



**The O'Brien Institute for Public Health &
the Department of Community Health Sciences present:**

How do we know the influenza vaccine works?

Speakers: James Dickinson & Yvonne Efegoma

**Friday, January 17, 2020 - 12:00 to 12:50 p.m.
G500 - Health Sciences Centre, 3330 Hospital Dr NW**

Given the instability of the influenza virus and huge annual investment in vaccination, knowing how well it works is critical. We will describe how the Canadian Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network (SPSN) developed and uses a test negative case control design to measure vaccine effectiveness each season. We describe changes in vaccine effectiveness and other new findings that the network has discovered.

Dr James Dickinson is a Professor in the Departments of Family medicine and of Community Health Sciences at the Cumming School of Medicine. He runs the Alberta Community Influenza Surveillance Program (Tarrant). He graduated in medicine in Queensland and trained in Family Medicine and Epidemiology at McMaster and McGill Universities. He holds PhD from Newcastle (NSW). He returned to Canada to the Department of Family Medicine in 2002. His teaching and research interests are in prevention, especially screening for disease, mainly in cancer, and in what family physicians do in their practice: diagnosis, investigation, prescribing.

Yvonne Efegoma is a research assistant for the Tarrant Viral watch project. She is a second-year masters student of Epidemiology at the Cumming School of Medicine. She has an MBBS and MPH degree both from the University of Benin, Nigeria.

Objectives:

1. Understand how the influenza virus has antigenic drift and shift.
2. Describe the principles of the test negative case control study design in measuring influenza vaccine effectiveness
3. Describe the range of vaccine effectiveness over time, and by birth cohort.

This event is a self-approved group learning activity (Section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. This seminar is also available via an online AdobeConnect session: To attend the seminar from another location via your computer, click on this link:

<https://connectmeeting.ucalgary.ca/oiph-jan17-20/>

Enter as a guest. You may join the session at any time. It is advisable to test your audio before the seminar starts. The AdobeConnect session will be archived and accessible for later viewing at:

<https://www.obrieniph.ucalgary.ca/events/chsobrien-institute-seminar-series>