



## The 11th Palliative Care Congress Glasgow 2016

### Speaker Biography

# Professor David Clark

Professor Clark was educated at the Universities of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne and Aberdeen. Following early postgraduate studies in the sociology of religion, his subsequent research interests centred upon sociological aspects of family life, with a particular interest in aspects of marriage, divorce and re-marriage. Whilst working at the MRC Medical Sociology Unit in Aberdeen in the early 1980s, David began to develop an interest in the sociological aspects of health and illness, which has remained my major research focus.

David was appointed Professor of Sociology at Sheffield Hallam University in 1993 and 1995 became Professor of Medical Sociology at the University of Sheffield. He founded the International Observatory on End of Life Care at Lancaster University in 2003 and moved to his present post at the University of Glasgow in October 2009.



David is currently engaged in a number of studies concerned with the service evaluation relating to the provision of end of life care and with issues of policy development and the international growth of palliative care. He has a particular interest in the historical development of modern end of life care movements and has written a book about the history of the Project on Death in America. David has served as a trustee of the UK charity Help the Hospices and as a board member of the European Association for Palliative Care. In 2005, with support from the Irish Hospice Foundation, he took up the position of Visiting Professor in Hospice Studies at Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin, where he worked on the creation of the All Ireland Institute for Hospice and Palliative Care.

David founded the Glasgow End of Life Studies Group in 2014, which has a membership of academics from the University of Glasgow and end of life research projects worldwide.

As Wellcome Trust Investigator, he heads the Glasgow End of Life Studies Group's major research project Global Interventions at the End of Life, which is supported by the Wellcome Trust and led by the University of Glasgow. This project aims to examine how 'interventions' or responses to end of life issues transfer from one location to another, and how they translate to another culture or context.

David is currently on sabbatical and is writing a biography of Dame Cicely Saunders.

