

Dr. Laurie Forlano is the Deputy Commissioner of Population Health at the Virginia Department of Health and has served in different roles since joining the department in 2011, including service as Virginia's State Epidemiologist from 2014-2018 which included leadership of multiple large scale communicable disease outbreaks and investigations, such as Virginia's response during the 2014 Ebola epidemic in West Africa and the agency's response to Zika Virus Disease. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she serves as the chief of the COVID-19 Operations Branch, the lead of the VDH COVID-19 Community Mitigation team, and the co-chair of the Governor's COVID-19 Long Term Care Task Force.

Since 2018, in her role as Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Forlano provides guidance and oversight to the Offices of Family Health Services (OFHS), Epidemiology (OEPI) and Health Equity (OHE) . She is also charged with leadership of VDH's population health approach to improving health outcomes in Virginia, including the development and implementation of Virginia's State Health Assessment and State Health Improvement Plan (SHA/SHIP). Dr. Forlano is a board-certified physician in Preventive Medicine and Public Health, received her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) and her Masters in Public Health (MPH) from the University of Massachusetts.