

2023 Distinguished Lecture Series

Lecture #3

'Modelling To Support Public Health Decisions For Responding To Emerging Infectious Diseases'



DR. NICK OGDEN

Dr. Nick Ogden is a UK-trained veterinarian with a doctorate in vector-borne disease ecology and post-doctoral training in disease modelling. He is a senior research scientist and Director of the Public Health Risk Sciences division within the National Microbiology Laboratory of the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), normally focusing on assessing disease risk through the study of ecology, epidemiology and genetic diversity of vectors and zoonotic and vector-borne micro-organisms. A key component of his work is assessing the impacts of climate change on zoonoses and vector-borne diseases and developing tools for public health adaptation. Most recently, he has led PHAC's COVID-19 modelling and emerging science teams.

Senior Research Scientist & Director of Public Health Risk Sciences Division, Public Health Agency of Canada

Abstract

The COVID-19 epidemic in Canada was unprecedented in many ways, including the degree to which modelling supported public health decisions. In this presentation, after a brief introduction to emerging infectious diseases, the application of modelling to public health decisions during COVID-19 will be described. Modelling is also applied to support public health decisions outside the scope of response to epidemics of emerging infectious diseases. In these circumstances, modelling has been used extensively to identify where and when diseases (or risk from infectious diseases) may emerge, particularly in the context of climate change. Modelling is also used to assess the use and design of interventions, and underpin early warning systems for endemic diseases that may re-emerge as outbreaks.

Moderated by



DR. HUAIPING ZHU

OMNI-RÉUNIS PI & Director, CCDM Director, York Research Chair in Applied Mathematics & Professor of Mathematics and Statistics, York University

Opening by



DR. JENNIFER STEEVES

Associate Vice President, York Research Chair in Non-invasive Visual Brain Stimulation & Professor of Physiology and Cognitive Neuroscience, York University

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