

MARIA MELCHIOR

Social Epidemiology, Mental Health and Substance Use
Pierre Louis Institute of Epidemiology and Public Health, INSERM/Sorbonne Université
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CURRENT POSITION

Senior Scientist, INSERM (Paris, France)
Deputy Head, Institut Pierre Louis d'Epidémiologie et de Santé Publique/IPLESP (2020-)
Annual Chair in Public Health at the Collège de France (2025-2026)

PAST RESEARCH POSITIONS

2019 Visiting researcher, Faculty of Public Health, University of Copenhagen (Denmark)
2011-2016 Senior Research Associate, INSERM
2007-2011 Research Associate, INSERM
2006-2007 Post-doctoral fellow, Institute of Psychiatry, King's College (London, UK)
2004-2005 Post-doctoral fellow, INSERM Unité 687 (St-Maurice, France)
1999-2002 Research Assistant, Harvard School of Public Health (Boston, USA)
2001 Consultant, International Health Systems Group, Harvard University (Boston, USA & Cracow, Poland)

EDUCATION

2012 Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches (HDR), Université Versailles Saint-Quentin
2004 Science Doctorate (Sc.D.), Harvard University (School of Public Health)
Doctorat d'Université, Faculté de Médecine Paris-Sud (XI) (joint degree)
Major Field: Social Epidemiology
Thesis title: 'Social health inequalities in France: results from the GAZEL study'
2001 Master of Science (Sc.M.), Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA, USA
Major Field: Health and Social Behavior
1997 Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), *Cum Laude*, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, USA
Major Field: Psychology (High Honors)
Honors Thesis: Assessment of Gesture Abnormalities in Schizophrenia

AWARDS/HONORS

- Chevalier, Ordre National du Mérite (2021)
- France's Prize in Addiction Research (2018)
- European Psychiatric Association Research Prize in Psychiatric Epidemiology (2012)
- Best poster prize (WPA 2012, AEP 2008, SER 2004)
- Early Career Award, International Society of Behavioral Medicine, 2004
- Fellowship, Sociobiomedical Research Program, INSERM, France, 2003-2005
- Chateaubriand Fellowship, French Embassy in the United States, 2001
- Kosciuszko Foundation Academic Fellowship, 2001
- Harvard Club of France Graduate Study Award, 2001
- Leopold Schepp Foundation Fellowship, 1996 & 1999-2002

MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Head, Department of Social Epidemiology, IPLESP (since 2019)
Head, Department of Health, French Collaborative Institute on Migrations (2020-2022)
Currently involved in 5 research projects including ERC Consolidator RESEDA (PI), Horizon Europe IMPROVA (co-PI), France's National Institute for Cancer – Tobacco Research Chair (PI), France's National Institute for Cancer – Tobacco Management in Homeless Populations (PI), France's National Institute for Cancer – Intergenerational transmission of mental health and addiction (PI).

SCIENTIFIC FOCUS AREA

My research aims to better understand and address social inequalities with regard to mental health and substance use, with a particular attention to lifelong trajectories from childhood/adolescence to adulthood. My group is involved both in observational epidemiological research and the evaluation of innovative interventions to improve mental health among youths and marginalized populations.

KEY PUBLICATIONS ON YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH IN PAST 5 YEARS (out of 280)

Chazelas E, Parker D, Barreto-Zarza F, Charles MA, **Melchior M**. Residential greenness trajectories and child emotional and behavioral difficulties in early childhood: results from the ELFE mother-child cohort. *Environmental Research*. 2025;286(Pt 3):122965.

Barry KM, Avraam D, Cadman T, Elhakeem A, El Marroun H, Jansen PW, Nybo-Andersen AM, Strandberg-Larsen K, Safont LG, Soler-Blasco R, Barreto-Zarza F, Julvez J, Vrijheid M, Heude B, Charles MA, Gomajee AR, **Melchior M**. Early childcare arrangements and children's internalizing and externalizing symptoms: an individual participant data meta-analysis of six prospective birth cohorts in Europe. *Lancet Regional Health Europe*. 2024;45:101036.

Gomajee AR, Barry KM, Chazelas E, Dufourg MN, Barreto-Zarza F, **Melchior M**. Early childcare and developmental delay risk at 3.5 years: Insights from the French ELFE cohort. *European Journal of Pediatrics*. 2024;183(11):4763-4772.

Barry KM, Gomajee R, Benarous X, Dufourg MN, Courtin E, **Melchior M**. Paternity leave uptake and parental post-partum depression: findings from the ELFE cohort study. *Lancet Public Health*. 2023;8(1):e15-e27.

Melchior M, Barry K, Cohen D, Plancoulaine S, Bernard JY, Milcent K, Gassama M, Gomajee R, Charles MA. TV, computer, tablet and smartphone use and autism spectrum disorder risk in early childhood: a nationally-representative study. *BMC Public Health*. 2022;22(1):865.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

[REDACTED]

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS

2 PhD students currently, 11 defended since 2015

EXPERT ACTIVITIES

Associate Editor, European Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (2015-)
Member of the Advisory Board of Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology
Member, Ethics committee, Sorbonne University (2022-2024)
Member, COVID-19 scientific committee, ANRS-MIE (2021-2023)
Member, ANSES expert group 'Social media use and youths' health' (2019-2025)
Expert, United Nations Office for Drug and Crime (2019-2020)
Member, INSERM expert group 'Risks associated with alcohol use' (2018-2019)
Member, ANSES expert group 'Electronic cigarette use' (2017)
Member of an INSERM expert group 'Addictive behaviors in youths' (2013)
France' National Ethics Committee (CCTIRS, France) (2011-2014)
Member of international advisory boards for research projects at the Institute of Work and Health (Toronto, Canada) and the National Institute of Occupational Health, Denmark