

Dr Benjamin J. COWLING Associate Professor

Head, Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong

Biography

Dr Benjamin Cowling is an infectious disease epidemiologist and leads the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the School of Public Health, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine. He graduated in Bachelor of Science and completed his PhD in biostatistics at the University of Warwick in 2003 and has spent a year as a postdoc at Imperial College London in UK. He has worked at the University of Hong Kong since September 2004.



Dr Cowling's primary research area is in studying the epidemiology of respiratory infections, particularly respiratory viruses including influenza. In recent years, he has designed and implemented large field studies of

influenza virus infection and transmission in the community, and the effectiveness and impact of control measures such as vaccines. His research spans from analyses of transmission dynamics at the individual level up to disease burden and dynamics at the population level, and he has a particular interest in understanding how the characteristics of person-to-person spread contribute to patterns in incidence of infections in populations.

Dr Cowling is a fellow of the Faculty of Public Health and Royal Statistical Society, and a member of the American Statistical Association. He is a Section Editor of the journal PLOS ONE, a Senior Editor of the journal Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses, and a founding editor of the journal PLOS Currents: Outbreaks. Dr Cowling actively contributes to the work of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Control, a designation conferred to HKU School of Public Health since December 2014, and has been frequently invited to give plenary lectures at top international conferences on influenza research.

Awards and Achievements

2015	Croucher Senior Research Fellowship
	The Croucher Foundation Hong Kong
2014	Faculty Outstanding Research Output Award
	Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong
2014	Fellowship by Distinction
	Faculty of Public Health, Royal Colleges of Physicians, UK
2013	One of Top Ten Articles of the Year (2013)
	American Journal of Epidemiology
2011	Outstanding Young Researcher Award
	The University of Hong Kong
2011	Faculty Outstanding Research Output Award
	Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong
2010	Excellent Research Award (Public Health)
	Health Research Symposium 2010, Food and Health Bureau, Hong Kong