Dr Luca Li Bassi
Curriculum Vitae

Dr Luca Li Bassi, MD, Dip Mgt, DPH

Academic Qualifications:

1998-2001 **Public Heath**, DPH from Otago University (New Zealand)
1996-1997 **Health Management**, Dip Mgt. from University of Auckland (New Zealand)
1981-1987 **Medical Doctor**, MD from Milan University (Italy)

Additional Courses:

2013: GMS Consultant Orientation Workshop (Grant Management Solutions – Arlington, VA, USA)
2011: Leadership and Management Development Program (Thunderbird Executive Education – Divonne, France)
1999: Negotiate to win (Competitive Edge Ltd - Development and Training - Wellington, NZ)
1999: Business 2000 (Communication Plus Ltd – Auckland, NZ)
1998: Media Training Course (CABIX Media Associates – Wellington, NZ)
1998: Legal Training for Health Services (Bell Gully, Barristers and Solicitors – Wellington, NZ)
1997: Indigenous Health: Tuu Ngaatahi (Standing Together) – (Auckland North Shore Hospital, NZ)
1996: English for Medical Professionals - Certificate in English Language (Auckland Institute of Technology). Final Mark: 5000/5000 Advanced

Executive Summary

- Mature and seasoned leader, with 25 years of Public Health and Health Management experience in Australasia, Europe and Africa.
- Comprehensive technical expertise in all aspects of Access to Treatments (policy, regulatory, public subsidies, Procurement and Supply Management, Rational Drug Use).
- Health System Strengthening, Performance Monitoring and Evaluation.
- Value for Money assessment and improvement.
- Wide Project Management experience with multi-stakeholders & partners involvement.
- Transformational Leadership Style in multicultural and multidisciplinary teams.
- Multilingual (English, Italian, French).
- Extensive communication experience at all levels, including high government officials.
- High level of diplomacy, integrity and professionalism.

Achievements

Successfully worked for:

- National Governments;
- Bilateral Organizations;
- Multilateral Organizations;
- NGO and Humanitarian Organizations;
- Research and Academic Institutions;

Designed and implemented specific Global Health Projects in partnership with:

WHO/AMDS - WHO/EMP - WHO/Stop TB Partnership, WHO/Roll Back Malaria, World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF, MSH, USAID/GMS.

Professional Experience:

November 2014 – present | **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**
Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT)
Vienna (Austria)

Section Head, Health System Strengthening

Recruited to lead a specialist Team to improve access to affordable, quality and effective radiation medicine services as part of a comprehensive cancer control approach in Low and Middle Income (LMI) Countries.

Cancer is the second leading cause of mortality and kills 250% more than HIV, TB and Malaria, combined. Around 70% of all cancer deaths currently occur in LMI Countries, where health systems are not prepared to face this challenge and communities are left alone and disempowered to gain access to adequate screening, diagnosis and treatment. Radiotherapy plays a key role in cancer management, being required in nearly 60% of all cancer cases at some stage during the disease. It is critical however to develop health systems that are able to identify cancer patients at community level at the early stage of the disease and refer them to adequate treatment, Medical, Surgical or Radiotherapy. A comprehensive approach to cancer management can therefore only be implemented through wide collaborations with global and local players involved with health system development.

Currently, I lead the Health System Strengthening (HSS) Team, which has the responsibility to provide technical advice to the Regional Divisions in the design and implementation of Technical Cooperation Projects with a cancer care component for Member States. The focus of the HSS Team is to enable a resilient response of national health systems to the growing cancer burden, assessing capacity and needs at country level and identifying priorities for action. This also includes developing and managing partnerships with other UN Organisations (such as WHO and IARC), NGOs, Professional Associations, Academic and Research Institutions as well as Financing Institutions (World Bank, Global Fund, Regional Development Banks etc) for joint programming.

The HSS Team also carries the responsibility for capacity building activities at Regional and National level, in response to assessed needs of Member States.

Key skills required:

- Health Project Management (design, development and implementation);
- Public Health technical leadership;
- Health Systems Strengthening, Assessment and Evaluation;
- Financial and Managerial expertise;
- Strategic Leadership and Advocacy in Global Health;
- Staff recruitment, training, mentoring and supervision;
- Relationship Management and Diplomacy (Internal and External).

June 2013 – October 2014 | **Independent Public Health Adviser**

Key Assignments:

➢ **April 2014 – May 2014** **EGPAF**

Elisabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

- Market Analysis for a Point of Care, innovative early-infant-diagnostic HIV test.
- Prepared a detailed market landscape analysis and forecasting for a funding submission to UNITAID.
- LOI was approved by UNITAID

➢ **Sept. 2013 – March 2014** **Abt Associates – USAID**
Enabling Equitable Health Care Reforms - Albania

- Performed a detailed review and assessment of the Albania Pharmaceutical Systems.
- Identified key weaknesses and recommended implementation arrangements to improve the management of essential medicines and secure equitable and uninterrupted access to affordable treatments of acceptable international quality standards.
- Established Hospital Drug and Therapeutic Committees (DTC).
- Designed and delivered specific trainings (for 80 health professionals) in Public Hospitals on the use of National Treatment Guidelines;

➢ **Sept. 2013 – Nov. 2013** **UNDP – United Nations Development Programme**
UNDP Global Fund Partnership Team – Geneva (CH)

- Independent Analysis and Performance Assessment of UNDP Health Procurement arrangements (price, quality standard, supply chain) for Global Fund grants managed by UNDP as National Principal Recipient.
- Value for Money assessment and evaluation.
- Identified specific capacity gaps and recommended management arrangements to enhance the management-performance for all UNDP-GF programmes.

➢ **August 2013 – Sept. 2013** **IFRC**
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies – Geneva

- Market Analysis for a Point of Care, innovative diagnostic oral-fluid HIV test.
- Prepared a detailed market landscape analysis and forecasting for a funding submission to UNITAID.
- Proposal was approved by UNITAID

➢ **July 2013 – Nov. 2014** **TBTEAM – StopTB Partnership**
World Health Organization (WHO) – Geneva

- Selected by WHO Stop TB Department as PSM Expert and as Expert on TB/HIV co-infection to support global TB programmes as senior roster expert.
- Stand-by for priority assignments.

➢ **June 2013 – July 2013** **FEI - France Expertise Internationale - Paris**
Technical Expertise funded by France in support of Global Fund Programs

- Reviewed and assessed 21 projects submitted for funding aimed at strengthening Pharmaceutical Sectors in francophone African countries and in East Asian countries (Cambodia, Laos, Viet Nam) in order to improve the effectiveness and the Public Health impact of Global Fund Programs.
- Presented final recommendations, including management arrangements, to the Technical Approval Committee in Paris, which fully endorsed all recommendations.

➢ **August 2012 – Nov. 2012** **UNDP – United Nations Development Programme**
UNDP National Office, Kiev - Ukraine

- Performed a detailed review and assessment of the Ukraine Pharmaceutical Sector.
- Developed and submitted the Procurement and Supply Management (PSM) Plan for the National TB program.

- Provided relevant input in the Rd9 TB Phase 2 Proposal, on the Performance Framework (PF) and the Work Plan and Budget.
- Advised on the most appropriate design of the proposed Programme Management Unit (PMU) to be responsible for Phase 2 Programme Implementation and provided the relevant TORs for the staff required in Operations, M&E and PSM activities.
- Identified key challenges and risks for programme implementation and proposed relevant solutions and/or mitigating measures.

Jan. 2005 – May 2013 **The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria**
Geneva (Switzerland)

Head, Pharmaceutical Management Advisory Services Team (PMAS)

Recruited to create and lead a specialist Team (pharmacists and medical doctors) to improve access to HIV, TB and Malaria treatments in 145 developing countries by assessing national health systems in order to a) conduct health systems assessments, b) identify and recommend specific areas for capacity building within national entities and c) advise senior management on Health System Strengthening priorities for policy development. I was responsible for all health products' expenditure in Global Fund programs (pharmaceuticals and health products).

- Established corporate policies, guidelines and tools for applications by Global Fund recipient countries;
- Established Standard Operating Procedures for review and assessment of National Health Sectors for all Global Fund programmes;
- Build and provided leadership and guidance to a multi-disciplinary team of health professionals responsible for performing and/or reviewing in-country capacity assessments and evaluations for approving Procurement and Supply Management (PSM) Plans;
- Carried out corporate analysis of the financial and programmatic impact of market changes (prices, availability, change in treatment guidelines, introduction of new products), providing pragmatic options and recommendations for program implementation in compliance with Global Fund rules and regulations;
- Led the development of a Global Capacity Building Strategy focused on training through worldwide workshops for strengthening health systems and improving access to treatment services in all Global Fund countries in order to enhance the public health impact of grants;
- Developed and implemented a monitoring and oversight management system to oversee country level performance against Global Fund policies as well as directly supporting national implementers to strengthen efficiency, effectiveness and Value for Money for the provision of quality health delivery systems at the country level.

These activities resulted in strengthening national systems and allowing to dramatically increase the number of patients enrolled on effective HIV treatment, treated and cured for malaria and for TB.

> According to the WHO Report on HIV Treatment 2013, these activities led to what has proven to be "*...a massive global expansion in access to HIV treatment, which transformed not only the HIV epidemic but the entire public health landscape, demonstrating that access to ARVs could be realized even in the most trying of circumstances*".

During my tenure, ARV manufacturers meeting acceptable quality criteria increased three-fold, increasing competition and providing greater choice to patients. This resulted on ARV prices dropping by around 70% globally due to the influence exercised on market dynamics.

Key skills required:

- Technical Leadership and Expertise in Public Health;
- Health Systems Strengthening, Assessment and Evaluation;
- Financial and Managerial expertise;
- Strategic Leadership in Global Health;
- Staff recruitment, training, mentoring and supervision;
- Advocacy, Relationship Management and Diplomacy (Internal and External).

August 2004 – January 2005 **Italian Medicine Agency (AIFA)**
Rome (Italy)

Director, European Assessment Procedures

Recruited to set up and direct the Department tasked with the responsibility to review the centralized assessment procedures for new treatments to enter the EU market under the European Medicine Agency (EMA).

- Led a highly qualified professional team of experts performing assessment procedures for new treatments to be introduced in EU member countries;
- Established corporate policies and procedures for the assessment of new treatments, in order to evaluate their efficacy, safety, quality and public health impact;

Key skills required:

- Project Management;
- Technical Expertise in Access to Treatments;
- Quality, safety and efficacy of pharmaceuticals, assessment and monitoring;
- Office and Service set-up, including resource definition, recruitment and allocation;
- Advocacy, Relationship Management and Diplomacy (Internal and External).

Nov. 2001 – July 2004 **Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research**
Milan (Italy)

Regulatory Policies Adviser and EMA Clinical Assessor

Recruited to a) coordinate experts and participate in reviewing new drug dossiers for the European Medicine Agency (EMA) and b) for the design and development of specific regulatory policies.

- Provided input and published on the review of the European Pharmaceutical legislation;
- Coordinated the assessment of new drug applications and the submission to the EMA;
- Participated to the work and proceedings of the EMA Technical Panel meetings in London (CHMP);
- Carried out literature reviews, critical appraisal of scientific information and clinical reporting on new treatments entering the EU markets.

Key skills required:

- Technical Expertise in Public Health;
- Health Policy, Health Legislation, Regulatory Policies, cost control and rational treatment;
- Quality, safety and efficacy of treatment interventions;
- Literature review, critical appraisal and reporting;
- Advocacy, Relationship Management and Diplomacy (External).

Sept. 2003 – April 2004 **Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
Italian Cooperation, Rome - Italy

Manager, Access to Treatment

Recruited to a) introduce HIV, TB and Malaria treatments in Swaziland and manage the implementation of Global Fund grants, b) improve national capacity in managing access to treatment.

- Significantly improved the capacity of national health systems to respond to the HIV crises in the country, which has the highest burden of the disease in the world;
- Developed and implemented national policies for the Procurement and Supply Management of pharmaceuticals acceptable to the Global Fund in terms of quality standard, affordability, transparency, Value for Money and efficient delivery systems;

- Developed internationally acceptable quality criteria for the antiretrovirals to be procured under the Global Fund grant;
- Developed and implemented standard contract agreements to be used with pharmaceutical suppliers;
- Improved the local inventory systems and drug delivery chain in order to provide the adequate standards of security, handling and traceability of drugs;
- Developed a suitable patient management system;
- Negotiated and signed on behalf of the National Principal Recipient the contract agreements with suppliers at the best conditions (price and supply criteria) achieved in the Continent to that date;
- Dramatically improved the performance of Global Fund grants, enrolling the first 6000 patients on ARV treatment in Swaziland;

Key skills required:

- Program Management;
- Technical Expertise in Public Health, Access to Treatments and Health Systems;
- Health Systems Assessment and Evaluation;
- Pharmaceutical Management (national policies and legislation, treatment guidelines, quality assurance and quality control, regulatory policies, MIS, procurement and contracting, rational dug use);
- Health System Strengthening;
- Financial assessment, budgeting and Value for Money improvements;
- National and International Market Dynamics, analysis and interventions;
- Strategy and Leadership;
- Staff recruitment, training, mentoring and supervision;
- Advocacy, Relationship Management and Diplomacy (External).

Feb.1998 – Sept. 2001 **PHARMAC, Pharmaceutical Medicine Agency**
Wellington, New Zealand

Therapeutic Group Manager and
Secretary of the Pharmaceutical & Therapeutics Advisory Committee (PTAC)

Recruited to be directly responsible for improving access to and affordability of treatments for the following therapeutic groups: Anti-infectives (including antibacterials, antifungals, antivirals and anti TB medicines), Musculoskeletal, Dermatology, Genito-urinary and Hormone preparations (including contraceptives). This corresponded to around one fourth of the NZ national pharmaceutical budget and required the coordination of input from different Departments and Teams working under my leadership.

- Developed and successfully submitted for Board approval a National Market Dynamics Strategy and Implementation Plan to dramatically improve access to essential treatments in the assigned therapeutic areas;
- Led the implementation of the National Market Dynamics Strategy and Plan across different Departments and Teams, providing leadership, guidance and final decision-making;
- Significantly improved the affordability of existing and new treatments, thus enhancing the Value for Money of Government spending on essential treatments;
- Introduced the first quadruple therapy for HIV in the country;
- Introduced the first bisphosphonate therapy for post-menopausal women in the country;
- Introduced new treatments in response to established Public Health needs in the country;
- Managed in full the dossier related to COX-2 inhibitors, which led NZ to NOT subsidize this new class of medicines, with thousands of deaths averted;
- Led a team of health economists to perform the Economic Evaluation of new treatments through specific Health Technology Assessments;
- Negotiated numerous multimillion-dollar, complex supply contracts with pharmaceutical companies and successfully submitted them for final Board approval;
- Significantly improved the cost-effectiveness of treatments in the assigned therapeutic groups;
- Successfully coordinated the first national review of PTAC policies and procedures.

Key skills required:

- Financial management (analysis, monitoring and control);
- Subsidy management, prioritization of investments based on health outcomes;

- Market Dynamics interventions;
- Market regulations (incentives/disincentives);
- Value for Money assessment and improvement;
- HTA (Health Technology Assessment);
- Economic Evaluation of health interventions (Cost-minimization, Cost-effectiveness and Cost-Utility);
- Negotiations with pharmaceutical suppliers;
- Health Management (national policies and legislation, treatment guidelines, quality assurance and quality control, regulatory policies, MIS, rational treatment use);
- Strategy and Leadership;
- Advocacy, Communication, Relationship Management and Diplomacy (Internal and External).

Jan. 1997 – Feb. 1998

Adis International
Auckland (New Zealand)

Senior Managing Editor

Recruited to evaluate and report the most up-to-date information (clinical and commercial) on pharmaceuticals in research and development, for the following Therapeutic Groups: Antivirals, Immunology, Transplant and Haematology

- Assessed and reported on the clinical value and the commercial value of hundreds of new pharmaceuticals under R&D;
- Assessed the market landscape and market dynamics in the assigned therapeutic groups;
- Reported on issues affecting access to treatments in the assigned therapeutic groups;
- More than 1100 drug evaluation profiles were published.

Key skills required:

- Treatment evaluation and reporting (analysis of the medical as well as commercial role of new medicines under R&D);
- Clinical Trial evaluation, reporting and critical appraisal;
- Global Market Dynamics analysis, landscaping and impact assessment;
- Editing and publishing on global medical & pharmaceutical databases.

Jan. 1992 – Sept. 1994

Medical Economics
Milan (Italy)

Executive Manager, Operations

Recruited to lead a highly qualified team of health professionals (mainly Doctors and Pharmacists) providing technical assistance and capacity building to improve access to treatment within national health services (public and private).

- Managed a team of 30 doctors handling in excess of 13,000 calls per year;
- Designed and implemented Operational guidelines and procedures to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the services provided;
- Staff recruitment, training, motivation and education;

Feb. 1988 – Dec. 1995

Medical Private Practice
Lissone (Italy)

General Practitioner

Practiced general medicine in a private clinic in association with 2 other doctors and worked as a Registrar at a public hospital in the Department of Internal Medicine and in the Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplantation Department, where I graduated.

- Clinical and medical management of both in an out-patients;
- Pharmaceutical Management (treatment guidelines, safety profiles, rational dug use).

Supplementary Information

Languages:

Italian - Mother Tongue
English – Fluent
French – Intermediate

Personal:

Born:	20 February 1963 - Milan, Italy
Nationality:	Dual, Italian and New Zealand
Married:	Italy 08.09.90
Children:	Two daughters

Memberships:

Milan Council of Medical Doctors
EUPHA (European Public Health Association)
Swiss Society for Public Health (membership n. 2284)
Health Systems Global – Improving Performance Through Research and Policy (2012-13)
Editorial Board Member, Quaderni di Farmacoeconomia (2008-9)

References:

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Publications:

A complete and detailed list of publications is available on request.

In summary, the list includes 12 Volumes on Drug Profiles, 11 papers published on peer-reviewed medical journals (Lancet, BMJ, European Journal of Public Health, European Journal of Health Economics, WHO Drug Information etc) and 5 papers published on lay press.