

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Carita Savolainen-Kopra



Sex Female | | Nationality Finnish

## WORK EXPERIENCE

1 June 2017 - present

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**Head of Expert Microbiology unit**

National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)

P.O. Box 30 (Mannerheimintie 166), FI-00271 Helsinki, Finland ([www.thl.fi](http://www.thl.fi))**Business or sector** Government institute for public health and research

1 January 2017 – 31.5.2017

**Head of Bacterial Infections unit**

National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)  
P.O. Box 30 (Mannerheimintie 166), FI-00271 Helsinki, Finland ([www.thl.fi](http://www.thl.fi))

**Business or sector** Government institute for public health and research

1 June 2013 – 31.5.2017

**Head of Viral Infections unit (former Virology unit)**

National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)  
P.O. Box 30 (Mannerheimintie 166), FI-00271 Helsinki, Finland ([www.thl.fi](http://www.thl.fi))

**Business or sector** Government institute for public health and research

1 October 2012 - 31 May 2013

**Senior Researcher**

National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)  
P.O. Box 30 (Mannerheimintie 166), FI-00271 Helsinki, Finland ([www.thl.fi](http://www.thl.fi))

- Administration and virological research including epidemiology, evidence based methods and hand hygiene interventions

1 April 2006 – 30 September 2012

**Post-doctoral researcher**

National Institute for Health and Welfare (THL)  
P.O. Box 30 (Mannerheimintie 166), FI-00271 Helsinki, Finland ([www.thl.fi](http://www.thl.fi))

- Research on entero- and rhinovirus molecular epidemiology, evolution and interventions in hand hygiene

4.10.2010, 11.1.2011, 3.3.2011,  
26.9.2011, 19.4.2012, 26.9.2012**Visiting lecturer**

University of Helsinki, Faculties of Medicine, Odontology and Veterinary Medicine, P.O. Box 3 (Fabianinkatu 33), FI-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland ([www.helsinki.fi](http://www.helsinki.fi))

- Lecture teaching on respiratory viruses

1 June 1999 – 31 March 2006

**Researcher**

National Public Health Institute (KTL)  
Mannerheimintie 166, FI-00300 Helsinki, Finland

- Research on entero- and rhinovirus molecular epidemiology

part time 1995-1998

**Leading pharmacist**

Kouvola-Valkeala Health Center, Medical Center, Marjoniementie 10, FIN-45100, Kouvola, Finland

- Responsible for distribution of medicines in Kouvola-Valkeala area

**Business or sector** Municipal health centre

1993-1995, part time 1995-1998

**Pharmacist**

Kuusankoski I pharmacy, Kuusankoski, Finland

- Distribution of pharmaceuticals, health counselling, health insurance compensations

**Business or sector** Private pharmacy

**EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

24 May 2018 **Healthcare Management Education Program**  
 Aalto University Executive Education  
 ▪ Further education/ Management education

26 April 2016 **Specialist Qualification in Management**  
 Omnia, The joint authority of education and a regional development center, Espoo, Finland  
 ▪ Management, ISCED4

22 October 2012 **Docent (Adjunct Professor)**  
 University of Helsinki, Finland  
 ▪ Virology

1 September 1999 – 21 June 2006  
 (2 maternity leaves in between) **Doctor of Philosophy, PhD**

University of Helsinki, Finland  
 ▪ General microbiology

1 September 1995 – 11 May 1999 **Master of Science, MSc**  
 University of Kuopio, Finland  
 ▪ Environmental Science

1 September 1991 – 17 December 1993 **Bachelor of Science, BSc**

University of Helsinki, Finland  
 ▪ Pharmacy

**PERSONAL SKILLS**

Mother tongue(s) Finnish

Other language(s)

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
Swedish	B2	B2	B2	B2	B2
German	B1	B1	B1	B1	B1
Russian	A1	A1	A1	A1	A1

Levels: A1/2: Basic user - B1/2: Independent user - C1/2 Proficient user  
 Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

**Communication skills**

- Good skills in team work gained through my experience in a research group
- Good communication skills gained through my experience as a pharmacist working with customers
- Good skills in communicating with less motivated people gained through my experience as a mother

**Organisational / managerial skills**

- Leadership skills gained through heading the Expert Microbiology unit with a staff of more than 100 persons
- Experience in project management (HERA-funded project “Enhancing Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) and/or Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) national infrastructures and capacities to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic in Finland”, ECDC-project “Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of antenatal screening of infectious diseases” and “Stopflu” hand hygiene project: contacts to collaborators and sites of a multi-center trial/facilitation and monitoring of data collection/processing and analysis of data

- Job-related skills**
- Good command of quality control processes (current work place processes accredited according to SFS-EN ISO/IEC 17025:2005 quality system, participation in the set up and implementation of the system)
- Computer skills**
- Good command of Microsoft Office™ tools
  - Good command of sequence analysis software
  - Good command of phylogeny software
  - Good command of web-based questionnaire software
- Other skills**
- Experience in parent-teacher association work
  - Experience in fund raising for extracurricular activities at school
  - Experience as event organizer in sports club activities
- Driving licence**
- ABe

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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- Workshops**
- International workshops in virus evolution and bioinformatics 2000 and 2009
  - International workshop in Evidence based medicine in 2013
- Courses**
- Courses on leadership and management in 2013 and 2018

