

Professor Virginia Wiseman

Career summary

Professor of Health Economics at the Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales (UNSW) Sydney Australia. Awarded a PhD in Health Economics from Curtin University (Australia), a Diploma in Health Economics from Tromsø University (Norway), and an honours Degree in Economics from Monash University (Australia). For 23 years, has led two major streams of research across 14 countries in east and west Africa and in the Asia-Pacific region: (i) economic evaluations and implementation trials of interventions to support the scale-up of infectious diseases interventions; and (ii) the measurement of equity in healthcare financing, benefits distribution, and catastrophic health spending. Holds additional academic appointment at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (primary appointment with UNSW Sydney).

IHEA

Joined IHEA in 1999 and attended congresses in Rotterdam (1999), York (2001), Barcelona (2005), Copenhagen (2007), Sydney (2013), Milan (2015), Boston (2017), Basel (2019), Virtual (2021), Cape Town (2023). In 2021, set up the Special Interest Group in Financing for Universal Health Coverage with co-convenors Hasbullah Thabrany, Jo Borghi, Manon Haemmerli and Edwine Barasa - with Jacob Novignon, Laura Anselmi, Peter Binyaruka, and Jacapo Gabani coming on board in 2021. In 2018, was voted onto the IHEA board, her term concluding at the end of 2023. In this role, co-led the development of new SIG guidelines, new Equity Diversity, and Inclusion guidelines, and as a member of the capacity strengthening working group, provided online mentoring to members preparing conference abstracts and webinars on strategies for publishing in health economics.

Tertiary education

1987-1990	Bachelor of Economics (Hons), Monash University
1995-1996	Graduate Diploma in Health Economics, University of Tromsø, Norway
2001-2004	Curtin University, Doctor of Philosophy (Health Economics)

Employment History

2020 – present	Professor of Health Economics Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
2017 – 2019	Associate Professor in Health Economics Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
2013 –2017	Associate Professor of Health Economics School of Public Health & Community Medicine University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
2001 – present	Professor in Health Economics & Health Systems Department of Global Health and Development London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London, United Kingdom
1997 - 2001	Lecturer in Health Economics School of Public Health and Community Medicine University of Sydney, Australia
1994 - 1997	Research Fellow in Health Economics Centre for Health Economics, Research and Evaluation (CHERE) Westmead Hospital, Sydney, Australia

Editorial

Co-Editor-in-Chief of *Health Policy and Planning* produced by Oxford University Press, one of the leading journals in health systems research globally. Leads an editorial team of 15 people (including 4 health economics editors), responsible for processing around 900 submissions per year.

Research grants

Named investigator on 39 competitive research grants valued at \$74 million (\$19 million as lead investigator). Consecutive health economics fellowships from the Australian National Health & Medical Research Council (NHMRC): Career Development Fellowship 2018- 2022; Investigator grant (2024-2028). Lead investigator on a new Centre for Research Excellence in the Economics of Infectious Diseases (\$2.5 million, NHMRC).

Publications and presentations

180 publications (31% 1st author, last/senior author 63%) with 62% of her papers in the top 10% field-

weighted cited worldwide, cited by public health researchers in 144 countries. Her book 'Introduction to Health Economics' (co-editor Lorna Guinness) is used by around 60 universities worldwide and has been translated into multiple languages. Given 32 invited presentations, most recently invited plenary speaker at Indonesian Public Health Association Meeting and at the Indonesian Health Economics Association Congress. Publications include several methodological papers on the measurement of equity health systems financing (e.g. PMID: 36376946, PMID: 29346547, PMID: 32567036).

Research impact (highlights)

Principal investigator of two cluster randomised trials and economic evaluations of training interventions to support the scale-up of malaria rapid tests in Cameroon and Nigeria. Our intervention in Cameroon helped reduce the over-diagnosis of uncomplicated malaria in public facilities by 50%, saving the health system ~1 million treatments a year. This intervention was later scaled up in several districts and led to 15 journal articles including trial findings in *Lancet Global Health* (PMID: 25103303), economic evaluation results in *Value in Health* (PMID: 25498773) and invited presentations to the WHO Malaria Policy Advisory Committee, Geneva. Also, Principal investigator of a 5-year study evaluating the extent to which Indonesia has achieved equity in the funding and delivery of health care after financing reforms. The team's findings including 10 major policy recommendations for improving equity in health financing (PMID: 37061314) were presented by co-investigator Professor Hasbullah Thabrany in 2020 to an Indonesian Parliamentary Enquiry on the national insurance program and are referenced multiple times in Indonesia's 'Draft Government Regulation on Health Financing' which is awaiting sign-off by the President of Indonesia.

Supervision and education

Supervised 9 PhD and 2 Masters scholars from China, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Uganda and The Gambia, Australia, and the UK. Mentored over 45 early career researchers funded through her projects in sub-Saharan Africa and South-East Asia. Regularly provides advice to the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) on strategies for financing for universal health in the Asia-Pacific including running in-house training on the topic in 2015-16. Between 2008-2017, co-led with Dr Lorna Guinness and Professor Anne Mills, a short course on 'health economics and financing for developing countries', attended by 352 UNICEF staff across 80 countries. Designed and taught introductory and advanced health economics on Masters programs at the London School of Economics, LSHTM, the University of Sydney and the University of New South Wales, Australia.

Global recognition (highlights)

- **National Academies:** Twice been appointed to committees of the National Academy of Medicine (IOM) in the United States (2005, 2009), an independent, evidence-based scientific advisor to national governments and funding bodies around the world. This includes role as economic lead and co-author of the IOM's recommendations for the introduction of Intermittent Presumptive Treatment (IPT) for malaria in infants, a precursor for global IPT guidelines.
- **G20 Summit:** Co-chair (with Professor Hasbullah Thabrany) of the Think20 (T20) Task Force 6 on Global Health Security & COVID-19, which provided technical advice and recommendations to the G20 Head of State and Government Summit, in November 2022 in Indonesia.
- **G20 Summit:** One of 12 health economists invited by the WHO and the European Observatory for Health to prepare recommendations and policy briefs, presented to the G20 Summit in Japan and at the UN General Assembly in New York in 2019.
- **WHO Regional Committee:** Lead economist on a team led by Professor Karen Canfell which drafted the resolution for cervical cancer elimination in the Western Pacific, endorsed by the WHO at the 73rd Session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific.

Selected publications over last 10 years

- Hoad V, Cheng Q...**Wiseman V** (2023). Optimizing Donor Malaria Management in Australia Using a Risk and Cost Effectiveness Analysis. *The Journal of Transfusion*. doi: 10.1111/trf.163_17554
- Caesar Delos Trinos J.P, Ny-Nguen D...**Wiseman V**...Vaz Nery S (2023). Cost and cost-effectiveness analysis of mass drug administration compared to school-based targeted preventive chemotherapy for hookworm control in Dak Lak Province, Vietnam. *Lancet Regional Health Western Pacific*. PMID: 37860202
- Angelis A, Harker M...**Wiseman V**...Briggs A (2023). The Evolving Nature of Health Technology Assessment: A critical appraisal of NICE's New Methods manual *Value in Health* PMID: 37268059
- Miao P, Terris-Prestholt F, **Wiseman V**..Ong J (Preprint) Ignored and Undervalued in Public Health: Systematic Review of Health State Utility Values Associated with Syphilis Infection *Lancet*

- Abdul Fattah R....**Wiseman V** (2023). Incidence of catastrophic health spending in Indonesia: A Household Panel Study 2018-2019. International Journal for Equity in Health. PMID: 37674199
- Cheng Q, Bajis S... **Wiseman V**, Dore G.J & Grebely J (2023). Health-related quality of life among people who inject drugs in Australia. Quality of Life Research. PMID: 37351701
- Cheng Q, Hoad V.C....**Wiseman V** (2023). Removing hepatitis C antibody testing for Australian blood donations: A cost-effectiveness analysis. Vox Sang. doi: 10.1111/vox.13429
- Asante A, Cheng Q...**Wiseman V** (2023) The benefits and burden of health financing in Indonesia: analyses of nationally representative cross-sectional data. Lancet Global Health. PMID: 37061314
- Shih S T.F...**Wiseman V**, Grebely J (2023). Optimizing point-of-care testing strategies for diagnosis and treatment of hepatitis C virus infection in Australia; a model-based cost-effectiveness analysis. The Lancet Regional Health -Western Pacific. PMID: 37547040
- Cheng Q...**Wiseman V** (2023). Patient reported outcomes during and following HCV direct-acting antiviral treatment among people who inject drugs. Value in Health. PMID: 36646278
- Haemmerli M, Asante A... **Wiseman V** (2022). Using measures of quality of care to assess equity in health care funding for primary care: analysis of Indonesian household data. BMC Health Services Research. PMID: 36376946
- Wulandari LPL, He SY...**Wiseman V** et al (2022). Preferences for pre-exposure prophylaxis for HIV: A systematic review of discrete choice experiments. eClinicalMedicine. PMID: 35844771
- Cheng Q, Asante A...**Wiseman V** (2022) Equity of health financing in Indonesia: 5-year financing incidence analysis (2015–2019). The Lancet Regional Health - Western Pacific PMID: 35243456
- Zhang Y, **Wiseman V**... Ong JJ (2022). Preferences for HIV Testing Services and HIV Self-Testing Distribution Among Migrant Gay, Bisexual, and Other Men Who Have Sex With Men in Australia. Frontiers in Medicine PMID: 35514755
- Haemmerli M, Asante A, Susilo...**Wiseman V** (2022). Using measures of quality of care to assess equity in health care funding for primary care: analysis of Indonesian household data. BMC Health Services Research. PMID: 36376946
- Watts C, Atieli H....**Wiseman V** (2021). Rethinking the economic costs of malaria: accounting for the co-morbidities of malaria patients in Western Kenya. Malaria Journal. PMID: 34717637
- Haemmerli M, Powell-Jackson T, Goodman C, Thabrany H, **Wiseman V** (2021). Poor quality for the poor? A study of inequalities in service readiness and provider knowledge in Indonesian primary health care facilities. International Journal for Equity in Health. PMID: 34736459
- Saweri OPM, Batura N, Al Adawiyah R... **Wiseman V**. (2021). Economic evaluation of point-of-care testing and treatment for sexually transmitted and genital infections in pregnancy in low- and middle-income countries: A systematic review. PLoS One PMID: 34138932
- Adawiyah RA...**Wiseman V** (2021). The costs of scaling up HIV and syphilis testing in low- and middle-income countries: A systematic review. Health Policy and Planning PMID: 33693731
- Asante A, Mann N, **Wiseman V** (2020). Evaluating equity in health financing using benefit incidence analysis: a framework for accounting for quality of care. Applied Health Economics and Health Policy. PMID: 32567036
- Ir P, Jacobs B, Asante A,... & **Wiseman V** (2019). Exploring the determinants of distress health financing in Cambodia. Health Policy and Planning. PMID: 31644799
- **Wiseman V**, Lagarde M et al (2019) Using unannounced standardised patients to obtain data on quality of care in low-income and middle-income countries. BMJ Global Health. PMID: 31565422
- Ataguba JE, Asante AD, Limwattananon S, **Wiseman V** (2018). How to do (or not to do) ... a health financing incidence analysis. Health Policy and Planning. PMID: 29346547
- **Wiseman V**, Lagarde M, Batura N et al (2017). Measuring inequalities in the distribution of the Fiji Health Workforce. International Journal for Equity in Health. PMID: 28666460
- Jan S, **Wiseman V** (2017). Updated Recommendations for Cost-effectiveness Studies. JAMA PMID: 28030693
- Asante AD, Irava W...**Wiseman V** (2017). Financing for universal health coverage in small island states: evidence from the Fiji Islands BMJ Global Health. PMID: 28589017
- Asante A, Price J, Hayen A, Jan S, **Wiseman V** (2016). Equity in health care financing in low- and middle- income countries: A systematic review of evidence from studies using benefit and financing incidence analyses PLoS One. PMID: 27064991
- **Wiseman V**, Mitton C et al. (2016). Using economic evidence to set health care priorities in low and middle-income countries: a systematic review of methodological frameworks. Health Economics. PMID: 26804361