

Prof. Jacob Moran-Gilad earned his medical degree and Master's degree in public health at the Faculty of Health Sciences, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel to which he is currently affiliated as Associate Professor of Clinical Microbiology and Staff Member at the Department of Health Systems Management. As a Medical Doctor he specialised as both a consultant clinical microbiologist and a consultant in public health medicine, being the only physician in Israel to pursue such training and went through a unique Fellowship in Public Health Microbiology Strategy at the Directorate of the Centre for Infections, UK Health Protection Agency (now Public Health England), where he was involved in key UK national and international projects such as preparedness to the 2012 Olympic Games, harmonisation of surveillance systems and microbiology strategy for the EU.



At BGU Prof. Moran-Gilad teaches public health, microbiology and infectious disease. His current research involves the development and validation of laboratory methods for rapid diagnosis of infectious diseases as well as the study of the molecular epidemiology of various pathogens of public health interest (e.g. *Legionella pneumophila*, multi-resistant *Acinetobacter spp.*, *Campylobacter spp.* and Poliovirus) and the integration and application of such methods in health protection, using advanced genomics. Specifically his research span setting up genomic typing approaches, bioinformatics pipelines for applied next-gen sequencing and harnessing of 16S and shotgun metagenomics for analysis of clinical and environmental microbiological samples. He is also involved in research on public health microbiology policy and planning, and in exploring contemporary approaches for linking up medical epidemiology and cutting-edge microbiology to inform public health strategy and precision microbiology. He has [published](#) in leading journals in his field and presented in numerous national and international conferences.

Prof. Moran-Gilad held several medical positions in the Israeli Government Sector in medical administration and R&D. As Head of Microbiology Cooperation and the National Microbiology Focal Point at the Israeli Ministry of Health he is focusing on national strategy and policy-making in public health microbiology. Under this capacity he is the Director of the National Programme for Legionellosis Control and Founder of the Laboratory for molecular typing of Legionella, Chair of the Advisory Committee for Genomic Technologies and Co-Chair of the Inter-Office Advisory Committee for Emerging Zoonoses. He is also involved in emergency preparedness and response, as member of the National Advisory Committee for Outbreak Management and during public health emergencies such as the 2013 Wild poliovirus

incident and 2016 STEC and Salmonellosis outbreaks in Israel. He has recently been elected as Treasurer for the Israeli Society of Infectious Diseases.

At the international level, Prof. Moran-Gilad is the Chairperson of the ESCMID Study Group for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics (ESGMD), member of the board of the ESCMID Study Group for Legionella Infections (ESGLI) for microbiology and NGS, Chair of the International Working Group for whole genome sequencing of Legionella, among other international study groups in the field and is an Associate Editor with the EU journal *Eurosurveillance*.