

*The National Academies of*  
**SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE**

**ACCELERATING BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE THROUGH ONTOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND USE**

Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Sensory Sciences  
Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education

**Understanding Ontologies in Context**

**Committee Workshop #2**

**June 29, 2021**

**1-5 pm EST**

**Session I    Ontology in the Context of Behavioral Interventions 1 – 2:00 pm**

In-depth look at a behavioral sciences ontology.

Challenges and benefits in the use of an ontological structure to describe behavior change interventions.

Susan Michie, University College, London

Robert West, University College, London

Committee Questions and Discussion

Bruce Chorpita, committee member

**Session II    Definitions of Race in the Context of Health and Medicine 2:15 – 3:45**

Exploration of the challenges of classifying socially and culturally constructed phenomena which, though they are not biologically based, have clear salience in a medical/public health context—and the implications of those classifications.

Classification of race in health and medicine

Sandro Galea, Boston University School of Public Health

How classification systems involving race have affected public health policy

Howard Koh, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Respondent:

Kathryn Phillips, University of California, San Francisco

Committee Questions and Discussion

Tim Strauman, committee member

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**Session III Comparison Case: Classification in Medicine 3:45-4:15**

Exploration of an ontology that is grounded in biological reality and has applications for clinical medicine and public health

Ontology Applications at the National Cancer Institute Thesaurus

Lyubov Remmenik, National Cancer Institute

Richard Moser, National Cancer Institute

**Session IV Reflection on Differences and Similarities and Discussion 4:15 – 5:00**

Carla Sharp, committee member

**Adjourn 5:00**