

UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA RESEARCHER SPEARHEADS COVID-19 RAPID DETECTION AND SCREENING PROJECT



The coronavirus pandemic has dramatically impacted human interactions and the global economy. A barrier to lifting social distancing restrictions is the lack of rapid and effective detection and screening. **Dr. Mickey Kosloff**, of the University's Department of Human Biology, is conducting ongoing research that is positioned to identify tools to address the current crisis and avoid the need for future global quarantines.

By exploring the interactions between human proteins and the virus proteins, Dr. Kosloff and his lab are working to identify new treatments to disrupt the process, and new methods for identifying infection in people.

Dr. Kosloff is a computational and experimental biologist. After graduating with a PhD in Structural and Molecular Biochemistry from the Hebrew University, he studied computational biology at Columbia University. He then continued his post-doctoral studies at Duke University Medical School, where he combined his experimental background with structural bioinformatics to determine how to decode selective recognition among signaling proteins. [Project information](#)



PREPARING FOR FUTURE OUTBREAKS

As Covid-19 continues to dominate headlines, public health experts view this as an opportunity to learn from the situation and plan for pandemics that may arise from climate change and environmental degradation.

The coronavirus crisis has exposed the fragility of many healthcare systems to experts and the general public around the world. Some public health officials have viewed the recent crisis as a wake-up call for nations to invest in their healthcare systems.

Dr. Maya Negev of University of Haifa, says: "From a public health or health systems perspective, we can see how the coronavirus prepares us for future climate emergencies because we see how healthcare systems need to be prepared for periods with a great increase in morbidity." [Ynet](#)

GLOBAL WARMING COULD TURN ISRAEL INTO A DESERT BY THE END OF THE CENTURY

Scientists at the University Haifa warn that Israel



could morph into an arid wasteland by the end of the century if current climate conditions continue.

"If we look at future temperature forecasts, the whole country could become a desert by the end of the century," **Professor Uri Shanas** told daily newspaper *Yisrael Hayom* amid an unprecedented heatwave.

"The temperatures of the last decade are higher than usual, the temperature increases every year over increasingly long periods," the professor continued, noting that the trajectory is leading to "extreme weather conditions. Global warming is here, it is no longer the future... temperatures in the Galilee, which are usually more temperate, will be the same as in the Negev desert." [continue reading](#)



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

As the world attempts to re-open, **Dr. Manfred Green** (pictured) Director of the University of Haifa's International Master's Program in Public Health, discusses where we go from here and what we should keep in mind as we reintegrate.

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