

Dr. Wenqing Zhang

Heading of WHO Global Influenza Programme

Dr. Wenqing Zhang has been heading the WHO Global Influenza Programme since November 2012, providing leadership and coordinating global influenza surveillance and monitoring, detection of emerging novel viruses, risk assessment, evidence for policies, vaccine viruses, and pandemic preparedness. Prior to her current role, Dr. Zhang coordinated the WHO global surveillance of influenza from 2002 to 2012. She directed the WHO Laboratory Response and Capacity in response to the 2009 A(H1N1) influenza pandemic. In the COVID-19 Pandemic, Dr. Zhang has led the sentinel surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 and is leading the integrated surveillance of influenza and SARS-CoV-2 under the GISRS (Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System) Plus development. Before joining WHO, Dr. Zhang worked on tuberculosis, schistosomiasis, and iodine deficiency disorder in China. She graduated from the Medical School at Zhejiang University with a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering and postgraduate training in system evaluation and epidemiology.