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Leiden

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Generating epidemiological evidence for controlling emerging infectious disease outbreaks

Ewijk, C.E. van

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Stellingen

behorende bij het proefschrift

Generating epidemiological evidence for controlling emerging infectious disease outbreaks

1. In routine public health practice, mpox post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) is provided too late to allow unbiased estimation of its effectiveness, as this is prone to immortal time bias and confounding. (this thesis)
2. COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness can be relatively accurately estimated with routinely collected electronic health data without the need of collecting data on people's behaviour, as differences in chance of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 only slightly confounded the vaccine effectiveness estimates in our test-negative study. (this thesis)
3. To determine the most appropriate prevention and control measures during an outbreak of an emerging infectious disease, key epidemiological evidence is required, which can be generated through surveillance, outbreak investigation, and epidemiological research. (this thesis)
4. Investing in separate vaccination registers rather than a universal register is a misallocation of public health resources. (this thesis)
5. The beauty of outbreak investigation lies in its imperfection.
6. During an emerging infectious disease outbreak with human-to-human transmission, public health experts are required to assess risks for the population and recommend measures based on limited information.
7. Ensuring the implementation of appropriate and proportionate measures is essential for optimal use of public health resources and public support of and trust in public health experts, the government, and control measures.
8. Informed consent for the registration of vaccinations leads to bias in vaccine effectiveness estimates and hampers accurate evaluation of such public health interventions.
9. In medicine, physicians are expected to apply the most recent knowledge to each patient. In public health, the most recent knowledge should be applied to the entire population – adapted from House on Fire, the fight to eradicate smallpox by William H. Foege
10. Every new beginning arises from some other beginning's end – adapted from The Goldfinch by Donna Tart