



ROCHE-SPONSORED SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM AT THE 9TH ESWI INFLUENZA CONFERENCE

Managing influenza infections in a new era of healthcare: the role of antivirals in reducing transmission

Tuesday 19th September 2023 | 18:15 – 19:45 CEST | Auditorium 1
Valencia Conference Centre, Valencia, Spain

CHAIR'S WELCOME

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to invite you to our upcoming Roche-sponsored symposium **'Managing influenza infections in a new era of healthcare: the role of antivirals in reducing transmission'** at the 9th ESWI Influenza Conference.

Influenza continues to represent a global public health concern, with seasonal influenza causing 3–5 million cases of severe illness and up to 650,000 deaths each year.¹ Central to the threat of the influenza virus is its ability to transmit efficiently from person to person. Therefore, it is crucial that we continue to advance our understanding of how both seasonal and pandemic influenza viruses spread, so that we are in the optimal position to utilise strategies that minimise virus transmission to others.

Best regards,

Frederick Hayden

University of Virginia School of Medicine, USA

In the symposium, we will start by reviewing the latest updates on influenza virus threats and the recent challenges that have emerged in the field. We will then explore the relationship of respiratory tract viral load to transmission and current approaches to reduce viral transmission, including the role of antivirals. Lastly, we will discuss how modelling can be used to predict benefits of timely antiviral treatment in reducing influenza transmission in seasonal and pandemic settings. An interactive Q&A session will provide the opportunity for discussion and debate with our distinguished faculty members Jordi Rello, Ben Cowling and Lauren Ancel Meyers.

On behalf of the faculty, I hope you are able to join us for this engaging symposium, and we look forward to welcoming you on the 19th of September.

PROGRAMME

Welcome and introduction	<i>Frederick Hayden (Chair)</i>	18:15 – 18:20
Latest updates and challenges in the field of influenza	<i>Jordi Rello</i>	18:20 – 18:40
Impact of viral load reduction on influenza transmission	<i>Ben Cowling</i>	18:40 – 19:00
Modelling the benefits of reducing influenza transmission	<i>Lauren Ancel Meyers</i>	19:00 – 19:20
Summary of key points	<i>Frederick Hayden</i>	19:20 – 19:25
Q&A and close (moderated by Frederick Hayden)	<i>All</i>	19:25 – 19:45

1. World Health Organization 2023. Influenza (Seasonal). Available at: [https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/influenza-\(seasonal\)](https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/influenza-(seasonal)). Accessed September 2023

This Roche-sponsored event is intended for healthcare professionals outside the United States of America.

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FACULTY



Frederick Hayden

University of Virginia School of Medicine, USA

Chair

Frederick Hayden is Stuart S Richardson Professor Emeritus of Clinical Virology and Professor Emeritus of Medicine at the University of Virginia School of Medicine. He was Medical Officer in the Global Influenza Programme at the WHO from 2006–08 and Influenza Research Coordinator at the Wellcome Trust from 2008–12. His main research interests have focused on the development and application of antiviral agents for influenza, coronaviruses and other respiratory viruses. He has served as a consultant to the WHO, US and UK governments, academic groups and industry on respiratory viral infections and emerging infectious diseases.



Jordi Rello

Vall d'Hebron Barcelona Campus Hospital and Universitat Internacional de Catalunya, Spain

Jordi Rello is Chair Professor of Medicine at the Universitat Internacional de Catalunya, Barcelona, and Head of the Clinical Research/Innovation in Pneumonia and Sepsis (CRIPS) Group at the Vall d'Hebron Research Institute. He has been a critical care consultant since 1990, and has supervised many fellowship trainings, specialising in severe infections and precision medicine. His research focuses on sepsis, evidence-based medicine in infections and severe acute respiratory infections.



Ben Cowling

Hong Kong University, Hong Kong

Ben Cowling is Chair Professor of Epidemiology and Head of the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the School of Public Health at Hong Kong University. He is Editor-in-Chief of the *Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses* journal. His primary research focus is on the epidemiology of respiratory virus infections.



Lauren Ancel Meyers

University of Texas, USA

Lauren Ancel Meyers is the Cooley Centennial Professor of Biology, Statistics and Population Health at the University of Texas (UT). She directs the UT Center for Pandemic Decision Science and serves on the Harvard University Board of Overseers, CDC's Board of Scientific Counselors, and Santa Fe Institute's Science Board. Professor Meyers' main research activities include building models to study and forecast the spread of influenza and other infectious diseases.

