

Sonali Kochhar (MD Pharmacology)

- Chair, Brighton Collaboration Science Board (2021 onwards)
- Co-Chair, Brighton Collaboration Science Board (2018- 2021)
- Member WHO SAGE (Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization) since 2021, and WHO SAGE Working Group on COVID-19 vaccines since 2020
- Member WHO Expert Steering Committee on Safety Surveillance in Pregnancy in LMICs (2022 onwards)
- Lead for Brighton/Task Force for Global Health to strengthen COVID-19 vaccine safety activities
- Steering Committee member of International Network of Special Immunization Services (INSIS) which is focusing on risk factors and mechanisms underlying rare AEFIs following COVID-19 vaccination (2021 onwards)
- Working on multi-country collaborative vaccine safety research projects (including Global Vaccine Safety Data Network)
- Helped to set up the Gates Foundation funded GAIA (Global Alignment of Immunization Safety Assessment in Pregnancy) and helped lead the development of 26 Brighton case definitions for Maternal and Neonatal adverse outcomes. Led the field testing and validation of the GAIA case definitions in LMIC
- Member of BRAVATO (former Viral Vector Vaccine Safety) Working group since 2014, and led the development of the five standardized templates for the benefit-risk assessment of vaccines
- Primary or co-author of 38 Brighton Collaboration publications (including case definitions, template protocols, and guidelines for vaccine safety data collection in clinical trials and for maternal/neonatal vaccine trials)
- Extensive experience working in High and Low-Middle Income Countries on vaccine clinical trials, safety, introduction of new vaccines, strengthening Pharmacovigilance systems in LMICs, multi-country vaccine safety surveillance and increasing immunization coverage and acceptance
- Leading vaccine safety activities and capacity building at the global, regional, and national level for government partners, AEFI committees, healthcare workers, NITAGs and RITAGs