

Profile

Gemma-Claire Ali is an analyst at RAND Europe with seven years of professional experience in public health research, the last three of which have focused on the interface between health and emerging technologies. She specialises in the full breadth of literature review types and a wide range of qualitative research methods, including surveys, interviews, focus groups, workshops and case studies. At RAND Europe, Gemma has worked on several projects involving evidence synthesis to inform policy making and strategy development in the fields of health and innovation. In particular, she has recently completed two large scoping reviews of digital innovations implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, commissioned by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. Other relevant projects include understanding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on work-related musculoskeletal disorders, commissioned by the Health and Safety Executive, and a historical foresight study of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) commissioned by the AHRC. This project drew on literature reviews, interviews, policy workshops and foresight methods to understand how AMR, tobacco control and climate change have developed as policy issues over time, and to inform future AMR policy.

Experience

2018-present: Analyst, RAND Europe, UK
 2015-2019: PhD Student, University of Cambridge, UK
 2013-2015: Research assistant, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and King's College London, UK

Selected projects

Impact of COVID-19 on work-related musculoskeletal disorders (2021)

Health and Safety Executive

Rapid evidence assessment, focus groups and asynchronous workshops to understand the impact of COVID-19 on work practices, environments and work-related musculoskeletal disorders.

Digital technologies implemented in response to COVID-19 (2020-2021)

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
 Scoping reviews of the academic and non-academic literature on digital innovations implemented in response to COVID-19.

Innovative interviewing (2020-2021)

THIS Institute

Rapid evidence assessment of innovative interview methods.

Digital technologies for infectious disease (2019-2020)

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

Scoping review of the academic literature on emerging digital technologies for public health key functions, particularly focusing on infectious disease surveillance, prevention and control.

Impact of AMR on modern medicine (2020)

Wellcome

Global scoping review of the impact of antimicrobial resistance on modern medicine, focusing on secondary impacts on health issues such as cancer and maternal health.

National Implementation Support for Individual Placement and Support (2018-2020)

NHS England

Multi-method evaluation of the national support initiative for IPS services helping people with serious mental illness into employment.

Learning from Health Improvement (2018-2020)

The Health Improvement Studies (THIS) Institute

Rapid evidence assessment of lessons from health improvement initiatives.

AMR Historical Foresight (2017-2020)

UK Arts and Humanities Research Council

Literature review, interviews and expert focus groups to understand and inform AMR policy.

Oversight of Emerging Science and Technology (2018-19)

Wellcome

Case studies of oversight mechanisms for emerging science and technology worldwide.



Position
Analyst

Languages
English (native)
French (independent)

Qualifications
MSc Global Mental Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and King's College London, UK

M.A. Geography, University of Cambridge, UK

Key skills

- Literature review methods (systematic reviews, scoping reviews, REAs, etc.)
- Case studies
- Interviews
- Workshops and focus groups
- Surveys
- Qualitative data analysis
- Historical analysis and archival research
- Foresight methods such as horizon scanning and scenario building
- Project management
- Quality assurance