

Dr. Paul Barach is a professor and clinician scientist who applies tools and methods of implementation and improvement science to better the quality and safety of hospitals and public health programs to strengthen service delivery processes. He is an expert in analyzing and evaluating the implementation of strategic change, especially in global health and care systems. His research work includes the design and application of human factors in undertaking highly responsive, rigorous and rapid appraisals of novel service innovations in health care services. This work provides decision makers and stakeholders with time-critical evidence and learning about new ways of organizing and providing care. This work has included improving the diagnosis and respiratory health of children in Africa (NIH funded), health of maternal and children in Pakistan (Gates Foundation funded), respiratory health in Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka (UK NIHR funded), nutrition program effectiveness (Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition funded), families and communities in US (HRSA funded), designing interventions for better clinical microsystem and team performance (AHRQ funded), reducing burnout among healthcare providers (EU funded) and assessing long term patients and children with Covid-19 (NIH funded).

He has a long-standing interest as former hospital executive, associate dean and research center director, in developing ethical leaders and clinicians for systems change and has had significant management experience in multicultural organizations, advising academic medical centers and large healthcare systems about strategic and operational development in complex healthcare and community settings. He is advising the WHO, European Association of Surgeons, World Federation of Anesthesia Societies, the Association of Schools of Public Health in Europe and the Global Health Ministerial Summit on Patient Safety. He is working with ASPHER on a EU funded project to ground public health leadership training in the principles of health, climate equity and justice. This work is interdisciplinary — drawing from the best of biological science, epidemiology, environmental health science, social and behavioral science, and health policy and management.

His interests on the critical intersections of climate and health have included working to build more effective, reliable and resilient hospitals and healthcare systems for disasters and emergencies, working with ASPHER and European Parliament, US and international regulators on setting physical design standards, teaching at the Milano Polytechnic Institute, and working on the National Academy of Sciences 2030 report on Healthcare Climate Leadership.

He works in Mexico, Pakistan, Tanzania, Italy, Austria, UK and the United States, helping facilities and communities learn the tools of applied implementation and continuous quality improvement. He is committed to leading research that makes a meaningful and positive impact on the lives of people and communities, and creating an environment where there are fewer barriers between the producers of research and the real-world need for learning. He helped to found a center for research and education on the management of safe and reliable care systems.

His work has been supported and funded by US NIH, AHRQ, CDC; UK-NIHR and Health Foundation; EU-EU FP-7, Horizon, Erasmus Plus and Norwegian Research Council; Australia-NHMRC and ARC. He has sat on several US, European, UK, Australian and Chilean grant review panels. He has successfully advised and co-advised more than 50 doctoral and postdoctoral researchers.

He holds positions at the Thomas Jefferson University College of Population Health, Imperial College London, University of Birmingham, Sigmund Freud University, National Cancer Institute of South Korea, University of Queensland, Riphah Islamic University of Pakistan and MUHAS University, Tanzania. He is an elected Fellow of Academy of University Anesthesiologists (AUA).