



Friday 18th September 2009

Who Owns Disease?

A celebratory Research Day to commemorate
41 years of research and the retirement of



Professor Joe Brownlie

BVSc PhD DSc ARAgS DipECVP FRCPATH FRCVS



Who Owns Disease?

Infectious diseases can threaten all of us, our communities and, on occasions, our nation. They can re-emerge, evolve or even emerge anew. From a recent Foresight programme (www.foresight.gov.uk), it is clear that the risks are ever-present; with one new worldwide human infection every 8 months. The majority of these appear to 'jump' from animal reservoirs. The technology for their diagnosis is impressive although not universally implemented. However, the issue of 'who' is responsible for the diagnosis and control of disease is at best confused. Without a proper understanding of ownership, there can be no clarity about responsibility. The line between personal responsibility, organisational responsibility and overall government responsibility is too often ill defined; such obfuscation prevents effective management and control of potentially life-threatening events.

This symposium brings together, for the first time, some of the outstanding scientists and policy makers to discuss these issues. We hope the debate will continue and lead to future guidance for ownership of medical, veterinary and zoonotic diseases.

A G E N D A:

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| 09.00 | <i>Prof Quintin McKellar</i>
(Principal, Royal Veterinary College) | <i>The Overview</i> |
| 09.15 | <i>Mr Peter Kendal</i>
(President, NFU) | <i>The National Livestock</i> |
| 09.45 | <i>Mr Dick Sibley</i>
(Veterinary Practitioner, Member of the England Implementation Group for Animal Welfare & Past President of BCVA) | <i>The Endemic Challenges</i> |
| 10.30 | <i>COFFEE</i> | |
| 11.00 | <i>Prof Sir David King</i>
(Director, Smith School of Enterprise & Environment, University of Oxford & past Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government) | <i>The Global Challenge</i> |
| 12.00 | <i>Prof George Poste</i>
(Chief Scientist, Complex Adaptive Systems Initiative, Regents' Professor & Del E Webb Distinguished Professor of Biology, Arizona State University) | <i>Global Preparedness</i> |
| 13.00 | <i>LUNCH</i> | |
| 14.15 | <i>Prof Nigel Gibbens</i>
(Chief Veterinary Officer, DEFRA & Visiting Professor, Royal Veterinary College) | <i>DEFRA Responsibilities</i> |
| 15.00 | <i>Prof Mark Rweyemamu</i>
(Executive Director, Southern African Centre for Infectious Disease Surveillance, Professor, Sokoine University, Tanzania & Visiting Professor, RVC, London) | <i>The Exotic Threat</i> |
| 15.30 | <i>TEA</i> | |
| 16.00 | <i>Dr Ian Thompson</i>
(Lead Finding Manager, Europe and Aqua, Novartis Animal Health Inc) | <i>Pharmaceutical Priorities</i> |
| 16.30 | <i>Prof Joe Brownlie</i>
(Professor of Veterinary Pathology, Royal Veterinary College) | <i>Scientific Priorities, Relevance & Conclusions</i> |

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Day Venue: New Lecture Theatre, Hawkshead Campus
Royal Veterinary College, Hawkshead Lane,
North Mymms, Hatfield, Herts, AL9 7TA

Evening Dinner: The Old Palace, Hatfield House, Hatfield, Herts, AL9 5NQ

Speaker Profiles

Professor Quintin McKellar BVMS MRCVS PhD DVM



Quintin McKellar graduated from Glasgow Vet School in 1981. He went on to gain his PhD in Veterinary Parasitology in 1984 and was appointed to a lectureship at the Veterinary School in the same year. He became Head of the Veterinary Pharmacology Department in 1990, and was also appointed to the Veterinary Products Committee in 1993.

He was awarded a personal professorship by Glasgow Vet School in 1996 and in August 1997 Professor McKellar took up the post of Scientific Director of Moredun Research Institute and Chief Executive of the Moredun Foundation. In 2004 Professor McKellar was appointed Principal of The Royal Veterinary College of the University of London.

His research interests are in the pharmacology of anti-infective and anti-inflammatory drugs in domestic animals.

Mr Peter Kendall



Peter Kendall farms in Eyeworth, East Bedfordshire, in partnership with his brother Richard. 620 hectares of combinable crops are grown on the home farm and contracting and rental agreements are also operated with four local farmers.

The farm has changed over the last ten years from a very traditional mixed farm to a totally arable unit.

Peter took a degree in Agricultural Economics at Nottingham University, before returning to the family business in 1984.

He was Chairman of NFU Cereals in 2003, before becoming Deputy President of the NFU in 2004 and President in 2006, and is also a Vice-President of the European farm organisation, COPA.

Peter sits on a variety of bodies in the UK and Europe including IGD's Policy Issues Group.

At the top of his list of priorities is ensuring that the growing importance of agriculture and horticulture to food security and climate change are not only recognised by the Government, but reflected in its policies affecting farming right across the board. But he sees moving all sectors towards sustainable profitability as also being vitally important.

Mr Richard Sibley BVSc HonFRCVS



Dick Sibley is a veterinary practitioner in Devon. He is Principal and Director of West Ridge Veterinary Practice which comprises fourteen veterinary surgeons and associated support staff providing veterinary healthcare to livestock and companion animals of Mid Devon. Dick concentrates on cattle diseases and the health management of cattle, with a particular interest in dairy cattle.

As Secretary and President of the British Cattle Veterinary Association, he took the opportunities to become involved in wider, National, issues regarding cattle health, including BSE, Foot and Mouth Disease and Bovine Tuberculosis. Dick is now part of the England Implementation Group (EIG) to challenge Government on animal health policy and promote the principles of the Animal Health and

Welfare Strategy, including a stronger partnership approach to the prevention and control of animal diseases. Within the group, he has special interest in the Responsibility and Cost Sharing agenda, National BVD Control and Disease Surveillance.

With a strong commitment to livestock agriculture and the veterinary profession, Dick has lectured, presented and written numerous texts on cattle health management, and has now co-written and produced a web based software programme for cattle health management.

Professor Sir David King FRS



Sir David King is the Director of the Smith School of Enterprise and Environment at the University of Oxford. He was the UK Government's Chief Scientific Adviser and Head of the Government Office of Science from October 2000 to 31 December 2007. In that time, he raised the profile of the need for governments to act on climate change and was instrumental in creating the new £1 billion Energy Technologies Institute. In 2008 he co-authored *The Hot Topic* (Bloomsbury) on this subject. As Director of the Government's Foresight Programme, he created an in-depth horizon scanning process which advised government on a wide range of long term issues, from flooding to obesity. He also chaired the government's Global Science and Innovation Forum from its inception. He advised government on issues including the foot-and-mouth disease epidemic of 2001; post 9/11 risks to the UK; GM foods; energy provision; and innovation and wealth creation. He was also heavily involved in the Government's Science and Innovation Strategy 2004-2014.

Sir David was born in South Africa in 1939, and after an early career at the University of Witwatersrand, Imperial College and the University of East Anglia, he became the Brunner Professor of Physical Chemistry at the University of Liverpool in 1974. In 1988 he was appointed 1920 Professor of Physical Chemistry at the University of Cambridge and subsequently became Master of Downing College (1995-2000) and Head of the University Chemistry Department (1993-2000). He has published over 450 papers on his research in chemical physics and on science and policy, and has received numerous prizes, fellowships, and honorary degrees. He continues as Director of Research in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Cambridge, and is currently President of the British Science Association.

Dr George Poste BVSc PhD FRCPath FMedSci CBE FRS



Dr. Poste is Chief Scientist, Complex Adaptive Systems Initiative (CASI) at Arizona State University. He assumed this post in February 2009. This program links expertise across the university in research on synthetic biology, ubiquitous sensing and healthcare informatics for personalized medicine.

From 2003 to 2009 he founded the Biodesign Institute at ASU (www.biodesign.asu.edu/). In creating this Institute, Dr. Poste designed and built 400,000 sq. ft. of new facilities, achieved cumulative research funding of \$225 million and recruited over 60 faculty, including three members of the National Academies of Science and Engineering.

In addition to his academic post he serves as Chief Executive of a consulting company, Health Technology Networks, which specializes in the application of genomic technologies and computing in healthcare. He is Chairman of Orchid Biosciences, the leading company in DNA forensic analysis, and serves on the Board of Directors of Monsanto, Exelixis and Caris Dx. From 1992 to 1999 he was Chief Science and Technology Officer and President, R&D of SmithKline Beecham (SB). During his tenure at SB he was associated with the successful registration of 31 drug, vaccine and diagnostic products. In 2004 he was named as 'R&D Scientist of the Year' by R&D Magazine and in 2006 he received the Einstein award from the Global Business Leadership Council.

He has published over 350 research papers and edited 14 books on pharmaceutical technologies and oncology. He has received honorary degrees in science, law and medicine for his research contributions and was honored in 1999 by HM Queen Elizabeth II as a Commander of the British Empire for his contributions to international security.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Society, the Royal College of Pathologists and the UK Academy of Medicine, a Distinguished Fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University and a member of the Council for Foreign Relations. He is a member of the Defense Science Board and Health Board of the US Department of Defense (DoD) and the US Institute of Medicine Board on Global Health. He is Chair of the DOD Task Force on Bioterrorism and the newly launched DOD Task Force on Synthetic Biology.

Mr Nigel Gibbens BVetMed MSc MRCVS



Born 1 March 1958. Qualified as a veterinary surgeon from London University in 1981.

Spent two years in mixed (companion and farm animal) veterinary practice in Derbyshire before training for a Masters degree in Tropical Veterinary Medicine at Edinburgh University.

Worked in Government veterinary services in Belize (3 years – import controls, clinical work and supervision of exporting abattoir) and Yemen (2 years – rinderpest and sheep and goat pox eradication campaigns and clinical work).

In December 1990 joined the UK state veterinary service as a field veterinary officer dealing with animal health and welfare. Lead role on international trade and exotic disease contingency planning. Member of national exotic disease epidemiology team.

Moved to the central animal health policy group in 1996 and worked on international trade for 8 years, followed by TSE research, surveillance and controls, animal welfare and, most recently, international relations co-ordination for Defra's Food and Farming Group.

Appointed as Chief Veterinary Officer in 2008.

Nigel is married with no children. He enjoys cycling, running and walking and spends a lot of his spare time gardening and fixing the house!

Professor Mark Rweyemamu BVSc PhD FRCVS



Mark is the Executive Director of the Southern African Centre for Infectious Disease Surveillance (SACIDS) located at the Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro, Tanzania. SACIDS is a One Health consortium of academic and research institutions involved with infectious diseases of humans and animals in Southern Africa - initially in the DRC, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia – in smart partnership with centres of science in industrialised countries - especially the Colleges of the University of London and their associated institutes, which now constitute the London International Development Centre, including the Royal Veterinary College and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

He is a Visiting Professor in the Department of Pathology and Infectious Diseases of the RVC, London and Visiting Professor of Transboundary and Emerging Infectious Diseases at the Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro, Tanzania.

Formerly, he was Head of the Infectious Diseases Programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations at its Headquarters in Rome. From 1994 to his retirement from FAO in 2002, he was the inaugural Head of the FAO special programme on infectious diseases, known as the Emergency Prevention System for Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases (EMPRES) which included the coordination of the Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme (GREP). Before moving to FAO Headquarters, he had set up the Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre in Addis Ababa, on behalf of FAO and the Organisation of African Unity (now African Union). He has worked in both governmental and industrial settings. In government: as Virologist and Chief Veterinary Research Officer for the Tanzanian Government and as Head of the Virus Diseases at the then East African Veterinary Research Organisation, Muguga, Kenya. In industry he has been the Director of Veterinary Vaccine Research for Pfizer International, the Head of FMD Vaccine Research for the Wellcome Foundation and the Technical Director for the AVIS College. His area of interest is on the major infectious diseases of animals, known as transboundary animal diseases.

Dr Ian Thompson BSc (Hons) PhD



Ian Thompson joined Novartis Animal Health in 2002 as Vaccines Research Manager, having spent the previous seven years as a post doctoral researcher working on industry funded R&D projects in the UK, first at Institute for Animal Health and subsequently at the Royal Veterinary College. In his current role as Lead Finding Manager for Europe, his principal responsibility is to source new active ingredients, vaccine antigens and technologies for the benefit of our aquaculture business, but he also retains responsibility for a number of third party R&D projects, including their exciting global Research Fellowship Program.

Professor Joe Brownlie BVSc PhD ARAgS DSc DipECVP FRCPath FRCVS



Joe Brownlie is Professor of Veterinary Pathology at the Royal Veterinary College. Since taking up this position in 1995, he has been responsible for developing academic veterinary pathology in the College, and initiated and directed the European Centre for Toxicologic Pathology.

His own research has been focussed on infectious diseases both in livestock and in companion animals. He, and his team, have discovered and characterised new viruses of bacterial agents, and presently holds four patents. The present direction of research is towards developing three novel vaccines which, with the previously commercial launch of Bovidec (Novartis Animal Health), will give four new vaccines with international potential.

He qualified from Bristol Veterinary School, completed a PhD at the Institute of Animal Health and continued at their Compton Laboratories for another 26 years. During that time, he was responsible for unravelling the complex pathogenesis of mucosal disease and developing a vaccine to BVD. In 1995, he took the Royal Veterinary College Chair of Veterinary Pathology.

He has served on various Government Panels, including the Scottish Strategic Scientific Advisory Panel, the Government Select Committee on Biosecurity, and the Chief Medical Officer's National Expert Panel on New and Emerging Infections.

In 2006, he was appointed to Professor Sir David King's Foresight Co-ordination Team as Veterinary Adviser for the "*Detection and Identification of Infectious Disease*" Programme. He is Chairman of the National BVDV Control and Eradication Scheme and recently became Chairman of Trustees for the Institute of Animal Health.

He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the Royal College of Pathologists and of the Royal Agricultural Societies. He has received a number of national and international awards; most recently the Dalrymple Champneys Cup and Medal awarded in 2008 by the British Veterinary Association, in recognition of long and outstanding services to veterinary science.