Biographies

International Travel and Health guideline development group (GDG) for Public health measures in the context of COVID-19

CHAIR

Dr Andrea K. Boggild

Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Toronto, and Medical Director of the Tropical Disease Unit in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Toronto General Hospital, Canada.

Dr Andrea K. Boggild is a licensed Medical Microbiologist and Infectious Diseases physician with certification in Tropical Medicine and Lifestyle Medicine, who provides care to patients with travel-acquired illnesses and infections in her medical practice. As a Clinician Scientist in the Department of Medicine, she has graduate supervisory privileges through the University of Toronto's Institute of Medical Science and leads ongoing international research and clinical collaborations in the fields of tropical medicine and travel and migration health. Through this work she has published over 125 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and clinical guidelines, and has supervised more than 75 research trainees across academic levels.

She presently Chairs the Malaria Sub-committee of the Committee to Advise on Tropical Medicine and Travel (CATMAT), an external advisory body to the Public Health Agency of Canada, and serves as the Editor-in-Chief for the BMC series journal Tropical Diseases, Travel Medicine and Vaccines.
MEMBERS

Dr Seif Salem Al-Abri

Director General of Disease Surveillance and Control, MoH, Oman. Senior Consultant in Infectious Diseases, Royal Hospital, Oman

Dr Seif Salem Al-Abri studied medicine at Sultan Qaboos University in Oman and qualified in 1993. He has done his training in Infectious diseases in Liverpool in the UK.

Dr Al-Abri is a practising consultant in Infectious Diseases at the Royal Hospital, and he was appointed in 2014 as the Director General for Disease Surveillance and Control at the Ministry of Health of Oman. He is the National Focal Point of IHR for Oman and is currently leading the national technical team for COVID 19 response. He is also a member of the IHR Review Committee that was convened by the WHO Director General and a member of the Ministerial Technical Working Group for COVID-19 in WHO EMRO.

Dr Al-Abri has an interest in medical education and he is an international advisor for the Royal College of Physicians of London and the Lead Examiner for the MRCP (UK) Examination in Oman from 2011 until 2015, and he was the chairman of the Governing Council of Oman Medical College from 2015 until 2018 and is currently a member of the governing council of the National University of Science and Technology. In addition, he is an associate editor of several medical journals.
Lieutenant-Colonel (Professor) Manaf Mohamed Alqahatani
MB, BCH, BOA, LRCP&SI (Ireland) FACP(USA) FRCPC (Canada) MBA (USA) FRCPI (Ireland)

Professor Manaf Alqahatani is a North America doubly qualified Adult infectious Diseases and clinical microbiologist Consultant at the Royal Medical Services of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF). He is Associate Professor of Medicine and Principle Research investigator at the Royal College of surgeons in Ireland (Medical University of Bahrain). He has a master’s degree in health care management (MBA) from Tulane University, New Orleans

He is a Fellow at Royal College of Physicians in Ireland since June 2019. He Was Vice President Of Bahrain Medical Society from 2016-2019. He was appointed as President of Commission Disciplining Physicians National Health Regulatory Authority from 2017-2018

He has won several awards for his contributions in ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM and PATIENT CENTERED CARE INITIATIVES. He has several international publications focused on Antimicrobial resistance and intervention strategies in Preventing Health care associated infections. He is editor for Journal of Antimicrobial chemotherapy –Antimicrobial Resistance
**Professor Lucille Blumberg**

Deputy Director at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), of the National Health Laboratory Service, and founding head of the Division of Public Health Surveillance and Response.

Professor Lucille Blumberg is currently medical consultant to the Division for Outbreak Preparedness and Response (incudes Travel medicine Unit) and also medical consultant to the Centre for Emerging, Zoonotic and Parasitic Diseases where her major focus is on malaria, rabies and zoonotic diseases and travel – related infections.

- Vice Chair, WHO committee for Review of the International Health Regulations during COVID-19, September 2020 to present.
- Immediate past chair SAMEC South African Malaria Elimination Committee
- Scientific advisory group member - WHO Neglected Tropical Diseases, 2019 to present
- Scientific advisory group member - WHO Blueprint for Research and Development for Counter Measures for Emerging Diseases, 2015 to present
- Lancet Commissioner One Health, 2019 to present

She has worked on a number of outbreaks including rabies, avian influenza, cholera, typhoid, and the Lujo virus. She is a medical graduate of the University of the Witwatersrand, an Associate Professor in the Department of Medical Microbiology at the University of Stellenbosch, and lecturer in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. University of Pretoria, South Africa. She has specialist qualifications in clinical microbiology, travel medicine, and infectious diseases.

Prof Blumberg established the laboratory surveillance programme for the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa and set up the Mass Gatherings Unit at the NICD, which became part of the WHO Mass Gatherings global network. She has been an advisor on the prevention, detection and response to communicable disease risks to a number of African countries hosting large international sporting events.

She is a member of the South African expert advisory groups on rabies and malaria (Immediate Past Chairperson) as well as the advisory groups to the WHO on yellow fever risks in travellers (Chairperson), the ‘Blue Print’ for research in diagnostics, vaccines and therapeutics for epidemic–prone (mainly zoonotic) diseases and, member of the guidelines group for the 2018 WHO rabies guidelines for prevention of rabies in humans.
Dr Sarah Borwein

Director, TravelSafe Clinic Hong Kong. GeoSentinel Hong Kong Site Director. Past president, Asia Pacific Travel Health Society

Dr Borwein was born in Scotland and grew up in Canada but has lived and worked in Asia since 1998. She obtained her medical degree from the University of Toronto, an MSc in Development Economics from Oxford University, and an MSc in Infectious Diseases from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. From 2001-2004, she was a staff physician at Beijing United Family Hospital, and Director of Infection Control there during the SARS epidemic of 2003.

She subsequently returned to Hong Kong, becoming a founding partner in what is now a large multidisciplinary primary care clinic. As part of that practice, she runs a comprehensive pre-and post-travel medicine clinic, TravelSafe. She also looks after a significant population of refugees and asylum seekers.

In addition to patient care, Dr Borwein is involved with infectious disease surveillance both globally and locally. She has been the Hong Kong site director for the GeoSentinel network since 2007 and served as president of the Asia Pacific Travel Health Society from 2012-2014. Locally, she sits on the Hong Kong Centre for Health Protection’s Scientific Committee for Vector-borne Diseases and is part of the Department of Health Sentinel Clinic surveillance system. Her publications include a variety of travel medicine topics, including travel in pregnancy, travel for sporting events and contraception for female travelers. She has authored the China destination chapter of the CDC Yellow Book since 2010.
Dr. Clive M. Brown, MBBS, MPH, MSc, DTM&H, has been with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for over 20 years; currently as the Chief for the Quarantine and Border Health Services in the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine and prior to that as Associate Director for Science in that Division.

Dr. Clive M. Brown obtained his medical degree from the University of the West Indies, Jamaica and completed clinical training at the Cornwall Regional Hospital. After completing his Master's in Public Health at Columbia University in 1992 and working at CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer and doing the CDC Preventive Medicine Fellowship.

Dr. Brown worked as PAHO's Medical Epidemiologist assigned to the Caribbean Epidemiology Center (CAREC) in Trinidad and Tobago; in 1998, he implemented and evaluated surveillance systems and conducted outbreak investigations in the CAREC member countries.

He has completed a Master of Science in Health Systems Management from the University of London/London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from LSHTM. Dr. Brown worked with the CDC Air Pollution and Respiratory Health Branch (APRHB) in the National Center for Environmental Health where he helped to start CDC’s asthma activities which eventually led to the CDC Asthma Program.

While at APRHB, Dr. Brown led CDC's activities related to the non-infectious health effects of mold and helped to develop guidelines related to protecting health in moldy environments. With the Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, in addition to his role of developing the Science agenda for the Division, Dr. Brown was also the lead for ensuring an ethical framework relating to the activities taken to control infectious diseases among travelers.

He served as the Lead for the Global Migration Task Force as part of CDC's Ebola Response and the Port of Entry Team for the Traveler's Health and Global Migration Task Force for CDC's Zika Virus Response. He has also had leadership roles for CDC's Border Health support to the plague response in Madagascar in 2017 and the 2018 DRC Ebola response, and currently the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As Chief for the Quarantine and Border Health Services Branch, Dr. Brown oversees the 20 quarantine stations in the United States and the teams within the Branch with whom he works to implement the Branch’s mission of protecting the public's health at US borders and beyond.
Dr Corey Forde

Head of the Infection Prevention and Control/Infectious Diseases Programs at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Barbados and serves currently as the National Coordinator of Isolation Facilities for COVID-19 management in Barbados.

Dr Corey Forde also serves as associate lecturer in Medicine at University of West Indies, Cave Hill Barbados and Infection Prevention and Control diploma program, UWI Jamaica.

He led the development of Caribbean Infection Prevention and Control Conference bringing together several regional countries including the French, Spanish, Dutch and English-speaking Caribbean in with support from SHEA, PAHO and CDC among others.

As a young Infectious disease consultant, he has been involved in leadership and mentorship of several low and middle-income countries worldwide in Infection Prevention and Control in collaboration with the World Health Organization/PAHO and CDC.

Dr. Forde currently sits on the Society of Healthcare Epidemiology of Americas (SHEA) board of trustees as the international Councilor and is the first Afro-Caribbean appointee.
Mr Andrew Forsyth


Mr Forsyth has more than 25 years’ experience in various positions with the New Zealand Ministry of Health. His work focuses on the development and implementation of public health law. In 2016/17 this included revising New Zealand's infectious disease legislation to include human rights principles.

He has also been involved in New Zealand’s government level responses to a range of acute public health threats, including SARS in 2003, pandemic influenza in 2009, the Canterbury earthquake in 2011 and he has been involved involvement with New Zealand’s readiness activities for Ebola virus disease during 2014.

During 2018 Mr Forsyth contributed to the Health-led, whole of government, engagement with WHO's Joint External Evaluation team. He is currently leading the Health (Drinking Water) Amendment Bill through the Parliamentary process.

He participated in the inter-governmental negotiations on the International Health Regulations during 2004 and 2005. Since then he has served as an adviser and consultant to WHO in various capacities relating to the implementation of the IHR 2005 and the Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases and Public Health Emergencies, principally in the Western Pacific region.

In 2010 Mr Forsyth served on the Review Committee established to review the performance of the IHR 2005 and the global response to pandemic influenza A (H1N1) and in 2014 he served on the Review Committee on Second Extensions for Establishing National Public Health Capacities and on IHR Implementation.

In 2016/16 he was a member of the Review Committee on the Role of the International Health Regulations (2005) in the Ebola Outbreak and Response.
Ms Andrea Grout

PhD candidate at James Cook University, Australia, investigating the role of airlines in infectious disease control in national and international air travel.

During her doctoral studies, Ms Andrea Grout has held various positions as research assistant undertaking quantitative and qualitative research activities and is currently in the last stages of finalizing her thesis.

Born in Germany, Ms Grout received her pharmaceutical training in Germany and holds a MSc in Public Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK.

She has a diversity of industry experience, including the airline industry, the pharmaceutical industry, as well as the individual and community health sector. She has served as volunteer in various positions at Kharaz Refugee Camp in Yemen as part of a UNHCR and ADRA joint health project.

Drawing on her background as former cabin crew and independent public health consultant, her area of interest is the impact of air travel on the health of passengers and crew, in particular infection risks and control measures associated with air travel, as well as public health policy in commercial air transport.

She has published six journal articles in these subject areas, and two book chapters.
Dr Rochelle Lee

Accident and Emergency Physician. Travel Medicine Practitioner - SASTM

Dr Rochelle Lee is both a physician and a leader, frequently has to take the lead during tough situations in the Emergency Department. She obtained her MBChB degree at the University of Pretoria in South Africa in 2010 and completed her DipPec in 2017. Currently she is working in a General Practice with time spent in an Accident and Emergency Department and Travel Clinic. She completed her Certificate in Travel Medicine in 2016, dispensing license in 2017 and numerous short courses in Aesthetic Medicine.

Rochelle has a keen interest in Infectious Diseases, especially relating to travel, doing research and case studies of interesting clinical diagnoses in the ED and presenting it to her peers. She is especially interested in the evolution of infectious diseases and the causative agents thereof, making her a physician able to give her patients more information than just a diagnosis and treatment, but also the essence of why they are ill.

She initiated the COVID Department during the pandemic in South Africa and has since been part of the COVID related emergencies at Zuid-Afrikaans Hospital. Rochelle is enthusiastic and passionate about travel medicine and all related infectious diseases, expanding her knowledge as wide as possible.

She is currently part of the Executive Committee representing SASTM at international as well as local conferences as a speaker and moderator.
Dr Wasin Matsee

Lecturer, Travel Medicine Research Unit, Department of Clinical Tropical Medicine, Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand. Head of Thai Travel Clinic, Hospital for Tropical Diseases, Bangkok, Thailand

Dr. Wasin, 34 years old travel medicine specialist, serves as a Lecturer at the Travel Medicine Research Unit, Department of Clinical Tropical Medicine, Faculty of Tropical Medicine, Mahidol University and attending physician at the Thai Travel Clinic, Hospital for Tropical Diseases, Bangkok, Thailand. His research interests are involved with travel medicine, travel-related diseases and clinical tropical medicine.

Published Work:


Matsee W, Piyaphanee W. Lessons learned from a rubella outbreak: Role of a travel medicine practitioner. J Travel Med. taaa190, https://doi.org/10.1093/jtm/taaa190
Dr Mohamed Moussif

Chief Medical Officer at Casablanca International Airport and the National Coordinator of the points of entry program in Morocco.

Dr Mohamed Moussif was in charge of the health measures implemented at borders during Ebola in 1996, then the SARS, H1N1, Ebola, Zika and currently the COVID-19.

Dr Moussif is a fellow and a graduate from the Center on Global Health Security in Chatham House in London. He holds a Master in Public Health as well as an MBA in Health Structures Management.

He also holds a Diploma in Aviation Medicine from the European School of Aviation Medicine in Frankfurt and a Diploma in Travel Health from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine as well as a degree in Occupational Medicine.

Dr Moussif is member of the Africa CDC COVID-19 Steering Committee, member of the WHO Guideline Development Group of the WHO ITH (International Travel and Health) and member of the WHO Guideline Development Group on the effectiveness and impact of travel and trade restrictions during outbreaks. He is also ICAO Technical Adviser and the ICAO/CAPSCA focal point in Morocco.

Dr Moussif was part of the redaction of almost all the WHO guidelines and handbooks related to the points of entry. Since 2003, He performed more than fifty missions as WHO expert in the area of points of entry including consultancies and seven Joint External Evaluations (JJE)s. He is the medical adviser of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation Authority in Morocco and in charge of the project of Travel Health within the Directorate of Epidemiology and Disease Control.

In September 2020, Dr Moussif was nominated by WHO as a member of the IHR Review Committee on the functioning of the International Health Regulations (IHR) during the COVID-19 Response. Dr Moussif is a WHO selected “IHR Roster of Experts” member since 2017.
Dr Dipti Patel

Director of the National Travel Health Network and Centre (NaTHNaC), United Kingdom. Chief Medical Officer at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), United Kingdom.

Dr Patel is a consultant in occupational medicine and a travel medicine physician. She is also an honorary lecturer in occupational medicine at the Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health at Manchester University.

She obtained her Medical degree at St George’s Hospital Medical School, University of London.

Previously she was a non-executive director at the Health Protection Agency, the director of clinical services at the Medical Advisory Service for Traveller’s Abroad, consultant occupational health physician at the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), and honorary clinical senior lecturer in occupational medicine at the Kent Institute of Medicine and Health Sciences. Dipti was Deputy Editor of Occupational Medicine and is an associate editor for Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases, and co-editor of the ABC of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

She is a member of the UK Advisory Committee on Malaria Prevention (ACMP) and the Travel Subcommittee of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI).

Dr Patel has a special interest in complex travellers, travel health education, medico-legal issues, and occupational travellers.

Dr Patel has a Membership of the Royal College of General Practitioners (MRCGP), the Diploma of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (DRCOG), the Diploma in Travel Medicine (Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Glasgow) (DTM) Fellowship of Faculty of Travel Medicine (Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Glasgow) (FFTM), Fellowship of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine (Royal College of Physicians) (FFOM), Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP), Fellowship of the Royal Society of Public Health, and Master of Laws - Medical Law and Ethics - Kent Law School (LLM).
Dr Priscilla Rupali, MD DTMH CTH ® , Professor of the Department of Infectious Diseases at Christian Medical College Vellore in South India. Deputy Chair, Hospital Infection Control Dept. of Infectious Diseases, Christian Medical College

Dr Priscilla Rupali worked for 1 1/2 years as a Senior ID fellow in the Department of Adult Infectious Diseases at Auckland City Hospital and subsequently underwent a "Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene" at the Universidad Cayetano Heredia at Lima, Peru which is affiliated to the University of Alabama Birmingham.

She runs a very popular Clinical Tropical Medicine course at CMC Vellore annually which provides lectures, bedside sessions and laboratory sessions by internationally acclaimed faculty. She has also been faculty of the "Fellowship in HIV Medicine" which was a pioneer distance learning course educating people in HIV Medicine in the early 2000s when HAART was not freely available.

Dr Priscilla Rupali has also undergone formal training in "Transplant Infectious Diseases" at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan and then gone back and has been instrumental in establishing Transplant related services in her hospital and has been the founder of the Transplant Infectious Diseases Conference in Vellore, Chennai and Ludhiana which combines Infectious Disease related issues in India both in Solid organ and Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation.

She has also been instrumental in setting up and antimicrobial stewardship program in her hospital and plans to diversify to implement antimicrobial stewardship at the primary, secondary and tertiary care levels through various novel training programs targeting clinical pharmacists and physicians committed to working long term at secondary care hospitals.

Dr Priscilla Rupali holds extensive knowledge and experience in the field of enteric fever leading a number of studies with emphasis on treatment and multidrug resistance of Salmonella. The Infectious Diseases Department at CMC Vellore has been a pioneer in promoting Infectious Diseases as a clinical specialty in India and now is the 2nd Department to run the DM in Infectious Diseases in the Country.
Professor Dr Patricia Schlagenhauf

Professor and Scientific Group Leader at the University of Zürich Centre for Travel Medicine. Co-Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Travellers’ Health at the Institute for Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Prevention UZH, Zürich, Switzerland.

Her research areas are travel medicine, travellers’ malaria, epidemiology and surveillance of travel-related infections, medications/vaccines for the prevention of travel-associated illness, development of digital tools for travel medicine with a focus on the ITIT (Illness Tracking in Travellers) project that received Swiss National Foundation funding in 2020. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the ECCMID Travel Medicine Group and of the Swiss Expert Group for Travel Medicine and supports WHO in several working groups including chairing the WHO Consultation on International Travel and Health (ITH) Bangkok, Thailand 3/2018 and chairing Risk mapping the international spread of vector-borne disease via air travel, Geneva 7/2018. Formerly European Senior Editor at the Lancet, she is now Editor-in-Chief of Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease.

In travel health, surveillance networks she is active as the Zürich, GeoSentinel Site Director since 2004, in the EuroTravNet Steering Committee since 2009, and she served in the GeoSentinel Global Leadership Team from 2015 – 2018, where she chaired the “Tracking-Communications” group with the goal of tracking illness in travellers, defining trends and initiating a fast chain of response to sentinel infection reports. Currently she is PI of COVID-19 projects with the Swiss Army including the follow up, by App, of recruits who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 in early 2020 and evaluation of sequelae and re-infection rates.

Her publication list includes more than 170 travel medicine papers and books such as "Travelers’ Malaria" (BC Decker 2001, 2nd edition 2008) „Infectious Diseases – a Geographic Guide (Wiley 2011, 2nd edition 2016) and “PDQ handbook of Travelers’ Malaria” (BC Decker 2005).
Dr Leo Visser

Head of Department of Infectious Diseases and Deputy Director of Internal Medicine Residency Program, Leiden University Medical Centre (LUMC), The Netherlands.
Head of the LUMC travel clinic - a reference center for travel medicine and vaccination in The Netherlands.

He is a professor of infectious diseases with specific interest in Travel Medicine. He is a Member of the European Expert Committee on Travel Medicine and current President of the International Society of Travel Medicine.

Professor Visser studied medicine at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium. He specialized in Infectious Diseases at the Leiden University Medical Center, where he obtained his PhD (1997). The title of his doctoral thesis reads: ‘Virulence Proteins of *Yersinia enterocolitica* inhibit antimicrobial functions of professional phagocytes’. He was appointed as Professor in Infectious Diseases and Travel Medicine in 2014.

For more than 20 years, Professor Visser has been involved in clinical care, research, teaching and training in internal medicine and infectious diseases, with the emphasis on vaccinology, vaccine-preventable and tropical diseases, travel medicine and global health.

Professor Visser holds several positions at national and international committees and scientific organizations. Currently, Professor Visser is the Immediate past president of the International Society of Travel Medicine and member of the European Expert Committee for Travel Medicine. In the past he was, amongst others, member of the steering committee of TropNet, a European Network on the Surveillance of Imported Infectious Diseases (www.tropnet.eu) and chairman of the Dutch National Coordination Centre for Travellers’ Health Advice (LCR).

His current research activities involve vaccination responses in immunosuppressed hosts, long-term antibody responses to yellow fever vaccine in elderly, alternative vaccination routes, and immunogenicity and long-term memory of fractional dose and single visit rabies pre-exposure vaccination. He is board member of the Leiden Controlled human infections unit (https://campagne.lumc.nl/controlled-human-infections1).
FORMER MEMBERS

Mr Raphael John Marfo

Head of Port Health-Tema Port

Mr Raphael John Marfo worked in the past as Head of Port Health-Kotoka International Airport, Head/Coordinator of Port Health-Volta Regional Health Directorate and Ag Head of Port Health-Ghana Health Service,


Mr Raphael John Marfo has a Diploma in Health Systems Management from GIMI Isreal; MA – Environmental Management & Policy-from UC, Ghana, PGD in Organization from UCC, Ghana, ‘DCS from Ghana Institute of Journalism, Accra, Ghana, ‘DPHS from School of Hygiene, Accra Ghana.