

Meet the Experts

Expert Panel Debate – from 4 pm in the Wolfson Lecture Hall



Dr Francisca Mutapi [Chair]

Francisca Mutapi is an RCUK Research Fellow at the University of Edinburgh working on a neglected tropical human disease schistosomiasis (bilharzia/snail fever) caused by a helminth parasite, conducting basic research (immunology, epidemiology, molecular biology) on the host-parasite relationship, translating the findings into improving intervention methods and their delivery in affected human populations.

Francisca is a Member of the RSE Young Academy of Scotland Fellow within the 'Excellence in Education' Working Group and the Africa Science Leadership Program Institute of Immunology & Infection Research University of Edinburgh Ashworth Laboratories. Francisca has been a pivotal member within the RSE AMR Organising Committee.

Dame Sally Davies DBE FRS

Dame Sally Davies is the Chief Medical Officer for England & Chief Medical Advisor to UK Government. In this role she advises on medical matters with responsibilities for public health providing leadership to public health directors. She previously founded the National Institute for Health Research and was the Department of Health's Chief Scientific Adviser and Research & Development lead. Sally advises internationally, including to Singapore A* International Advisory Group, IHME Board Washington and is on the WHO Exec Board. Her 2013 infectious diseases report brought to light the increasing threat of AMR calling for global action to address key areas: stewardship; monitoring/surveillance; antibiotic development. Sally is Fellow of the Royal Society and member of the National Academy of Medicine.



Professor Mark Woolhouse

Mark Woolhouse is Professor of Infectious Disease Epidemiology at the University of Edinburgh. He studied biology and ecology at the Universities of Oxford and York in the U.K. and Queen's in Canada, then held Research Fellowships at the University of Zimbabwe, Imperial College London and Oxford, before moving to Edinburgh in 1997. His research interests concern the population dynamics of pathogens, especially those associated with emerging infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance, applying ecological and evolutionary approaches to combat threats to both human and animal health. He is a frequent advisor to the UK government and was awarded an OBE in 2002. He has published over 250 scientific articles and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and of the Academy of Medical Sciences.



Professor Dilip Nathwani MB, FRCP, DTM&H, OBE

Dilip is a Consultant Physician in Infectious Diseases and Honorary Professor of Infection, Co-Director of the Academic Health Sciences Partnership in Tayside, Ninewells Hospital and Medical School, Dundee, and Chairman of Scottish Government Funded Scottish Antimicrobial Prescribing Group (SAPG). SAPG is a national clinical antimicrobial stewardship programme. Dilip was President from [3/2015] of the British Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy [BSAC]; Co-Director Tayside Academic Health Sciences Partnership [ASHP] with interest in education and quality improvement; National Speciality Adviser for Infectious Diseases to the Scottish Government Health Department; Programme Director of the Global Antimicrobial Stewardship Massive on line course [MOOC]. Awarded [2015] by her majesty the Queen the Order of the British Empire [OBE] for services to the treatment of infectious diseases. Authored more than 230 peer reviewed publications, contributed to numerous chapters and guidelines on antibiotic treatment, anti-microbial stewardship and OPAT. Research interests include developing and promoting best infection practice guidelines, anti-microbial stewardship and AMR, medical education, quality improvement and use of social sciences in infection management, clinical and health economic outcomes in relation to new & existing antibiotics, particularly those related to the treatment of serious drug resistant infections.



Dr Jack Scannell

Dr Jack Scannell studies biomedical R&D productivity from both a financial and scientific perspective, particularly the contrast between cheaper and better scientific inputs, and what has been a long-term decline in output efficiency. He works as an independent consultant to drug and biotechnology companies, financial institutions, and public sector bodies. He is an Associate Fellow at the Centre for the Advancement of Sustainable Innovation (CASMI) at Oxford University, an Associate Member of the Innogen Institute, and an Honorary Fellow at Edinburgh University. Jack was formerly Head of Discovery Research at e-Therapeutics PLC, an Oxford-based biotechnology firm. Prior to that, Jack worked in drug industry investment, leading the European Healthcare team at Sanford Bernstein. He has a PhD in Physiology from Oxford University and a degree in Medical Sciences from Cambridge University.



Professor Ian Laurenson

Consultant Medical Microbiologist, Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer (University of Edinburgh- UoE), Director of the Scottish Mycobacteria Reference Laboratory (SMRL), Head of Speciality, Clinical Lead, Microbiology and Virology, NHS Lothian, President, Scottish Microbiology Association

Ian trained and worked in medicine, infectious diseases and medical microbiology in Cambridge, Edinburgh, London, Papua New Guinea and Fife. His current roles are diverse including caring for patients with infection in critical care and solid organ transplantation, infection control and antimicrobial stewardship, management, under and post graduate teaching and research



Sheila Voas

Sheila qualified from the Dick in 1988, then worked in a mixed practice in East Yorkshire until returning to Scotland in 1990. During FMD in 2001 Sheila was a TVI and joined SVS permanently in 2002 working from the Hamilton Office. She became a Veterinary Advisor to the Scottish Government in 2004 and became Deputy CVO in 2010. In June 2011 she was made up to Acting CVO and this promotion became permanent in Autumn 2012.



Professor Ross Fitzgerald

Prof Ross Fitzgerald is Chair of Molecular Bacteriology at The Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh, and Director of Edinburgh Infectious Diseases.

After carrying out a PhD in Trinity College, Dublin and post-doctoral studies in the NIH, USA, he took a lectureship at University of Edinburgh in 2004. His research group is focussed on how bacteria cause disease, acquire resistance and spread among host populations on local and global scales. A major goal is to translate basic findings into new preventive and therapeutic approaches to controlling infections.



Professor Stuart Reid BVMS PhD DVM(Hons) DipECVPH FRSB FRSE MRCVS

Stuart Reid is Principal of the Royal Veterinary College, London, with research interests in the application of quantitative epidemiological techniques to diseases of both animals and humans he has worked in Africa, Australia and the USA and has published over 130 papers and won over £15M in competitive grants. His most recent work on antimicrobial resistance in Salmonella appeared in Science and the Proceedings of the Royal Society and challenged some of the basic tenets of the origin and transmission of resistance.



He is a Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Recognised Specialist in veterinary epidemiology and a diplomate of the European College of Veterinary Public Health, of which he was the first elected president. He has served on numerous committees including the Scottish Science Advisory Committee and the Veterinary Products Committee.

He has been a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh since 2001 and was a member of the RSE inquiries into Infectious Salmon Anaemia, Foot and Mouth Disease and Avian Influenza. He has been recognised by his peers with the award of the Petplan Charitable Trust Scientific Award (2010), the Wooldridge Memorial Lecture and Medal (BVA, 2010) and the McCall Lecture (2012). A veterinarian who has worked in both the private and public sector, Reid has served on the executive committees of the professional regulatory bodies in Europe and the UK; he currently chairs the European Committee on Veterinary Education and he served as President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2014-2015, the governing body for the veterinary profession in the United Kingdom.