

Press Release

18 April 2012

Flu, fever, sepsis and implant infection

*Society for Applied Microbiology annual Spring Meeting
Stratford Q Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon
18 April 2012*

Flu, fever, sepsis and implant infections will feature at the Society for Applied Microbiology's Spring Meeting in Stratford-upon-Avon today. There will be sessions on virology, sepsis and implants and a centenary of microbiology, in celebration of 100 years of the Institute of Biomedical Scientists¹ the oldest laboratory medicine professional body. The talks will cover life-threatening infections as well as the latest technologies in treatment and diagnosis of many different diseases.

Highlights of the meeting will include:

- **Artificial devices and the intensive care patient** (Dr Paul Dark, University of Manchester and Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust). Sepsis is a life threatening illness which is often misdiagnosed, as it presents with generic symptoms which may be attributed to other, non-infectious conditions. In intensive care a swift diagnosis is essential to deliver the most effective therapeutic interventions. Dr Dark will discuss the latest innovations to provide rapid diagnosis of healthcare associated infections in intensive care.
- **Cutting edge technology: applications in respiratory virology** (Professor Paul Kellam, Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute). The H1N1 2009 influenza outbreak has caused over 14,000 deaths worldwide. Professor Kellam will discuss the new technologies available for flu epidemics and the challenges ahead.
- ***Proteus mirabilis* catheter associated urinary tract infections** (Dr Brian Jones, University of Brighton). *Proteus mirabilis* is the predominant organism involved in the blockage of urinary catheters a complication which often goes unnoticed until more serious clinical complications arise. How does this bacteria cause infection and what more can be done to detect, prevent and treat these infections?

The day will begin with this year's Procter and Gamble Applied Healthcare Microbiology Award (Europe) lecture. Professor Anne Glover, Chief Scientific Advisor to the European Commission who will be presenting her on work microbial stress and bioluminescence.

There will be a trade show at the event.

-Ends-

Contact Information

1. Additional information about the conference or speakers is available from Clare Doggett, Communications Officer [Mobile 07807 267101 email: clare@sfam.org.uk].

Notes to Editors:

1. The Institute of Biomedical Scientists is the oldest laboratory medicine professional body and are celebrating their centenary with a year of events celebrating the work of their members.
2. A full conference programme can be found at:
<http://www.sfam.org.uk/en/events/index.cfm/springmeeting>
3. Dr Paul Dark will be presenting *Artificial devices and the intensive care patient* between 15:00-15:30 and will be available before and after the lecture for interviews.
4. Professor Paul Kellam will be presenting *Cutting edge technology: applications in respiratory virology* at 15:00-15:30 and will be available before and after the lecture for interview.
5. Dr Brian Jones will be presenting *Proteus mirabilis catheter associated urinary tract infections* between 14:00-14:30.
6. SfAM is the voice of Applied Microbiology within the UK. We are the oldest UK microbiology society with members worldwide. In 2006 we celebrated our 75th anniversary and a number of special events were held during the year. The final celebration was the President's Dinner which was held in the Palace of Westminster on 23rd November 2006. SfAM works in partnership with sister organisations and microbiological bodies such as [FEMS \(The European Federation of Microbiological Societies\)](#) and the [Society of Biology](#) to ensure that microbiology and microbiologists are able to exert influence on policy-makers within the UK, in Europe and world-wide.