



McGill

Department of
Epidemiology, Biostatistics
and Occupational Health

Population and Public Health Special Seminar Winter 2019



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From Imperfect Immunity to Vaccine Hesitancy: Evaluating the Impact of Vaccines & Vaccination Programs

Thursday, February 28, 2019

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Purvis Hall - Room 25

ALL ARE WELCOME

Abstract: Vaccines have been one of the most successful public health interventions ever developed, yet many key questions remain about how to evaluate their impact and how to maximize and sustain their effectiveness in diverse settings worldwide. In this talk, I will highlight several population-based studies I have conducted to investigate how well vaccines work under real-world conditions, how broadly and for how long vaccines protect, why vaccine uptake is often sub-optimal, and how we can address vaccine hesitancy. Using examples from my research on meningococcal A and B, influenza, HPV, and measles vaccines, I will describe the epidemiologic methods and approaches that I have used to generate novel data. I will also share several of our findings which have contributed to advancing our understanding about how best to prevent and control infectious diseases.

Bio: Nicole E. Basta, PhD MPhil, is an infectious disease epidemiologist who combines methods from epidemiology, biostatistics, immunology, ecology, and public health to evaluate the impact of vaccines and vaccination programs. She aims to investigate the immunologic response to vaccines, to increase vaccine awareness, acceptance, and uptake, and to better understanding infectious disease transmission dynamics. Dr. Basta is currently an Assistant Professor in the Division of Epidemiology at the University of Minnesota. She earned her PhD in Epidemiology from the University of Washington, an MPhil in Epidemiology at the University of Cambridge, and an AB in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Princeton University. Dr. Basta's research is designed to generate rigorous evidence that can effectively inform public health policy and reduce the burden of infectious diseases globally.

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