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## Research bids

### Evaluation

A Warwick Medical School tender to a Public Health England call for preferred providers of evaluations to PHE was successful, led by Dr Robertson, Epidemiology and Statistics, and including CDCE<sup>2</sup> co-investigator staff.

### MRC methodology

Alexander Tsertsvadze has applied for an MRC methodology grant for systematic reviews. This work will evaluate the impact of using methodological shortcuts and automation technologies on expediting the conduct of systematic reviews and their outcomes. The international multi-disciplinary team of 15 scientists and public health specialists involved are from the UK, Canada, and the US.



## New PhD Student

Luke Whincop has started as a PhD student jointly supervised by Noel McCarthy, CDCE<sup>2</sup> and Simon Spencer, Department of Statistics. Luke is a maths graduate and a student in the Mathematics for Real World Systems Centre for Doctoral Training. His PhD work will be developing ways to use pathogen genome sequence data to predict the source of human infection with *Campylobacter*. This work will use data from, and contribute to, a Food Standards Agency funded sentinel surveillance scheme for *Campylobacter* in collaboration with Public Health England and other academic colleagues.

## Publications

Publications this term included a genome wide association study on factors associated with survival in the food chain for *Campylobacter jejuni* [1], a food safety study assessing the association of risk of outbreaks of infectious disease in restaurants with their rating in a gourmet food guide [2], a project that used a vaccine advice line data as a source of intelligence to guide training and support for immunisers [3], and a very large meta-analysis evaluating the indirect effects of conjugate pneumococcal vaccination [4] which has an accompanying commentary in the January edition of Lancet Global Health.

1: Yahara K, Méric G, Taylor AJ, de Vries SP, Murray S, Pascoe B, Mageiros L, Torralbo A, Vidal A, Ridley A, Komukai S, Wimalarathna H, Cody AJ, Colles FM, McCarthy N, Harris D, Bray JE, Jolley KA, Maiden MC, Bentley SD, Parkhill J, Bayliss CD, Grant A, Maskell D, Didelot X, Kelly DJ, Sheppard SK. Genome-wide association of functional traits linked with *Campylobacter jejuni* survival from farm to fork. *Environ Microbiol*. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 27883255.

2: Kanagarajah S, Mook P, Crook P, Awofisayo-Okuyelu A, McCarthy N. Taste and Safety: Is the Exceptional Cuisine Offered by High End Restaurants Paralleled by High Standards of Food Safety? *PLoS Curr*. 2016 Aug 2;8. PubMed PMID: 27617168;

3: Ford KJ, Lang S, Pollard AJ, McCarthy ND. A quantitative review of healthcare professionals' questions to a local immunization advice service: 4299 enquiries from 3 years. *J Public Health*. 2016 Sep;38(3):578-584. PubMed PMID: 26315995.

4. Shiri T, Datta S, Madan J, Tsertsvadze A, Royle P, Keeling MJ, McCarthy ND, Petrou S. Indirect effects of childhood pneumococcal conjugate vaccination on invasive pneumococcal disease: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Lancet Global Health*. 2017 Jan; 5(1): e51-e59.



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