

Department of Tropical Medicine,  
Medical Microbiology and Pharmacology



**SEMINAR  
TRMD 690**

**“The answer, my friend, is blowin’ in the wind”  
Failures in public health policy and messaging  
during the COVID-19 pandemic**



Since even before it was declared a pandemic, public health policy on COVID-19 has been poorly thought through, frequently based on incomplete and outdated information, and slow to respond to changes in the pathogen itself. The result has been a set of professed policies and public messaging that in some cases were outright wrong, have shifted radically over time, and that have left the public confused while destroying the credibility of many of our “premier” public health institutions. This talk will review some of the most serious policy and messaging missteps to date, look at the damage done to responses, and explore how they have left the public confused and misinformed. Lessons will be drawn from these blunders on how to improve ongoing responses to COVID-19 and better prepare for the next variant or pandemic.

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**Wednesday, November 17, 2021  
12:00 – 1:00 PM HST**

**Zoom Details**

**Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/97962975142?pwd=aFdJZmhrbjdDOGQ2UFZHZTYeDhUZz09>

**Meeting ID:** 979 6297 5142

**Passcode:** 306033

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Seminar Schedule @ <http://manoa.hawaii.edu/tropicalmedicine>