



Dr Michelle Groome – Biosketch

Dr Michelle Groome is a medical doctor and infectious disease epidemiologist. As Head of the Division of Public Health Surveillance and Response at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD) in South Africa, she oversees the country's notifiable medical conditions surveillance program, disease-specific laboratory and sentinel surveillance, a team of epidemiologists based in the provinces, the Outbreak Response Unit and the Emergency Operating Centre. The division also facilitates communication and data sharing between the national and provincial health departments and the NICD.

She has more than 15 years' experience in the field of infectious diseases and vaccinology, including conduct of clinical vaccine trials, respiratory and diarrhoeal disease surveillance programmes and observational studies assessing vaccine impact, effectiveness, immunogenicity and safety in South Africa. She obtained her medical degree, Master of Science in Medicine (in the field Epidemiology and Biostatistics) and a PhD in Public Health from the University of the Witwatersrand. She holds a joint appointment as Senior Researcher in the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand.

Dr Groome has over 100 publications in local and international peer-reviewed journals and is a regular presenter at local and international conferences. She has received several awards including the Emerging Global Leader Award from the Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health (2016), and the South African Medical Research Council Scientific Merit Award (2017). She has a South African National Research Foundation C1 rating. She has previously served as an Associate Editor for BMC Pediatrics.