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Seminar

Nutrition and Endemic/Emerging Infectious Diseases in Cambodia

by

Erik Karlsson, PhD

Virology Unit

Institut Pasteur – Cambodia

Date: Wednesday, 3rd July 2019

Time: 11:00 am

Venue: Seminar Room 2 (HRI-S2), Ground Floor,
HKJC Building for Interdisciplinary Research
5 Sassoon Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong

Abstract

Cambodia is a hotspot of emerging and endemic infectious disease. In addition, after facing numerous years of rampant undernutrition, Cambodia is now facing a “triple burden” of malnutrition where obesity and underweight exist side-by-side with other dietary concerns, such as micronutrient deficiency. This talk will explore the current status of both infectious disease and nutrition in Cambodia and discuss some of the work done on understanding the interplay between nutrition and several pathogens (avian and seasonal influenza, dengue, rabies) in the context of disease severity, transmission, vaccination, and viral evolution itself.

Biosketch

Dr. Karlsson obtained his doctoral degree in Nutrition from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Gillings School of Global Public Health and was a postdoc at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital where his work focused on nutritional influences on influenza virus pathogenesis and global influenza surveillance. He currently serves as the Senior Research Fellow in the Virology Unit at Institut Pasteur du Cambodge (IPC) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. His work covers several aspects of virus research in Cambodia including surveillance and vaccination, with a special interest in the interplay between malnutrition and infection.

