

**INFLUENZA AND PUBLIC HEALTH:
HISTORIES AND DIALOGUES FOR THE FUTURE
20-21 MARCH 2008
INSTITUT PASTEUR, PARIS**



A Joint Workshop Sponsored by Centre de recherches historiques - Institut Pasteur-Paris
the University of Minnesota (USA) Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment &
the Life Sciences and the Office of International Programs
Espace Ethique – Assistance publique-Hôpitaux de Paris (AP-HP)

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The global spread of the H5N1 virus (“avian flu”) has raised the specter of virulent pandemic influenza. Scientists, policy analysts, public health experts, medical personnel, and lay communities are currently pondering what constitutes appropriate responses to global epidemic disease, and some are drawing on twentieth-century influenza epidemics as guides for effective public health responses. Examining past pandemics can offer important insights into responses to both ordinary epidemics and pandemics. But superficial understandings and uncritical uses of these past experiences run the risk of generating inappropriate public health strategies.

This one-day workshop will bring together scholars from France and the United States to examine past influenza pandemics as a way of thinking through the contemporary challenges of pandemic preparedness and public health policy.

PROGRAM

Thursday, March 20, 2008

15:00-15:15

- **Alice Dautry**, Director General, Institut Pasteur

15:15-16:45

SESSION 1: SETTING AN AGENDA: CONTEMPORARY SCIENTIFIC AND ETHICAL CONCERNS

- **Sylvie van der Werf**, Institut Pasteur: Past influenza epidemics and implications for contemporary influenza research
- **Marc Guerrier**, Assistance publique-Hopitaux de Paris (AP-HP): Confronting today's ethical issues to prepare for a possible flu pandemic tomorrow

Commentary:

- **Ilana Lowy**, CERMES/INSERM

16:45-17:00 Break

17:00-19:00

SESSION 2: EPIDEMIOLOGY AND THE CHANGING VIRUS: HISTORICAL COMPARISONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

- **Michel Garenne**, Institut Pasteur : The 1918 changing virus and implications for gender susceptibility
- **John Eyles**, University of Minnesota: Influenza and the remaking of epidemiology, 1918-1960
- **Claude Hannoun**, Institut Pasteur: Hong Kong flu (1968) revisited 40 years later

Commentaries:

- **Jean-Marie Cohen**, Open Rome, Groupes régionaux de l'Observation de la Grippe (GROG)
 - **Frédéric Keck**, Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales
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Friday, March 21

8:45-9:15 Coffee

9:00-11:00

SESSION 3: THE STATE AND MANAGEMENT OF EPIDEMICS: SETTING PRIORITIES, COORDINATING RESPONSES, DISTRIBUTING RESOURCES

- **Esteban Rodrigues-Ocaña**, Universidad de Granada: How to deal with uncertainty? The experience of Barcelona flu
 - **Anne Rasmussen**, Université Louis Pasteur (Strasbourg): Prevent or heal, laisser faire or coerce : The public health politics of influenza in France, 1918-1919
- Commentaries:
- **François Bricaire**, Centre hospitalier universitaire (CHU)- Pitié Salpêtrière

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15 – 1:15

SESSION 4: STATES AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS: THE POLITICS AND ECONOMICS OF EPIDEMIC MANAGEMENT

- **Susan Craddock** (University of Minnesota), **Jennifer Gunn** (University of Minnesota), **T. Giles-Vernick** (University of Minnesota/Institut Pasteur): Undermining a coordinated public-private response to influenza in colonial Zimbabwe and the upper midwestern United States: lessons from 1918-1919
 - **Maurice Cassier**, CERMES /CNRS: Flu epidemics and questions relative to intellectual property and the sharing of knowledge: Preliminary comments
 - **Annick Guenel** (CNRS/LASEMA) et Sylvia Klingberg (EHESS/IRIS): The State, the press, and epidemics: Media coverage of avian flu in Vietnam, 2004-2007
- Commentary:
- **Pierre-Dominique Lansard**, Club de la Continuité d'Activité
 - **Jean-Claude Desenclos**, Institut de Veille sanitaire (InVS)

1:15-2:30 Lunch

2:30-3:00 **Final discussion and future directions**