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**Subject: Lancet Commission on “Strengthening the Usefulness of Epidemiological Modelling”**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Epidemiological modelling allows us to better understand disease dynamics, forecast outcomes, and respond to public health crises. This was especially apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic, where models played a prominent role in shaping policy response. However, COVID-19 and prior experiences have brought to the fore several limitations in how the models are developed, results communicated and interpreted by stakeholders, and ultimately used for policymaking.

In this regard, the Lancet is commissioning a Commission to strengthen the usefulness of epidemiological modelling to inform decisions by understanding and addressing both technical and non-technical elements of modelling. The Commission will offer practical recommendations to advance knowledge and practice in the field.

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This Commission will bring together multidisciplinary experts and will represent diversity in age, gender, and geography. The Health Intervention and Technology Assessment Program (HITAP), Ministry of Public Health, Thailand, and the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore (SSHSPH NUS) will serve as the Secretariat for the Commission. The Commission is expected to be completed in 24 months, starting in January 2023.

The Lancet welcomes collaboration and support from other partners for this important work.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further information.

Yours sincerely



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