Biography

Prof Kay-Tee Khaw (MBBChir, MA, MSc, FRCP, FFPHM, DCH, FmedSci) is Professor of Clinical Gerontology at the University of Cambridge School of Clinical Medicine and Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

She was born in Singapore and trained in medicine at Girton College, University of Cambridge, and St Mary's Hospital, London and in epidemiology at the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, with subsequent clinical and academic posts in the University of London and University of California San Diego.


Her research interests are the maintenance of health in later life and the causes and prevention of chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, cancer and osteoporosis. She is a principal investigator in EPIC, a prospective population study on diet, cancer, an chronic disease, which involves over 400, 000 participants from nine European Countries which aims to identify nutritional, hormonal and other factors which determine good health.

She is co-ordinator of an annual World Heart Foundation/World Health Organisation International Teaching Seminar, which trains physicians and scientists worldwide in research and prevention of cardiovascular disease.

She is married to Prof James William Fawcett, has two children and lives in Cambridge.

Lecture Abstract

18 December 2001

"Longevity and Health"

The maintenance of functional health and quality of life is a major challenge facing ageing populations. Ageing is associated with degenerative processes leading to conditions such as cardiovascular diseases, osteoporotic fractures, common cancers, dementia, visual and hearing loss. Geographic and socio-economic variations as well as secular trends indicate a large proportion of these conditions can be postponed and extrinsic factors such as diet and physical activity may have an important influence.

The talk will cover the European Prospective Investigation into Cancer and Nutrition, a nine country collaboration on 400,000 participants which aims to investigate dietary determinants of cancer. In addition, other factors such as lifestyle and biological determinants of overall health in older adults will be examined and discussed.