



Nicholas Grassly, PhD

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Can testing control the COVID-19 pandemic?

October 12, 2020

12 pm to 1 pm EDT

Nicholas Grassly is interested in the individual immune response to vaccination – particularly for enteric infections such as enteroviruses (including poliovirus) and rotavirus – and how this translates to impact at the population level. His research group conduct both laboratory and population studies, including clinical trials with collaborators in the UK, Zambia and India. He is a member of WHO SAGE COVID-19 vaccines working group and since March 2020 has been working on models of vaccination and testing strategies to help control the COVID-19 pandemic. His group is the WHO collaborating institute on polio data analysis and modelling and among its strengths is the development and use of rigorous statistical methods and mathematical models to analyse study data.

He studied biology at Oxford University, trained in epidemiology at Imperial College London and learnt mathematics with the Open University. He was a Royal Society URF (2004-2011) and then Professor at Imperial College London (2011-present). He has served on various boards and committees, including the MRC Infections and Immunity Board (2012-16) and the WHO SAGE polio group (2008-2020). He teaches on the MSc (Epidemiology), MPH and undergraduate biomedical courses at Imperial College London. His work is funded by the MRC, Wellcome Trust, Royal Society, WHO and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Current research topics: Epidemiology of polio eradication and endgame strategy; Rapid diagnostics and nanopore sequencing for poliovirus surveillance; Epidemiology and evolution of non-polio enteroviruses; causes of oral vaccine failure (rotavirus and poliovirus); Human infection challenge with live-attenuated vaccines; Typhoid epidemiology in India.

Suggested reading:

[https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099\(20\)30630-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099(20)30630-7)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://yale.zoom.us/j/94016878445>

Or Telephone : 203-432-9666 (2-ZOOM if on-campus) or 646 568 7788

Meeting ID: 940 1687 8445

International numbers available: <https://yale.zoom.us/u/aeG7mvgIH7>