Infectious Diseases Epidemiology

School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine
Infectious Diseases Epidemiology

Overview
Infectious diseases contribute a significant burden of disease to the population. Our unit maps the patterns of a broad range of infectious diseases, including travel-related infections, water-associated disease, hospital-acquired infections, notifiable communicable diseases, and influenza.

Capabilities
- Development and conduct of clinical and epidemiological studies;
- Analysis of clinical and public health surveillance data;
- Programme evaluation;
- Links to policy.

Application
- Risk assessment;
- Public health policy – contributions to national and international policy and regulation;
- Surveillance and vaccine effectiveness;
- Clinical aspects of infectious diseases, including disease prevention.

Training
- Co-ordination of Doctor of Public Health, Master of Clinical Research Methods and Honours programmes;
- Short courses in Infectious Diseases Epidemiology;
- Input into undergraduate and postgraduate courses;
- Supervision of doctoral and honours students.
Major Projects

- FluCAN (Influenza Complications Alert Network) – a national, hospital-based surveillance programme for severe influenza;

- ECHIDNA (Epidemiology and Community Health Impact of Infectious Diseases Notified in Australia) – a 20 year review of the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System;

- Burden of gastrointestinal pathogens in Australia;

- Health issues related to water exposures – Experimental, questionnaire-based and modelling projects to assess health aspects of exposure to alternative water sources (recycled water, rainwater and greywater);

- Infection prevention and control – reassessing the risks and benefits of vancomycin-resistant enterococcus control measures in an endemic setting, determining the epidemiology of infections in aged care facilities, new and emerging infections including Clostridium difficile infection, evaluating antibiotic stewardship activities in hospitals;

- Travel health – a range of studies assessing knowledge and morbidity among international travellers; and

- Clinical infectious diseases – a diverse range of clinical studies, including antibiotic pharmacokinetics, influenza, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), sepsis and melioidosis, pneumonia, splenectomy.
Contact Us

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