

Doherty Public Health Seminar Series

The Global Burden of Foodborne Infections

Associate Professor Martyn Kirk, ANU

Food safety in the Genomics Era

Professor Nigel French, Massey University NZ

Given the dynamic and dispersed nature of the global food supply, preventing and controlling foodborne disease in the 21st century requires timely, effective and high-resolution investigations, which may be provided by genomic technologies. This seminar will outline the global burden of foodborne disease, and assess ways in which genomics may be used to ensure the safety of our food supply. Associate Professor Martyn Kirk and Professor Nigel French are internationally recognised for their work in preventing and controlling foodborne infections, and both work at the interface of public health and genomic epidemiology.

About the Presenters



Associate Professor Martyn Kirk is Convener of the Master of Philosophy in Applied Epidemiology (MAE) program at the Australian National University. He is a member of the Communicable Diseases Network Australia and an adjunct lecturer at Monash University Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine.

Martyn has worked for over twenty years in state, territory, and federal health departments in the areas of food, water and infectious diseases. In 2000, he was appointed as the Coordinating Epidemiologist of OzFoodNet to establish a national network for the investigation of foodborne diseases. Martyn has consulted for the World Health Organization on gastrointestinal diseases and is a member of the WHO advisory body - the Foodborne disease Epidemiology Reference Group.



Professor Nigel French is Director of the Infectious Disease Research Centre at Massey University, NZ and Executive Director of the Molecular Epidemiology and Public Health laboratory in the Hopkirk Research Institute, NZ. Nigel was recently elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand and is also Principal Investigator in the Allan Wilson Centre.

During his time in the UK, he was a lecturer in Epidemiology (University of Liverpool), a lecturer in Farm Animal Studies (University of Bristol) and a Wellcome Trust Research Training Fellow in Clinical Epidemiology (University of Bristol). He was awarded a Senior Research Fellowship in 1999 and a Personal Chair in Veterinary Epidemiology at the University of Liverpool, in 2002. Prior to joining Massey University, Nigel was Head of the Defra Epidemiology Fellowship Unit.

Wednesday, 15 June 12.30 - 1.30pm
Auditorium

Hosted by Dr Deborah Williamson

