



Kirsten St. George, Ph.D.
Wadsworth Center, Albany, NY

Kirsten St. George, MAppSc, PhD, is Chief of the Laboratory of Viral Diseases at the Wadsworth Center, New York State Department of Health and Clinical Professor in the Department of Biomedical Science at the University at Albany, SUNY. Her laboratories at Wadsworth provide comprehensive testing for diagnosis, reference, outbreak investigation and surveillance to both New York State and federal programs, with a commitment to ongoing development and research. She is also the Virology Subject Matter Expert to the New York State regulatory program, with specialty oversight of approximately 300 clinical virology laboratories licensed by NYS.

Dr. St. George grew up in Australia and graduated with BAppSc and MAppSc degrees from the University of South Australia. Following several years in basic research, she moved to Tasmania to supervise the Virology Laboratory at the Royal Hobart Hospital. A fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center precipitated an appointment in the Clinical Virology Laboratory there, where she worked for 12 years and pursued a PhD at the University of Pittsburgh. She joined the Wadsworth Center as Director of the Virus Reference Laboratory in 2004 and was appointed Chief of the Laboratory of Viral Diseases in 2008. She has worked with scientists and clinicians in academic, clinical, and public health settings as well as professional organizations and government.

Dr. St. George has authored and co-authored 12 book chapters and more than 100 published articles on diverse topics in virology including methods and clinical trials on cytomegalovirus, influenza and other respiratory viruses, antiviral drug resistance, and several arboviruses including Zika. She has served as an editor on *Clinical and Vaccine Immunology*, *Clinical and Diagnostic Laboratory Immunology*, and currently on the editorial board of the *Journal of Clinical Virology*. Dr. St. George is a member of several professional organizations, serves on multiple committees and has been a member of PASCV since 1994 (Councilor 2006-10). She lectures in graduate programs at SUNY and Wadsworth, chairs the graduate Curriculum Committee at Wadsworth, and has mentored more than 20 graduate students and fellows.

Dr. St. George's extra-mural funding has included grants and contracts from the NIH, CDC and private corporations, for clinical studies, the development of diagnostic devices and infectious disease surveillance. Currently, in addition to grant funding, her laboratory holds federal contracts for the surveillance and genomic characterization of influenza, antiviral drug resistance, vaccine preventable diseases and norovirus. Dr. St. George is also the recipient of four New York State Commissioner's awards for her work on outbreak response efforts.

Nomination Letter

I'm nominating Kirsten because of her long involvement in PASCV and CSV, and more importantly her contributions to clinical virology. These cover a wide range of viruses: arboviruses, enteroviruses, but most notably, influenza, antiviral resistance in influenza virus, and Zika virus. She's well-funded, publishes actively, and is respected internationally. New York, with many travelers to Zika-affected areas, has been especially hard hit by the Zika epidemic of the Americas. As with previous emerging viruses, the virology services at the Wadsworth Center have stepped up and been leaders in the laboratory response.

Michael Loeffelholz, Ph.D.