Sofa session lasting 70 minutes talking to a mixed audience including members of the public, researchers and policy makers about my research and what we use blood samples for in the Born in Bradford cohort.

### **Poster presentations**

DOHaD 2019, *Melbourne, Australia*

*October 2019*

*Differences in Pregnancy Metabolic Profiles and Their Determinants between White European and South Asian Women: Findings from the Born in Bradford Cohort.*

## **TRAINING AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

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**Training courses:** Introduction to Epidemiology (5 days), Introduction to Statistics (5 days), Mendelian randomisation (3 days), Systematic reviews and meta-analyses (4 days), Causal inference in epidemiology (3 days), Genetic epidemiology (5 days), Biostatistical analysis of genotype data (2 days), Simulation studies (2 days)

**Statistical packages:** R (proficient), Stata (basic use), Microsoft Office (proficient)