

Agenda

Speakers



30 November 2016

Stockholm Waterfront Conference Centre

20 years of communicating facts and figures in a changing world

12:40 – 12:50 Arrival of participants with their lunch

12:50 – 13:00 Welcome notes

Dr Andrea Ammon, Acting Director ECDC, Stockholm, Sweden
Dr Ines Steffens, Editor-in-chief, *Eurosurveillance*

13:00 – 13:10 Introduction and moderation

Professor Panayotis T. Tassios, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

13:10 – 13:35 Data sharing: the good, the bad, and the evil

Professor David Heymann, Centre on Global Health Security at Chatham House, London, United Kingdom

13:35 – 13:40 Q&A

13:40 – 14:05 Rapid reporting of emerging disease outbreaks using unofficial sources: Lessons from ProMED?

Professor Larry Madoff, University of Massachusetts, United States

14:05 – 14:10 Q&A

14:10 – 14:30 Discussion and closing remarks by the moderator



Professor Larry Madoff

Professor Madoff is an infectious disease physician specializing in the epidemiology of emerging pathogens, bacterial pathogenesis, and international health. He is Professor of Medicine at the University of Massachusetts Medical School and Lecturer on Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Professor Madoff serves as Director of the Division of Epidemiology and Immunization and Deputy State Epidemiologist for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. He also has directed ProMED, the Program for Monitoring Emerging Diseases, since 2002.

Professor Madoff is a member of the American Society for Microbiology, the International Society for Infectious Diseases, past President of the U.S. Lancefield Streptococcal Research Society, a Fellow of the Infectious Diseases Society of America and a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

Professor Madoff graduated from Yale College and Tufts Medical School, performed his Internal Medicine Residency at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center and his Infectious Disease Fellowship at the Harvard Medical School-Longwood program.



Professor David Heymann

Previously he was the World Health Organization's assistant Director-General for Health Security and Environment, and representative of the Director-General for polio eradication.

From 1998 to 2003, he was the Executive Director of the WHO Communicable Diseases Cluster, during which he headed the global response to SARS. Prior to that, he was the Director for the WHO programme on Emerging and other Communicable Diseases.

Before joining WHO he worked for 13 years as a medical epidemiologist in sub-Saharan Africa, on assignment from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), where he

participated in the first and second outbreaks of Ebola hemorrhagic fever, and supported ministries of health in research aimed at better control of malaria, measles, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases.

Prior to joining CDC he worked in India for two years as a medical epidemiologist in the WHO smallpox eradication programme. He is an elected fellow of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies (US) and the Academy of Medical Sciences (UK), and has been awarded several public health awards that have provided funding for the establishment of an on-going mentorship programme at the International Association of Public Health Institutes (IANPHI). In 2009 he was appointed an honorary Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE) for service to global public health.



Professor Panayotis Tassios

Professor Tassios is Associate Professor in Molecular Microbiology at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece. His research focuses on the molecular typing of bacterial strains –from both healthcare-associated and community-onset infections– and their antimicrobial drug resistance mechanisms, to assist epidemiological investigations and infection control. He is also active in lifelong teaching, on his scientific interests as well as on scientific writing, aided by his experience as Associate editor of *Eurosurveillance* and *Clinical Microbiology and Infection*.

20 years of communicating facts and figures in a changing world

Two decades ago, the Internet and the World Wide Web (WWW) were still relatively new. Eventually, as they provided easy means of connecting people and sharing information, they came to be widely accepted and used as ways of communication among scientists. Today, together with recent developments in social networking, the Internet and the WWW have changed the world of science and science communication in an extraordinary way. Findings and data can be communicated faster, with fewer restrictions and to a much wider audience than before the 1990s, when the main means of science communication were oral presentations at conferences or printed scholarly articles. Nowadays, the Internet and the WWW, including social media, provide access to information not only for experts but also for non-experts: validated and non-validated scientific information can be obtained from numerous sources and often instantaneously.

On the occasion of 20th anniversary of *Eurosurveillance*, which was created as one of several initiatives implementing the European Union's (EU) policy to increase information on public health and epidemiology, our seminar focuses on how science communication has changed in the past two decades. *Eurosurveillance* has facilitated rapid communication of authoritative information for public health action over these 20 years. At the time of its creation, various other new initiatives also arose, such as ProMED, which facilitate information exchange in different ways. Indeed, in 1996, when the *lancet.com* was launched, the editors wrote: 'One prediction is, perhaps, safe to make: the role of journals will never be quite the same again.'

While ways of gathering and presenting information and data have continued to evolve, public health has benefitted from their application. Still, some hurdles in the sharing of data and information, including ethical concerns, need to be overcome. In this scientific seminar, moderated by Dr Panayotis T. Tassios, two distinguished speakers, Professor David Heymann and Professor Larry Madoff, will illustrate different ways of gathering and sharing validated and non-validated 'facts and figures'. They will highlight successes, ongoing concerns and limitations and the role of journals.

About us

Eurosurveillance is a European peer-reviewed scientific journal devoted to the epidemiology, surveillance, prevention and control of communicable diseases, with a focus on topics relevant to Europe. The entire content is open access and free of charge for both readers and authors.

Eurosurveillance is listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) and features in the Sherpa/Romeo database as a journal that complies with the open access standards required by funders such as the Wellcome Trust. All articles are indexed in the PubMed/MEDLINE, PubMed Central, Scopus, EMBASE, EBSCO, among other databases. The journal's current impact factor, or the year 2015, is 5.98 (Journal Citation Reports, Thomson Reuters, 2016). The journal is in the first quarter (Q1) in the Scopus-based SCImago Journal Rank (SJR) for the categories Medicine, Epidemiology, Public Health, Environmental and Occupational Health and Virology. Google Scholar metrics listed *Eurosurveillance* at ranks 5 and 13 in Epidemiology and Communicable Diseases in mid-2015.

Eurosurveillance was founded in 1995 and jointly funded until March 2007 by the European Commission, the Institut de Veille Sanitaire (InVS) in Paris, France, and the Health Protection Agency (HPA) in London, United Kingdom. Since March 2007, it has been published by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) in Stockholm, Sweden. The publisher grants editorial independence to the editorial team (<http://www.eurosurveillance.eu/ViewArticle.aspx?ArticleId=19564>). As a non-profit publication, the journal has no financial conflicts of interest. The editorial team is based in Stockholm, and supported currently by a board of 17 Associate editors and 38 Editorial advisors.

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Eurosurveillance
20 years

Fifth scientific seminar

20 years of communicating facts and figures in a changing world

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