

Elisabeth Wells is a Research Professor at the University of Otago, Christchurch, New Zealand (previously called the Christchurch School of Medicine although always part of the University of Otago). She completed her undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand, graduating with a PhD in 1970. She spent three years as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Toronto before returning to New Zealand to Massey University, where she taught for six years. She then returned to Christchurch on a research grant from the Alcohol Advisory Council prior to taking up a position in 1980 as a biostatistician in the Christchurch School of Medicine. Her work in psychiatric epidemiology has come mainly from three projects: the Christchurch Psychiatric Epidemiology Study, an Epidemiologic Catchment Area replica carried out in 1986; the New Zealand Mental Health Survey, which was carried out in 2003-4 and is one of the WMH Survey Initiative studies; and on-going involvement with the Christchurch Health and Development Study since the 1990s. As well as a general interest in the epidemiology of common mental disorders and their treatment she has been particularly interested in the use of alcohol and other drugs. She is a member of the Epidemiology and Public Health Section of the World Psychiatric Association. She has published over 180 research papers and book chapters with more than 5000 citations, according to Web of Science. She serves as a reviewer for a number of international journals and serves as a grant reviewer and on grant assessing committees within New Zealand.

Qualifications: BSc(Hons), PhD