



# The Richard Doll Seminars in Public Health and Epidemiology

## Professor Terence Dwyer

*The George Institute for Global Health (TGIGH)  
University of Oxford*

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“Constructing supersized birth  
and child cohort studies to  
investigate health problems in  
early life”

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Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar 2015  
1-2 pm

Lecture Theatre, Richard Doll Bldg, Old Road Campus

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All welcome

## Terence Dwyer

Professor of Epidemiology, NDPH, and  
Executive Director, TGIGH  
University of Oxford



Professor Terence Dwyer is a non-communicable disease epidemiologist who has extensively conducted cohort and case control studies, which focused on infant and child health. Professor Dwyer's research on *Sudden Infant Death Syndrome* and sleeping position was recognised by the NHMRC, Australia, as one of the thirteen most important contributions to medical research by Australia in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This work was mainly conducted in the NHMRC- and NIH-funded **Tasmanian Infant Health Survey** which enrolled 11,000 infants between 1988 and 1995.

Professor Dwyer currently leads two large global cohort collaborations. The first follows around 40,000 subjects who were first measured at school age, now moving into their 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> decades, to estimate separate effects of childhood physical and lifestyle characteristics on risk of major adult diseases such as type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease. The second is the **International Childhood Cancer Cohort Consortium (14C)**, a collaboration of birth cohorts in more than ten countries. It aims to obtain prospective evidence on the causes of childhood cancer by assembling data on 1 million mothers and babies who will be followed through childhood.

Developing of these consortia involves extensive travel and network building, and to be effective in this quest, Professor Dwyer has been prepared to go to great lengths including eating local delicacies such as rat and the fresh beating heart of a cobra when required.