

Biosketch
Hanna Nohynek
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Hanna Nohynek is Chief Physician and Deputy Head of the Infectious Diseases Control and Vaccines Unit of the Department of Health Security at the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. She serves as secretary of the Finnish NITAG (KRAR), and leads the subgroup on Strategic development of the influenza vaccination programme and the subgroup on the SARS-CoV-2 vaccination strategy. She practices clinical medicine at a travel health clinic in Aava, Helsinki. She was instrumental in designing the first THL (KTL) health advisory for refugees and asylum seekers in Finland, studying the narcolepsy signal post pandemic vaccination, designing the introduction of the HPV vaccine to the national immunization programme, and the introduction of the live attenuated influenza vaccine for children.

Her present research interests are register-based vaccine impact studies, evidence based policy/decision making, vaccine safety, hesitancy, SARS-CoV-2, RSV, influenza and pneumococcus. She coordinates the work packages on field studies and communication for IMI DRIVE on brand specific influenza vaccine effectiveness (www.drive-eu.org).

She has authored more than 130 original articles (including the first scientific report on the association between pandemic influenza vaccination and narcolepsy), and she teaches, giving over 30 invited lectures annually and guiding elective, graduate and PhD students (presently Raija Auvinen and Idil Hussein). She belongs to the external faculty of the University of Tampere MSc course on Global Health.

She has served on expert committees evaluating HBV, PCV and rota virus vaccines in Finland, and as an advisor to the EU, IMI, IVI, WHO, GAVI, SIDA/SRC, and the Finnish MOFA. She was the Chair of the WHO SAGE external evaluation (EAGSE) and is presently the Chair of the WHO SAGE working group on COVID-19 vaccines. She was also the Chair of EPIET 1998-2001 and EDCTP 2002-3. She was a member of the WHO GACVS, is presently a member of the WHO SAGE subgroup on Influenza Vaccines and the ECDC NITAG coordinating committee, and is Vice Chair and Board Member of the International Vaccine Institute. She has belonged to the Faculty of ADVAC since 2000 where she initiated the EPIET vaccine module in 1997 and the Finnish Diploma Course on Global Health in 2000. She also initiated the Finnish Vaccinators Manual and Finnish Travel Health Advisory.

