

Graduate School Seminar Series



Model answers or trivial pursuits? Using epidemiological models to support COVID-19 preparedness and response

COVID-19 emerged as a significant threat to human health in late 2019 in Hubei Province, China, resulting in a substantial burden of disease and death. Despite unprecedented social and movement restrictions, case numbers have continued to grow globally. We have been involved in national and international collaborative modelling efforts to better understand the transmissibility and severity of COVID-19. In addition, we are using models to identify effective and proportionate measures for health sector and whole of society responses in Australia, the Asia-Pacific and beyond.

Presenters: (L-R)



Professor Jodie McVernon is Director of Epidemiology at the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity. Her work focuses on applying cross-disciplinary methods, including mathematical and computational models, to advance understanding of infectious disease epidemiology and inform understanding of optimal interventions for disease control.

Dr Rob Moss is a Senior Research Fellow in the Centre for Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health. He develops methods for predicting and mitigating the burden of seasonal and pandemic influenza, and collaborates with public health staff across Australia to support preparedness and response activities. This includes the use of scenario modelling to inform recommendations for targeted interventions, and combining models with surveillance data to provide near-real-time forecasts.

Dr Freya Shearer is a Research Fellow in the Centre for Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health. Freya's primary research interest is in the use of models of infectious disease as tools for public health decision-making. She is currently focused on developing epidemic decision support systems for pandemic influenza and other emerging pathogens.

Wednesday 11 March 2020

12.30 - 1.30 pm, Seminar Room 515

Melbourne School of Population and Global Health

Level 5, 207 Bouverie Street, Carlton

(light refreshments from 12noon)

ALL WELCOME