

Melinda Pettigrew, PhD
Professor
Epidemiology
ARLG's Role in Supporting Future Generations of ID Investigators

Melinda Pettigrew, PhD, is a Professor of Epidemiology (Department of Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases), the Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and Deputy Title IX coordinator at the Yale School of Public Health. Professor Pettigrew's research focuses on pathobionts of the respiratory and gastrointestinal tracts (e.g., Haemophilus influenzae and Pseudomonas aeruginosa) and the public health threat of antibiotic resistance. Her current work utilizes an interdisciplinary approach involving infectious disease epidemiology and microbiology to identify factors that influence whether pathobionts asymptomatically colonize or cause diseases such as pneumonia and exacerbations of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Additional projects utilize next-generation sequence technologies (e.g., whole-genome sequencing, 16S rRNA gene microbial profiling, and RNA-sequencing) to determine how disruptions of homeostasis in the respiratory and gastrointestinal microbiome influence colonization resistance, development of antibiotic resistance, and risk of both hospital and community acquired infections. She serves on the Steering and Executive Committees for the Antibiotic Resistance Leadership Group (ARLG). As the Associate Director of the Scientific Leadership Core, focusing on Diversity, Professor Pettigrew leads efforts implement and integrate principles of diversity, access, equity, and inclusion throughout the ARLG. She completed a fellowship from the Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Program for Women in 2013 and was a Public Voices Thought Leaders Fellow in 2014-2015. Professor Pettigrew serves on the editorial board of mBio. Professor Pettigrew has a bachelor's degree from Grinnell College and a doctoral degree from the Yale University.