

Commission on Syria

Health in Conflict



Paul Spiegel

Dr. Paul Spiegel is the Director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health and Professor of Practise in the Department of International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where he lectures and undertakes research in humanitarian emergencies.

Previously, Dr. Spiegel was the Deputy Director of the Division of Programme Support and Management at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Geneva, Switzerland where he supervised and managed four technical sections - Public Health (including health, HIV, nutrition, water and sanitation, and food security); Cash-based Initiatives; Shelter and Settlement; and Operations Solutions and Transitions (including energy, environment, livelihoods, and solutions). He was also Chief of the Public Health and HIV Section (2002-2012) and the Refugee Agency's Global HIV Coordinator for UNAIDS (2004-2016).

Dr. Spiegel is Chair of the Funding Committee for the DFID and Wellcome Trust funded Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises or R2HC, and is on the editorial board of the journal entitled Conflict and Health.

Before UNHCR, Dr. Spiegel worked as a Medical Epidemiologist in the International Emergency and Refugee Health Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Previously he worked as a Medical Coordinator with Médecins Sans Frontières and Médecins du Monde in refugee settings in Kenya and DRC as well as for numerous organisations including the Canadian Red Cross, the Pan American Health Organisation and the Centre for Victims of Torture in Toronto, Canada. He received his medical degree at the University of Toronto and his Master of Public Health and specialty in Preventive Medicine at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Dr. Spiegel has responded to crises and undertaken field work and research in humanitarian emergencies in numerous countries on all continents. He has published and lectured extensively in the field of humanitarian emergencies. His research interests are in epidemiological methods, health information systems and HIV. He has won numerous awards including CDC's Charles C. Shepard award for outstanding research in Assessment and Epidemiology.