

Dr Annelies Wilder-Smith is Team Lead for Vaccine Development at the World Health Organization (WHO). In this role, she is responsible for all WHO policy recommendations on COVID-19 vaccines and dengue vaccines. She also leads the vaccine pipeline for Shigella, iNTS, typhoid and paratyphoid and Group B Streptococci.

She is Honorary Professor of Emerging Infectious Diseases at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Past President of the International Society of Travel Medicine (ISTM), and Editor-in-Chief of ISTM's Journal of Travel Medicine.

Annelies specializes in travel and tropical medicine, as well as emerging viral diseases such as COVID-19, Zika, dengue, chikungunya, yellow fever, influenza, and SARS. In 2003, she was at the forefront of the SARS epidemic in Singapore. Throughout the pandemic, she served as the Focal Point for the SAGE vaccine policy recommendations for COVID-19. She also led the SAGE Working Group on vaccine policy formulation for the TAK-003 vaccine (Qdenga) which was endorsed during the SAGE meeting in September 2023.

With a career spanning almost three decades, she has led and co-led various clinical trials, published more than 380 scientific papers, edited and co-edited textbooks and travel medicine books, served on various editorial boards and scientific committees, including as Editorial Consultant to The Lancet. Her awards include the Myrone Levine Vaccinology Prize, the Honor Group Award for exemplary leadership and coordination in determining and communicating global yellow fever risk presented at the CDC Award Ceremony, the Mercator Professorship award by the German Research Foundation and the Ashdown Oration Award by the Australian College of Travel Medicine. She was the Principal Investigator of an EU funded international consortium called "ZikaPLAN" (<https://zikaplan.tghn.org/>), and also completed another 4 year research project on dengue, also funded by the European Commission.