

1. **ACERA Project No.:** 06 / 08
2. **Project Title:** Visual tools to communicate probabilities
3. **Theme:** Communication and decision making
4. **Rationale:** People routinely misinterpret probabilities. They make cognitive errors that do not accord with fundamental logic and they fail to consider reference groups, time scales, and many other factors. In health psychology and medical research, visual representations have been used to assist in communicating information and making decisions regarding health risks. This project seeks to review such visual risk representations and assess their applicability to biosecurity risk decisions.
5. **Outputs:** The project will produce an interim and final report describing the effectiveness of a range of visual communication tools to overcome cognitive errors in reporting and understanding probabilities in risk assessments. The reports will use examples relevant to biosecurity applications. It is a desktop study and will not undertake specific tests, but will base evaluations on published studies.
6. **Time frame:** Commencing: *August 2006*, Finishing: *January 2007*

**7. Project Leader(s):**

Title	Name	Organisation
Dr	Carlo Caponecchia	UNSW

**8. Resources**

	06/07	07/08	08/09
<i>Salaries and stipends</i>	25,320		
<i>Travel</i>	4,000		
<i>Operating and capital</i>			
<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$29,320</b>		

9. **End Users:** AQIS, BA, PIAPH, AusBioSec, AHA, PHA