

KURT TAYLOR

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CURRENT POSITION

PhD Student, MRC Integrative Epidemiology Unit, University of Bristol

EDUCATION

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

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

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

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

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

PRESENTATIONS, TALKS AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

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)