

BIOGRAPHY OF PROF KARL EKDAHL

Professor Karl Ekdahl is a medical doctor and a specialist in infectious diseases. He has a PhD in Infectious Diseases from the Lund University, Sweden, a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from Prince Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand, and a Master's Degree in Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. In 1999 he became Associate Professor and in 2007 Adjunct Professor in Infectious Disease Epidemiology, at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. In his academic career, he has authored some 100 scientific articles and three books, and has tutored 10 PhD students. Between 2007 and 2011 he was the Editor-in-Chief of the ECDC-published scientific journal Eurosurveillance. After some years as an infectious disease specialist, Karl Ekdahl entered the area of communicable disease prevention and control in 1995. Since then, he has worked at regional, national and international levels, and between 2001 and 2005 held the position of Deputy State Epidemiologist for Sweden. He has participated in many international networks: an HIV surveillance project in China and had been responsible for Swedish cooperation with Russia and the Baltic Republics on communicable disease control in 1998 to 2000. In March 2005, Karl Ekdahl was the first expert to join the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). Within ECDC, he has been Strategic Adviser to the Director (2005-2007), and Head of the Health Communication Unit (2007-2010). From February to April 2010, Professor Karl Ekdahl was the Centre's Acting Director. 2010-2011, he was the Head of the Communication and Country Cooperation Unit, 2011-2019 he was the Head of the Public Health Capacity and Communication Unit, and from January 2020 he is the Head of the Disease Programmes Unit.