

NAME Kevin Baker

Nationality: Irish

Summary

Kevin Baker is a senior multi-disciplinary research leader, with over fifteen years' experience at a broad range of international organisations in the UK, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Southeast Asia, having started a career in financial services communications and research roles. Excels in research, monitoring and evaluation, and research uptake. Currently self-employed as a research consultant with UNICEF and previously employed as Senior Research Advisor at Malaria Consortium, one of the world's leading, evidence-led, not for profit organisations. Led successful teams of research professionals to plan and conduct multi-country impact and implementation evaluations, focusing on evidence generation on malaria, neglected tropical diseases and maternal and child health innovations and interventions. Highly published and academically qualified, with a PhD in Pneumonia Diagnostics and currently affiliated to Karolinska Institute in Sweden. Special Advisor to the Lancet Global Commission on Medical Oxygen Security.

Relevant Experience & Expertise

- Built and led the research team for the \$40m, paediatric seasonal malaria chemoprevention programme at Malaria Consortium.
 - Successfully increased research funding at Malaria Consortium by 80% over five years, securing funding from a range of donors, ranging from GiveWell, BMGF, Unitaid, USAID and FCDO.
 - Increased research outputs at Malaria Consortium by over 100% over five years
 - Subject matter expert on evaluation design with extensive experience of designing and implementing high impact quantitative and qualitative evaluations.
 - Highly experienced in evidence synthesis, with over 40 articles in high impact peer review journals and a regular presenter at international conferences (examples below).
 - Advanced user of research software such as STATA; NVIVO; PowerBI; Dedoose and MaxQDA.
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Education

- PhD, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
 - MSc Public Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
 - MA in Communications, Kingston University, United Kingdom
 - Bachelor of Business Studies, University of Limerick, Ireland
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Relevant Experience

November 2024 – current, International Research and Evaluation Consultant, London, UK

Independent research and evaluation consultant with recent consultancies including a consultancy to further develop global research priorities for malaria. Also, one to support Social Finance and the IPS Grow programme, developing an access guide for NHS staff to increase engagement and access. Also, supporting UNICEF implementation research programme in Malawi and Zimbabwe. Providing research support to ProtonDX for their diagnostic innovation, Dragonfly.

December 2013 – November 2024 Senior Research Advisor, Malaria Consortium, London, UK

Provided leadership and technical direction to global and country teams in the design and implementation of innovative programmatic and intervention evaluations focused on topic areas including malaria, neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), pneumonia, maternal and child health. Led high-level representations for the organisation to ministries of health and other national and international

stakeholders and donors such as FCDO; UNICEF; BMGF; WHO; USAID; and Givewell. Worked in Nepal, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Uganda, South Sudan, Mozambique, Chad, Togo and Burkina Faso.

October 2008 – September 2012, Research & Programme Director, PT Foundation, Malaysia

As Programme Director, successfully won and managed the first, award-winning, multi-country community system strengthening Global Fund programme in Southeast Asia with a total budget of \$8m over 5 years. The role included managing an external grants' programmes to support the development of community-based organisations and building digital platforms to better support community development and mobilisation. Further led the team who conducted evaluations to map the target populations and evaluate the programmes, which consistently achieved top scores when independently audited.

October 2008 – September 2012, International Development Consultant, Southeast Asia

International global health consultant across several national and international organisations, developing and implementing a variety of projects and programmes supported by the Technical Support Fund of UNAIDS and the International HIV/AIDS Alliance. Projects included developing a five-year strategic plan for PT Foundation in Malaysia to advocacy capacity development for HIV organisations in Myanmar. Extensive experience in the Asia-Pacific region, having worked in Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Philippines, Myanmar and Thailand.

Example Publications

1. Anthony Nuwa, Kevin Baker, et al. (2025) Effectiveness of sulfadoxine–pyrimethamine plus amodiaquine and dihydroartemisinin–piperaquine for seasonal malaria chemoprevention in Uganda: a three-arm, open-label, non-inferiority and superiority, cluster randomised, controlled trial. *Lancet Infectious Diseases*. DOI: [10.1016/S1473-3099\(24\)00746-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099(24)00746-1)
2. Richardson, S., Ibinaiye, T., et al. Adaptation of lot quality assurance sampling to monitor seasonal malaria chemoprevention delivery performance, *Transactions of The Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, Volume 118, Issue 10, October 2024, Pages 642–645, (2024) <https://doi.org/10.1093/trstmh/trae051>
3. Donovan, L., Shafique, M., Wharton-Smith, A. et al. Using the role model approach to optimise caregiver administration of sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine amodiaquine to children aged 3–59 months in Burkina Faso, Chad and Togo: findings from an evaluation. *Malaria J* **23**, 255 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12936-024-05067-x>
4. Lasmi, K., Elimian, K., Donovan, L. et al. Barriers to the quality delivery of seasonal malaria chemoprevention in Chad and Burkina Faso: a qualitative exploration of caregivers and community distributors' perspectives. *Malar J* **23**, 216 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12936-024-05034-6>
5. Stratil AS, Canana N, Rodrigues M, Armando S, Gomane S, Zandamela E, Baker K, Roca-Feltrer A, Candrinho B. Improving the Quality and Use of Malaria Surveillance Data: Results from Evaluating an Integrated Malaria Information Storage System at the Health Facility Level in Selected Districts in Mozambique. *Am J Trop Med Hyg*. 2024 Jan 23:tpmd230138. doi: 10.4269/ajtmh.23-0138. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38266287.
6. Pfuertscher T, Lam F, Shah R, Shohel R, Sans MS, Tounaïkok N, Hassen A, Berhanu A, Bikila D, Berryman E, Habte T, Greenslade L, Nantanda R, **Baker K**. (2024) Predicting the potential impact of scaling up four pneumonia interventions on under-five pneumonia mortality: A prospective Lives Saved Tool (LiST) analysis for Bangladesh, Chad, and

- Ethiopia. *J Glob Health*. 2024 Jan 12;14:04001. doi: 10.7189/jogh.14.04001. PMID: 38214911; PMCID: PMC10801440.
7. Steele A, King C, Nantanda R, Berryman E, Greenslade L, **Baker K**. (2023) Major gaps in childhood pneumonia research priorities remain. *The Lancet Respiratory Medicine*. DOI:[https://doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600\(23\)00375-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600(23)00375-2)
 8. Pfurtscheller T, **Baker K**, Habte T, Lasmi K, Matata L, et al. (2023) Usability of pulse oximeters used by community health and primary care workers as screening tools for severe illness in children under five in low resource settings: A cross-sectional study in Cambodia, Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Uganda. *PLOS Global Public Health* 3(7): e0001800. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0001800>
 9. Traore, A., Donovan, L., Sawadogo, B. et al. Extending seasonal malaria chemoprevention to five cycles: a pilot study of feasibility and acceptability in Mangodara district, Burkina Faso. *BMC Public Health* 22, 442 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-022-12741-9>
 10. **Kevin Baker**, Tobias Alfvén, et al. (2021) Performance of five pulse oximeters to detect the symptoms of severe illness in children under five by frontline health workers in low resource settings – a prospective, multicentre, hospital-based, single-blinded, comparative trial in Cambodia, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Uganda. *EClinical Medicine* DOI <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eclinm.2021.101040>
 11. Ann-Sophie Stratil, Charlotte Ward, Tedila Habte, Alice Maurel, Max Antson, Elina Naydenova, **Kevin Baker** (2021). Evaluating the Interrater Agreement and Acceptability of a New Reference Tool for Assessing Respiratory Rate in Children under Five with Cough and/or Difficulty Breathing. *Journal of Tropical Paediatrics*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/tropej/fmab046>
 12. Alexandra Wharton-Smith, **Kevin Baker** et al (2021) Assessment of the Feasibility, Acceptability, and Impact of Implementing Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention in Nampula Province, Mozambique: Protocol for a Hybrid Effectiveness-Implementation Study. *JMIR Protocols*. DOI: [10.2196/27855](https://doi.org/10.2196/27855)
 13. Mitra Feldman, **Kevin Baker** et al (2021). Community health worker knowledge, attitudes and practices towards COVID-19: learnings from an online cross-sectional survey using a digital health platform, UpSCALE, in Mozambique. *Plos One* <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0244924>
 14. **Kevin Baker**, Charlotte Ward et al (2020). Usability and acceptability of a multimodal respiratory rate and pulse oximeter device in case management of children with symptoms of pneumonia: A cross-sectional study in Ethiopia. *Acta Paediatrica*. DOI: [10.1111/apa.15682](https://doi.org/10.1111/apa.15682)
 15. Källander K, Ward C, Smith H, Bhattarai R, Kc A, Timsina D, Lamichhane B, Maurel A, Ram Shrestha P, Baral S, McWhorter C, LaBarre P, de Cola MA, **Baker K**. (2020) Usability and acceptability of an automated respiratory rate counter to assess childhood pneumonia in Nepal. *Acta Paediatr*. 2020 Jun;109(6):1207-1220. doi: 10.1111/apa.15108. Epub 2019 Dec 16. PMID: 31762072; PMCID: PMC7318335
 16. King C, **Baker K**, et al (2020). Back to Basics in Paediatric Pneumonia—Defining a Breath and Setting Reference Standards to Innovate Respiratory Rate Counting. *Journal of Tropical Paediatrics*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/tropej/fmaa112>