

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## Personal Details

Name: Rosemary Ann Lester  
Date of Birth: 4 February 1957

## Professional Qualifications

Registered medical practitioner with specialist registration (public health medicine), Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency

Fellow, Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine

## Academic Qualifications

Undergraduate Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery  
University of Melbourne 1980

Post Graduate Master of Public Health (1988 - 1991)  
Monash University  
Master of Science (Epidemiology) (1992-1993)  
University of California Los Angeles

## Employment History

1981	Intern (first year hospital medical officer) St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne
1982	Second year hospital medical officer St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne
1983 – 1989	Sessional general practice Travancore Medical Centre, Ascot Vale Leake St Medical Clinic, Essendon
1986 - 1989	Medical Officer of Health City of Melbourne Duties included managing the municipality's immunisation program, and providing advice on relevant public health issues to the municipality
October 1989 - present	Department of Health and its predecessors

- 1990 – 1991 Victorian Public Health Training Scheme
- Rotations completed – Microbiological Diagnostic Unit, MacFarlane Burnet Institute, Western Metropolitan Region, Cancer Epidemiology Centre (Cancer Council Victoria).
- 1989 - 1993 Public health medical officer, Communicable Diseases Section. Duties included the follow up of notifiable infectious diseases, outbreak investigation, immunisation policy and advice
- 1993 - 1998 Immunisation Co-ordinator  
Duties included overall responsibility for Victoria's immunisation program, public health medical advice and policy direction for local government.
- 1998 - March 2006 Manager, Prevention and Perinatal Health  
Duties included responsibility for the Immunisation Program, Perinatal Data Collection Unit, Child Health and policy relating to Assisted Reproductive Technology.
- Member of the National Immunisation Committee
- March 2006 - October 2011 Assistant Director, Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Unit
- Responsibility for Immunisation, Investigation and Response, Tuberculosis, Epidemiology and Surveillance, and Policy, Planning and Information Sections
- Member of the Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) (Chair July 2009 - June 2011)  
CDNA representative on the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation  
CDNA representative on the Australian Health Protection Committee July 2009 - June 2011
- October 2011 - March 2012 Acting Chief Health Officer and Acting Director, Health Protection  
Responsible for the health protection programs, including line management responsibility for Food Safety and Regulation, Communicable Disease Prevention and Control, Environmental Health, Immunisation, Tuberculosis Control, public health emergency management, and for the statutory functions in the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* and the *Food Act 1984*.
- March 2012 - present Chief Health Officer  
Responsible for the outcomes of the above health protection programs and for the statutory functions in the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* and the *Food Act 1984*
- Member of the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee

Member of the Council of the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Publications:

Stephanie A Williams, Jack S Richards, Helen M Faddy et al (Rosemary Lester). Low seroprevalence of Murray Valley Encephalitis and Kunjin viruses in an opportunistic serosurvey, Victoria 2011. ANZJPH 2013. Vol 37 No 5:427-433.

Mahony AA, Donnan EJ, Lester RA et al. Beyond injecting drug use: investigation of a Victorian cluster of hepatitis C among HIV-infected men who have sex with men. Med J Aust 2013 Mar 4;198(4):210-4.

Fielding JE, Bergeri I, Higgins N et al (Lester RA). The spread of influenza A(H1N1)pdm2009 in Victorian school children in 2009: implications for revised pandemic planning. PLoSOne 2013;8(2):e57265.doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0057265. Epub 2013 Feb 26.

Van Gemert C, Hellard M, McBryde ES et al (Lester R). Intra-household transmission of pandemic(H1N1) 2009 virus in Victoria, Australia. Emerg Infect Dis 2011 Sep, 17(9):1599-607.

Heath A Kelly et al (Lester RA). Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza community transmission was established in one Australian state when the virus was first identified in North America. PLoSOne June 28 2010. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0011341.

Nathan Grills, Leonard S Piers, Ian Barr et al (Rosemary Lester). A lower than expected adult Victorian community attack rate for pandemic H1N1 2009. ANZJPH Vol 34 Issue 3 June 2010: 228-31.

Grills NJ, Rowe SL, Gregory JE et al (Lester RA). Evaluation of campylobacter surveillance in Victoria. Commun Dis Intell Q Rep. 2010 Jun;34(2):110-5.

Carnie JA, Lester R, Moran R et al. Public health response to an imported case of poliomyelitis, Australia 2007. Emerg Infect Dis 2009 Nov,15(11):1733-7.

Lum ME, McMillan AJ, Brook CW et al (Lester R). Impact of pandemic (H1N1) 2009 influenza on critical care capacity in Victoria. Med J Aust 2009 Nov 2;191(9):502-6.

Fielding JE et al (Lester RA). Pandemic H1N1 influenza surveillance in Victoria, Australia, April- September 2009. Eurosurveillance 2009 Vol 14 No 42 pp 19368.

McBryde ES et al (Lester RA). Early transmission characteristics of influenza A (H1N1) in Australia: Victorian state, 16 May - 3 June 2009. Eurosurveillance 2009 Vol 14 No 42 pp 19363.

Geoffrey G Hogg, Raelene J Darlington, Katharine G Hogg and Rosemary Lester. Measles immunity and immunisation status in Australian children 1 to 4 years of age. J Ped Child Health Vol 42 Issue 4 April 2006:165-9.

Katharine Hogg, Geoff Hogg, Rosemary Lester and Eric Uren. Immunity to poliomyelitis in Victorians. ANZJPH Vol 26 Issue 5 October 2002: 432-436.

Lyndal Bond, Gabrielle Davie, John B Carlin at el (Rosemary Lester). Increases in vaccination coverage for children in child care, 1997 to 2000: an evaluation of the impact of the Australian government incentives and initiatives. ANZJPH Vol 26 Issue 1 February 2002:58-64.

Peter McIntyre, Brynley Hull and Rosemary Lester. In defence of the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register. ANZJPH Vol 25 Issue 4 August 2001: 380.

Ward BM, Lambert SB, Lester RA. Rubella vaccination in prenatal and postnatal women: why not use MMR? *Med J Aust* 2001 Mar 19;174(6):311-2.

Lambert SB, Morgan ML, Riddell MA et al. (Lester RA). Measles outbreak in young adults in Victoria 1999. *Med J Aust* 2000 Nov 6; 173(9): 467-471.

Hogg GG, Strachan JE, Lester RA. Invasive pneumococcal disease in the population of Victoria. *Med J Aust* 2000 Oct 2; 173 Suppl 532-5.

Andrews RM, Lester RA. Improving pneumococcal vaccination coverage among older people in Victoria. *Med J Aust* 2000 Oct 2; 173 Suppl: S45-7.

Peter B McIntyre, Margaret A Burgess and Rosemary Lester. Immunisation in the age of the human genome. *ANZJPH*. Vol 24 Issue 4 August 2000: 351-352.

Rachel Skinner, Anita Imberger, Rosemary Lester et al. Randomised controlled trial of an educational strategy to increase school-based adolescent hepatitis B vaccination. *ANZJPH* Vol 24 Issue 3 June 2000:298-304.

Lyndal Bond, Terry Nolan and Rosemary Lester. Immunisation uptake, services required and government incentives for users of formal day care. *ANZJPH* Vol 23 Issue 4 August 1999:368-76.

Lambert SB, Kelly HA, Andrews RM et al (Lester RA). Enhanced measles surveillance during an interepidemic period in Victoria. *Med J Aust* 2000 Feb 7;172(3):114-8.

Bond LM, Nolan TM, Lester RA. Home vaccination for children behind in their immunisation schedule: a randomised controlled trial. *Med J Aust* 1998 May 18;168(10):487-90.

Nick Crofts, Dorota M Gertig, Elaine Stevenson et al (Rosemary Lester). Surveillance for sexually transmissible diseases in Victoria, 1983 to 1992. *Australian Journal of Public Health* Vol 18 Issue 4 December 1994:433-439.