

About the Contributors



Enrique Beldarrain Chaple MD PhD

Epidemiologist with a doctorate in health sciences. Full professor at the Medical University of Havana and senior researcher and research director, Cuban National Health Care Telecommunications Network and Portal (INFOMED) in Havana. Dr Beldarrain's research and publications on a range of topics in communicable and non-communicable disease control, as well as history of Cuban public health and medicine, have earned him a number of national science awards.



Mikhail Benet Rodriguez MD PhD

Physiologist with advanced degrees in molecular biology and pharmacology. Professor of physiology, physiopathology and research methods at the Medical University of Cienfuegos. Dr Benet has published extensively on non-communicable chronic diseases, including the CARMEN study. He is editor of *Medisur* and *Finlay* journals, and chairs the Cuban Medical Journals' Advisory Committee, the Provincial Council of Scientific Societies and the Scientific Council of the Medical University of Cienfuegos.



L. Omar Cabrera-Rodriguez MD MS

Cardiologist, assistant professor and adjunct researcher at Havana's Cardiology and Cardiovascular Surgery Institute. Dr Cabrera's research uses nuclear medicine techniques to explore myocardial viability, assessment of acute chest pain in emergency services, heart disease in diabetics, myocardial perfusion in Chagas disease, ventricular wall motion, and coronary disease in women.



Yolanda Díaz Castro MS

Psychologist with a master's degree in comprehensive child health. Staff psychologist at Los Palacios Community Mental Health Center and associate professor at the Medical University of Pinar del Río, Los Palacios satellite campus. In addition to her work on adolescent alcohol use reported here, Ms Díaz has conducted research on a variety of topics in child and family health, including behavioral problems in children, family communication and communication patterns of teachers of children with school adaptation difficulties.



Georgia Díaz-Perera Fernández MD MPH PhD

Family physician and epidemiologist at Havana's Atherosclerosis Research and Reference Center, where she is also an associate professor and adjunct researcher. She has published on several themes related to atherosclerosis risk factors and determinants, as well as on the quality of medical education.



Manuel Medell Gago

Health technologist specializing in microbiology. His work in the microbiology department at the Hermanos Ameijeiras Clinical-Surgical Teaching Hospital focuses on diagnosis of respiratory infections and research on genetic mutations and characterization of *Enterococcus* species. He is currently studying chemical engineering at the José Antonio Echeverría Higher Polytechnical Institute, Havana.



Adrian A. Naranjo Domínguez

Fourth-year medical student at the Pinar del Río Medical University, carrying out service learning at the Turcios Lima Polyclinic in the same city. He has been an active researcher throughout his medical studies, focusing on chronic non-communicable conditions, including hypertension, diabetes and heart disease.