Dr Michael Holmes
University of Pennsylvania

“Mendelian randomization - applications to cardiovascular disease”

Tuesday 13th May 2014
11am-12pm

Lecture Theatre, Richard Doll Bldg, Old Road Campus
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Dr Michael Holmes is a clinical epidemiologist. After graduating from University College London medical school with distinction, Michael embraced academic experience at every opportunity, with successful application to the UK National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) integrated academic pathway, enabling him to pursue research interests while practicing clinical medicine in the UK National Health Service. After four years of practicing as a physician, he applied to the UK Medical Research Council and was awarded a Population Health Scientist Fellowship. During this period, he worked towards a Masters in Epidemiology and a PhD in Genetic Epidemiology. He studied Epidemiology at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, graduating with distinction and winning the class prize for his thesis. His PhD was centred on investigating public health applications of cardiovascular genomics in which he learned and practised techniques that enable understanding of causal inference, and yielded several high-impact articles that have enabled scientific progress into the determinants of cardiovascular disease.

Following his PhD, Michael moved to work at University of Pennsylvania, where his research is focused on organ transplantation. This involves setting up large-scale genomics collaborations to investigate at scale the genetic determinants of clinical outcomes following organ transplantation and aims to identify modifiable risk factors that can be targeted to improve clinical outcomes for these patients. Michael retains an active interest in cardiovascular disease and continues to work in several international Mendelian randomization collaborations.