

# Introduction to Epidemiology for the Health Sciences

Dispelling the myth that epidemiology is intimidating, *Introduction to Epidemiology for the Health Sciences* is highly approachable from start to finish, providing foundational knowledge for students new to epidemiology. Its focus on critical thinking allows readers to become competent consumers of health literature, equipping them with skills that transfer to various health sciences and other professional workplaces.

The text is structured to take the reader on a journey: each chapter opens with a scientific question before exploring the epidemiological tools available to address it. A conversation tool with representative students clarifies common points of confusion in the classroom, encouraging learners to ask questions to deepen their understanding. Example boxes feature contemporary local and global cases, often with step-by-step workings, while explanation boxes provide further clarification of complex topics. Multiple-choice and short-answer questions at the end of each chapter allow students to test their knowledge.

Authored by epidemiology and public health educators, this engaging textbook provides all readers with the skills they need to critically evaluate epidemiological literature and develop their own epidemiology toolkit.

**Emma Miller** has held academic posts at Deakin University, La Trobe University, Flinders University and The University of Adelaide, where she is currently an adjunct associate professor within the Stretton Institute.

**Stephen Begg** is one of Australia's most experienced academics in the field of population health assessment and burden of disease analysis, a field he helped introduce to Australia in the 1990s and to which he has contributed through positions at Harvard University and the World Health Organization.

**Patricia Lee** is an associate professor specialising in epidemiology and public health. One of her major academic roles is the epidemiology subject lead within the Public Health discipline, Griffith University, leading the epidemiology curriculum development in different degree programs.



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# Epidemiology for the Health Sciences

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## About the authors

Emma Miller is an epidemiologist with particular expertise in hepatitis *C*, sexually transmissible infections (STI) and substance use. She has extensive experience in the surveillance of communicable diseases and a long history of research in this area. Other streams of research interest include alcohol consumption and its links with cancer, and STI and associated risk behaviours. In various government and academic roles, including the state surveillance of influenza in Victoria and STI and blood-borne viruses in South Australia, she has worked extensively with priority populations primarily affected by substance use issues, including prisoners in the South Australian correctional system. The primary focus of her teaching has been in research methods and epidemiology at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels at multiple institutions. She has held academic posts at Deakin University, La Trobe University, Flinders University and The University of Adelaide, where she is currently an adjunct associate professor within the Stretton Institute.

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