Alex McMahon is Reader in Epidemiology at the University of Glasgow Dental School and an Honorary Consultant in Epidemiology with the NHS. Alex originally graduated with a degree in Statistics. After university he went into industry working in the Medical Statistics department at Glaxo Group Research, and then for Data Analysis and Research Limited. Both of these jobs involved working on (mostly randomised) Clinical Trials of pharmaceutical treatments. After this he moved to an academic job in the Medicines Monitoring Unit at Dundee University, doing an on-the-job PhD on study design and the analysis of pharmacoepidemiological studies. After this Alex moved to the Robertson Centre for Biostatistics at Glasgow University. As well as doing epidemiological studies (some of them in dentistry with colleagues at the dental school) and clinical trials, he also managed the West of Scotland statistical advisory service. He is on the editorial board of “Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety” and various other journals over the years.