



Prof Rosanna Peeling

Professor & Chair of Diagnostics Research Director of the International Diagnostics Centre, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Rosanna Peeling is currently Professor and Chair of Diagnostics Research at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, and Director of the International Diagnostics Centre (IDC). Trained as a medical microbiologist, Dr. Peeling was the Research Coordinator and Head of Diagnostics Research at the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme on Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (WHO/TDR) in Geneva, Switzerland, and the Chief of the Canadian National Laboratory for Sexually Transmitted Diseases before assuming her current position.

Prof. Peeling's work in WHO/TDR focused on the evaluation of diagnostics appropriate for developing countries settings, to inform policy and procurement decisions. During the time she was at WHO, Dr. Peeling's concern for the lack of international standards for diagnostic evaluations led her to develop, in collaboration with a number of experts, a series of publications in Nature Microbiology Reviews on the design and conduct of diagnostic evaluations for malaria, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), visceral leishmaniasis, dengue and CD4 assays. Prof. Peeling has conducted systematic reviews on diagnostic technologies to inform WHO guidelines on HIV, Hepatitis viruses, dengue and STIs. She was involved in the WHO outbreak response for SARS and influenza. She has worked with country control programmes on implementation research to ensure the optimal uptake and sustainable adoption of new diagnostic tests.

At the London School, Prof. Peeling created the IDC to advocate the value of diagnostics and to foster innovative research to accelerate access to quality-assured diagnostics in the developing world. Another focus of the IDC is technology and society as the uptake of new technologies is dependent on social, cultural and economic contexts. IDC has initiated projects to explore the feasibility of using social business principles to increase the uptake of new diagnostics and ensure the sustainability of health services delivery in the developing world.

Concerned about the lack of capacity for critical decision making in diagnostics in the

developing world, Professor Peeling, in collaboration with the Fondation Merieux, initiated an Advanced Course on Diagnostics for policy makers in 2010. This 5-day course takes place at Annecy, France, every year, supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The US Global Emerging Infections Surveillance Program, WHO/TDR, the International Development Research Centre, the African Society for Laboratory Medicine and diagnostics associations.

Professor Peeling has authored over 200 peer-reviewed publications, authoritative reviews and book chapters. She has a strong interest in ethical issues associated with conducting research in developing countries and was appointed the Chair of the WHO Research Ethics Review Committee 2004-6. She was the recipient of a YM-YWCA Women of Distinction Award, a 5NR Award for Canadian Leaders of Sustainable Development. Her research was featured in a Discovery Channel documentary on Chlamydia infection and infertility, and in Fighting Syphilis, a documentary in the highly acclaimed BBC Kill or Cure series. In 2014, Professor Peeling was awarded the George MacDonald Medal for outstanding contribution to tropical medicine by the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, becoming the first woman to receive this honour.