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Southern Africa

# EPIDEMIOLOGY

A Research Manual for South Africa

**2nd Edition**

EDITED BY

GINA JOUBERT  
RODNEY EHRLICH

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

JUDY KATZENELLENBOGEN  
SALIM ABDOOL KARIM

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What is the nature of epidemiology? Why is epidemiology so important in the context of health, and particularly public health, in South Africa? How can it help us answer important questions in clinical medicine and public health?

Of particular interest in this new, second edition of *Epidemiology: A Research Manual for South Africa* are:

- a **step-by-step guide to undertaking research**, from conceiving and writing a protocol to analysis and interpretation
- an **emphasis on up-to-date epidemiological principles** that readers can apply to their own research or use to interpret published research
- expanded sections on **burden of disease, social epidemiology, and infectious disease epidemiology including HIV/Aids**

In addition, *Epidemiology* offers the following user-friendly features:

- **more than 30 case studies (examples)** which illustrate how epidemiological principles have been applied to research questions in South Africa
- **information boxes** to highlight important topics in each chapter
- **concise appendices** which cover the difficult topics of standardisation and sample size calculation, as well as the correct way of structuring and writing a report
- **useful web sites and readings** to encourage further learning.

Written by South African experts, *Epidemiology* is aimed at undergraduate or postgraduate students encountering epidemiology, and, more generally, quantitative public health research methods for the first time. It enables readers to evaluate data critically and to report their findings lucidly and accurately. *Epidemiology: A Research Manual for South Africa* also provides teachers with a useful resource on which to base introductory Epidemiology and Research Methods courses.

**Gina Joubert** is an Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Biostatistics, Faculty of Health Sciences, at the University of the Free State.

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