

**Personal statement: AnnaSara Carnahan**

AnnaSara Carnahan holds a Master degree in Public Health (MPH) from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Ms. Carnahan has been working at the Public Health Agency of Sweden since 2011.

Ms. Carnahan's expertise lies in the epidemiological surveillance of communicable diseases, with a focus on respiratory pathogens particularly influenza, COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Besides leading routine surveillance activities, she works with strategic questions regarding improvements to surveillance, as well as methods for monitoring and evaluation of public health interventions, and using data to inform public health policy. Ms. Carnahan also has experience with pandemic preparedness and response, both in applying lessons learnt from the 2009 pandemic and in work during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. She works in close collaboration with colleagues within epidemiology, microbiology, vaccinology, preparedness and communication in her daily work. Ms. Carnahan has contributed to scientific studies on participatory surveillance, influenza disease burden, surveillance results and methods, and more.

The Public Health Agency of Sweden plays a central role in monitoring and responding to outbreaks, providing guidelines, and supporting evidence-based public health interventions in Sweden. It is also the National Influenza Centre (NIC) for Sweden and collaborates with the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) on a continual basis.