

Dr. Margery Smelkinson is a research scientist and microscopist with expertise in infectious diseases. She received her PhD in Biological Sciences from Columbia University in 2007 and completed her post-doctoral fellowships at the University of California, San Diego, where she studied host interactions with pathogens including influenza and microsporidia. Through this work, she developed a therapeutic approach for influenza, for which she holds a patent. She is currently a staff scientist at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In this role, she advises scientific investigators on experimental implementation, develops methods for data acquisition and analysis, and specializes in light microscopy techniques. In addition to research, Dr. Smelkinson has advised local institutions on health-related strategies during the pandemic and has also written numerous opinion pieces related to Covid policies for newspapers such as The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, The Atlantic, USA Today, and Time Magazine. *Dr. Smelkinson's views are her own and she is not speaking on behalf of the NIH, NIAID, HHS, or the federal government.*