Kathryn H. Jacobsen, MPH, PhD, is a professor specializing in global health epidemiology. Her research focuses on health transitions, the shifts in public health priorities that occur as a result of socioeconomic, environmental, and other changes. Dr. Jacobsen is an expert on the global epidemiology of hepatitis A virus, and she uses meta-analyses, mathematical modeling, and other methods to examine risk factors for HAV infection and to track and predict shifts in country-level seroprevalence rates and endemicity patterns. Her long-running projects at the Mercy Hospital Research Laboratory in Sierra Leone are testing new methods for infectious disease surveillance, and they have documented the emergence of diseases like chikungunya and Ebola in the region.

Dr. Jacobsen has served as an expert advisor to the World Health Organization (WHO), Gavi, UNICEF, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), and other international health organizations. She is a frequent health and medical commentator for print, online, and television media.