

## Sarah Ball's New Health Sector Leadership Role at Westat



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Sarah Ball, ScD, MS, MPH, Vice President, is taking on a new role within Westat's Health Sector as our Lead Scientific/Epidemiology Advisor, reporting to Patricia Shifflett, MS, Vice President and Health Sector Lead.

In this new role, Dr. Ball is responsible for envisioning and expanding research capabilities (human, methodological, and technological) across Westat's Health Sector, developing evidence of the validity and utility of Westat-led research products, and communicating with scientific communities concerning our competencies and scientific offerings. To effectively accomplish this, Dr. Ball will provide professional leadership and expert epidemiologic advice across the Health Sector and work closely with the Health Sector leadership team and project directors to address technical research questions.

Dr. Ball joined Westat in 2019 in the Public Health and Epidemiology (Public Health) Practice and has 20+ years of experience as an epidemiologist. Starting with developing our infectious disease capabilities, she has built a research portfolio and a large and talented team of epidemiologists, biostatisticians, and public health analysts who work on research and epidemiologic projects across the Health Sector. She currently leads numerous clinical research projects, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) Virtual Network to Investigate COVID-19 Vaccine Effectiveness (VISION) and an influenza vaccine comparison trial (RAIVEN).

Dr. Ball is a coauthor on 50 scientific publications, including groundbreaking articles on COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness. She is a member of Westat's Institutional Review Board (IRB) and leads the Strategic Planning Priority Group for CDC infectious diseases work.

Source: [Westat](#)

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