John Edmunds is Professor of Infectious Disease Modelling at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. John’s research focuses on modelling the spread of infectious diseases and the design of efficient control programmes.

A focus of the work has been the careful parameterization of mechanistic models of disease transmission through Bayesian methods and the use of these models often in conjunction with economic analyses to inform public health decision-making. He has published over 250 scientific articles in his field including a number of paradigm shifting papers on the development of more realistic mathematical models through the use of social contact data; the use of dynamic models in economic evaluations of infectious disease control programmes; and more recently on novel trial design.

He has been involved in helping the UK Government to plan and prepare for pandemic flu and similar emergencies over a number of years. He works closely with colleagues at Public Health England on vaccine and influenza-related issues, and advises policy-makers on these topics.

He is a member of a number of national and international advisory committees, including WHO’s Polio Research Committee, the UK’s New and Emerging Respiratory Virus Threats Advisory Group (NERVTAG) and various subcommittees of the Joint Committee on Vaccines and Immunisation (JCVI).