



Esteban Ortiz-Prado

MD • MSc • MPH • PhD

Principal Investigator & Director, One Health Research Group, Universidad de Las Américas (UDLA), Quito • **Founder & CEO**, MiDOC.io.

272

PUBLICATIONS

10,459

CITATIONS

33

H-INDEX (SCOPUS)

7,930

CO-AUTHORS

CONTACT

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PROFILES

- iD** orcid.org/0000-0002-1895-7498
- GS** Google Scholar
- SC** Scopus Author ID 56037076100
- in** LinkedIn

EDUCATION

PhD in Biomedicine

Universitat de Barcelona, Spain • 2016–2022

Cum Laude

Master in Innovation in Education

Universidad de Las Américas (UDLA) • 2024–2026

MSc Public Health / Global Health

University of Southampton, UK • 2018–2019

Merit • Chevening Scholar

MSc Mountain Medicine & High-Altitude Physiology

University of Calgary, Canada • 2006–2009

NIH-funded studentship

Doctor in Medicine & Surgery (MD)

Universidad Central del Ecuador • 1996–2004

Top-10 graduate

LANGUAGES

Spanish Native

English Professional (CLB 8)

01 Profile

Physician-scientist working at the intersection of **epidemiology, One Health, and global health**, with a focus on Latin America and high-altitude populations. Founder and director of a leading national research group and a contributing collaborator to the **Global Burden of Disease (GBD) study**, with recent work published in *The Lancet*, *Nature Medicine*, and the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*. Brings **national and international experience across both the public and private sectors**, with in-depth knowledge of Ecuador's pharmaceutical market, its health system, and its research, public-health and health-innovation ecosystem, alongside burden-of-disease analysis, infectious-disease surveillance, and the translation of evidence into public policy. Ranked among the **top 2% of the world's most-cited scientists** (Stanford University / Elsevier standardized citation indicators, 2025) and author of several academic books, including the award-winning *Enemigos Invisibles*. A recognized **opinion leader and science communicator** — a leading public voice during the COVID-19 pandemic with **500+ national and international media interviews** — TEDx speaker and prime-time television and radio host, reaching **150,000+ followers** across social media.

EXPERTISE

Epidemiology

One Health

Global Health

Burden of Disease

High-Altitude Physiology

Health Systems

Vaccinology

Science Communication

NETWORKS

RIOH — Ibero-American One Health Network · Founder

A collaborative space connecting researchers and professionals across Ibero-America to integrate human, animal and environmental health

RAIMUS — One Health Research & Monitoring Network of the Americas

George Washington University · NAMRU SOUTH · Gorgas Memorial Institute

Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Collaborator Network

Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME)

REFERENCES

Lien Gonzales

Director of Research, Universidad de Las Américas (UDLA)

Prof. Josh West

Department of Public Health, Brigham Young University (BYU), Utah, USA

Prof. Ginés Viscor

Cell Biology, Physiology & Immunology, Universitat de Barcelona · gviscor@ub.edu

Patricio S. Espinosa, MD, MPH

Chief of Neurology, Marcus Neuroscience Institute, FL, USA

Jeff F. Dunn, PhD

Radiology & Clinical Neuroscience, University of Calgary, Canada

02

Experience

Principal Investigator & Director — One Health Research Group

Universidad de Las Américas (UDLA), Quito

2015 – present

Professor of Public Health (full-time)

Universidad de Las Américas (UDLA), Quito

2014 – present

Invited Professor

Brigham Young University (BYU), Utah, USA

2025 – present

Member & Regional Expert — RAIMUS One Health Network (Americas)

George Washington University · NAMRU SOUTH · Gorgas Memorial Institute

2025 – present

International Consultant

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO)

2025

International Advisor & Global Pharma Key Opinion Leader

KHIDI — Korea Health Industry Development Institute, Government of South Korea

2015 – present

Host, "Mundo Salud" health program

FM Mundo Radio, Quito

2022 – present

Invited Assistant Professor

SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, New York

2015 – 2025

Member, Scientific Advisory Group (COVID-19 vaccine strategy)

Ministry of Public Health of Ecuador

2021 – 2022

Science Communicator (prime-time TV)

Teleamazonas, Quito

2020 – 2024

Host, "Frecuencia Médica" radio program

Ecuadorian Public Radio

2016 – 2017

Chief Research & Development Executive Officer

ENFARMA EP — state pharmaceutical company, Government of Ecuador

2013 – 2015

Senior Scientific Advisor

SENESCYT, Undersecretariat of Scientific Research, Ecuador

2012 – 2013

272 Scopus-indexed documents • 10,459 citations • h-index 33

(Scopus). Google Scholar: 17,400+ citations, h-index 42, i10-index 147. Contributing collaborator to the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) study. Most-cited works include reviews on SARS-CoV-2 vaccine strategies (*npj Vaccines*, ~790 citations) and the clinical characterization of COVID-19 (~650 citations).

GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE COLLABORATIONS (SELECTED, 2025–2026)

- 1 Burden of 375 diseases and injuries, risk-attributable burden of 88 risk factors, and healthy life expectancy in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2023 — *GBD 2023*. The Lancet, 2025.
- 2 Global burden of 292 causes of death in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2023 — *GBD 2023*. The Lancet, 2025.
- 3 Global age-sex-specific all-cause mortality and life expectancy, 1950–2023 — *GBD 2023*. The Lancet, 2025.
- 4 Global burden of cancer, 1990–2023, with forecasts to 2050 — *GBD 2023*. The Lancet, 2025.
- 5 Disease burden of intimate-partner violence against females and sexual violence against children, 1990–2023 — *GBD 2023*. The Lancet, 2026.
- 6 Global burden of cardiovascular diseases and risk factors, 1990–2023. J. American College of Cardiology, 2025.
- 7 Ischaemic heart disease attributable to suboptimal diet, 1990–2023 — *GBD*. Nature Medicine, 2026.
- 8 Global burden of meningitis, its risk factors and aetiologies, 1990–2023 — *GBD 2023*. Lancet Neurology, 2026.
- 9 Global burden of suicide, 1990–2021 — *GBD 2021*. Lancet Public Health, 2025.

SELECTED FIRST / SENIOR-AUTHOR WORK

- 1 Climate change and the rising threat of *vector-borne diseases in the Andes* (review). 2026.
- 2 Yellow fever in Latin America and the escalating risks in a changing eco-epidemiological landscape (review). 2026.
- 3 Countrywide analysis of *vaccination rates in Ecuador, 2014–2024*: trends, inequalities and implications. Vaccine X, 2026.
- 4 SARS-CoV-2 infection, not vaccination, and *myocardial infarction mortality*: a nationwide study in Ecuador. IJC Cardiovascular Risk & Prevention, 2025.
- 5 Current and emerging *Mpox vaccine strategies*: a comprehensive review. Vaccine, 2025.
- 6 Hemorrhagic fevers caused by *South American Mammarenaviruses*: a comprehensive review. Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease, 2025.

Global impact of epidemiological diseases in Ecuador (MED.EOP.23.01).

UDLA · 2023–2026 · €24,420 (PI).

Characterization of HPV in Ecuador (576.C.XVI.25). UDLA · 2025–2026 · €6,291 (PI).

Analysis of the Ecuadorian health system (516.B.XV.24). UDLA · 2024–2026 · €5,888 (PI).

Aetiology of respiratory infections in children under 5 (MED.EOP.20.03).

UDLA · 2020–2022 (PI).

South American research network for vector-borne diseases (dengue, yellow fever, leishmaniasis, malaria). UNASUR · USD 99k (PI / awardee).

2026

Invited Speaker, "Global Health, Biodiversity & Therapeutics" Seminar — Harvard University Herbaria. Alongside Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Salk Institute, UC Davis & the National Cancer Institute (USA); only Ecuadorian researcher in the program.

TEDx

TEDx Speaker — "Researching to Transcend" (*Investigar para trascender*). TEDxUISRAEL, Ecuador.

2026

Speaker, II International Course at the Vanguard of Medicine: Oncology Edition. UDLA Faculty of Medicine & Hospital Metropolitano, Quito.

2026

Speaker, IV National Update Course on Breast Cancer. Ecuadorian Multidisciplinary Society of Mastology (SEMMA) & UIDE, Quito.

2025

Speaker, 3rd Update Course on Breast Cancer — "Epidemiology and current reality of breast cancer". SEMMA, Quito.

2023

Speaker, Mental Health Symposium — "Suicide: current situation". IESS Quito Sur Hospital, IUNIR, UIDE & Ecuadorian Psychiatric Association.

2023

Speaker, 3rd International Congress of Internal Medicine & Critical Care — "COVID-19 in Ecuador: socio-demographic, epidemiological and geographic features". FUNESALUD.

2023

Panelist, II Patient Safety Symposium "Give Patients a Voice". Health Secretariat, Municipality of Quito.

2022

Speaker, Biomedicine Congress "Advances of Biomedicine in Ecuador 2022". USFQ.

2021

Speaker, Scientific Café "Vaccination: A Real Challenge". Universidad de las Fuerzas Armadas (ESPE).

2018

Invited Lecture, "Epidemiological Analysis of Suicide in Ecuador, 2001–2016". Hospital de Especialidades Eugenio Espejo, Quito.

2020–21

50+ public lectures on COVID-19 across national and international fora.

06 Editorial & Peer-Review Service

Editor	Academic Editor, PLOS ONE.
Guest Ed.	Guest Editor — <i>Frontiers in Public Health</i> & <i>Frontiers in Medicine</i> .
Reviewer	Reviewer for leading international journals — including <i>Nature</i> , <i>The Lancet</i> , <i>Scientific Reports</i> , PLoS, BMC and <i>Expert Review of Vaccines</i> ; 305 verified reviews of 242 manuscripts (Web of Science).
Mentor	Thesis supervisor — 30+ undergraduate and graduate medical theses, UDLA.

07 Awards & Distinctions

2025	Top 2% of the world's most-cited scientists — Stanford University / Elsevier standardized citation indicators (Scopus data), August 2025 update.
2024	Quito Municipal Award for Arts & Sciences — "Enrique Garcés" category (Biological Sciences); best published work, for the book <i>Enemigos Invisibles</i> (UDLA Ediciones).
2018	Chevening Scholarship (UK Government) — full award; ~1,800 of >100,000 applicants worldwide.
2015	Advanced Vaccinology Fellowship , Fondation Mérieux & Université de Genève (France) — fully funded; sole Ecuadorian recipient.
2015	UNASUR R&D Grant — USD 99,000 to create the Riset international network on vector-borne diseases.
2008	NIH Full Master's Studentship at the University of Calgary; Academic Productivity Scholarships.

08 Certifications & Professional Development

2023	Sixth Implementation Science School — Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD).
2023	12th Advanced Course on Diagnostics (ACDx) — Fondation Mérieux & London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.
2023	Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Capability-Building Workshop — NICE International & University of Sheffield (SchARR).
2016	Epidemiology: The Basic Science of Public Health — University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Coursera).
2014	ICH-GCP Certification , Investigator Training Program (Pfizer) • Building Shared Value in Healthcare , London School of Economics (LSE).
2007	Medical Council of Canada Evaluating Examination (MCCEE) — Pass.

