

World Congress on

EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

International Conference on

TROPICAL MEDICINE, INFECTIOUS DISEASES & PUBLIC HEALTH

Decem<u>ber 12-13</u> 2018 Dhabi,

Arch Gen Intern Med 2018, Volume 2 | DOI: 10.4066/2591-7951-C7-021

REASSESSING THE ROLE OF EPIDEMIOLOGY IN PUBLIC HEALTH

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he oral presentation will cover the scope and different roles of epidemiology in public health. Epidemiology is the backbone of public health. It is the basic science of public health, as it is the science that describes the relationship of health and disease with other health-related factors in human populations. It provides the basic knowledge related to: health and disease occurrence, distribution and trends through public health surveillance (Descriptive epidemiology), causes and risk factors of diseases and health related events (Analytical epidemiology), effectiveness of population-based control and preventive measures (Interventional epidemiology). Furthermore, epidemiology provide health professionals with the appropriate methodologies to evaluate the effectiveness of the newly developed preventive and curative procedures as vaccines (Clinical trials & Community trials), that played a significant role in diseases elimination and eradication. In addition, epidemiology will continue to be a main source of knowledge for health policy. Case studies based on real life public health issues and events will be presented to reinforce the different roles of epidemiology in public health as well as public health policy.

