

Health Innovation Ecosystem (HIE) Webinar Spring 2020

Date: **Wednesday 20 May 2020, 1.00-2.00pm**

Place: **NOW ONLINE**. Visit <https://eu.bbcollab.com/guest/81a063ec737a44969f21bd11c5fa2054> on the day.

Title: **Making Sense of Older Adult's Lives with Asthma**

Speaker: **Skaiste Linceviciute**, PhD, Research Fellow, HIE, University of Westminster

Abstract:

Asthma in older persons is a common illness that can be diagnosed as a phenotype of a long-standing asthma or a late onset asthma. It can entail a range of structural difficulties and issues, such as a delayed diagnosis of asthma, misdiagnosis, treatment difficulties and many other medical related concerns. However, regarding the context of living with asthma of older adults, the knowledge is based on quantitative research with studies of a wide age range that does not consider the individual experiences of older adults nor the meaning of asthma in their lives. The aim of my thesis was to explore the experiences, perspectives and ideas about what it is like to live with asthma for older persons. This was accomplished by carrying out a qualitative evidence synthesis and UK wide interviews with older adults with asthma. Using different methods of analysis, previously unheard stories about the meaning of living with asthma for older persons were identified. This talk will highlight the results from my doctoral thesis. I will discuss findings related to the two phenotypes of older age asthma, and will reflect on future directions.

Bio:

Skaiste has a BSc (Hons) in Psychology and a PhD in Health Sciences and Social Work at the University of Portsmouth. She has recently joined the Health Innovation Ecosystem team as a Research Fellow and will be contributing to the existing and new research opportunities and collaborations.

Skaiste is at the exciting start of her career and has already worked on several projects supporting different stages of research. Her experience spans across several areas of health and wellbeing, and she is particularly interested in carrying out qualitative and mixed design studies. Her research interests focus around the experiences with chronic illnesses and psycho-social wellbeing of different populations and age groups. Skaiste's PhD is about the experiences of older adults with a long-standing and a late onset asthma. Using different methods and approaches she was successful in researching people's narratives that explored the meaning of living with asthma for older persons. Skaiste is also currently working on a collaborative project with the University of Portsmouth that is about the sleep disturbance, mental health, wellbeing and educational impact in UK university students.