

# SUMMARY REPORT OF THE IDRN RESEARCH STRATEGY WORKSHOP IN ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE & PUBLIC HEALTH

Summary Report of the Infectious Disease Research Network’s Research Strategy Workshop in **Antibiotic Resistance and Public Health** conducted June 20, 2002 at the Medical Research Council Clinical Trials Unit, 222 Euston Rd., London, NW1 2DA

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## Pre-amble

1. The Infectious Disease Research Network (IDRN), in the first of a series of research strategy workshops in infectious diseases, invited members of the research community with an interest in antibiotic resistance research to an all-day workshop.
2. Prof. Chris Bartlett and Dr. Michael Millar were the meeting organizers and the Lord Soulsby of Swaffham Prior the Chairman.
3. The aims of the meeting were to define pan-London collaborative research projects in the field and to take the first steps in establishing project development groups that would meet to design protocols and undertake project planning.

## Attendees

TABLE 1 - ATTENDEES

Name	Institution	Department
Dr. Kathy Bamford	ICSM - Hammersmith Hospital	Dept of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology
Dr. Stephen Barrett	ICSM - Hammersmith Hospital	Dept of Medical Microbiology
Dr. Bambos Charalambous	RF&UCMS	Dept of Medical Microbiology
Dr. Peter Chiodini	Hospital for Tropical Diseases	Dept of Clinical Parasitology
Professor A Coates	SGHMS	Dept of Medical Microbiology
Dr. Stephen Conaty	UCL	Dept Primary Care & Population Sciences
Professor Georgia Duckworth	PHLS	CDSC London
Dr. Christophe Fraser	ICSM	Dept of Infectious Disease Epidemiology
Professor Gary French	KCL	Clinical Microbiology and Infection Control
Dr. Ruth Gilbert	ICH	Dept of Paediatric Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Professor Stephen Gillespie	RFH	Dept of Medical Microbiology
Dr. Pat Goodwin	Wellcome Trust	
Dr. Bill Hanage	ICSM	Dept of Infectious Disease Epidemiology
Dr. Elizabeth Haworth	CDSC South East	
Dr. Andrew Hayward	UCL	Dept of Primary Care & Population Sciences
Dr. Paul Heath	SGHMS	Paediatric Infectious Diseases
Dr. Sharon Hillier	Cardiff	Dept of Epidemiology, Statistics and Public Health
Dr. Richard Holliman	SGHMS	Dept of Medical Microbiology
Dr. Alison Holmes	ICSM - Hammersmith Hospital	Dept of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology
Dr. Alan Johnson	PHLS	Antibiotic Resistance Monitoring and Reference Laboratory
Professor Anne Johnson	UCL	Dept of Primary Care & Population Sciences
Dr. Jane Leese	DofH	Senior Medical Officer
Dr. Karen MacGregor	ICSM	Dept of Infectious Disease Epidemiology
Mr. Vivian Mak	London Observatory	South West contact for Health Intelligence
Dr. Iona Martin	ICSM	Dept of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology
Dr. Tim McHugh	RFH	Dept of Medical Microbiology
Dr. Michael Millar	B&TRL	Dept of Medical Microbiology
Professor Irwin Nazareth	UCL	Dept of Primary Care & Population Sciences
Dr. Andrew Pearson	PHLS	Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Unit
Dr. Jenny Roberts	LSHTM	Dept of Public Health and Policy
Dr. Anita Roche	Health Protection Wandsworth PCT	Department of Public Health
Dr. Amal Rushdy	DofH	Communicable Disease Branch

Dr. Geoffrey Scott	UCLH	Dept of Thoracic Medicine
Dr. Armine Sefton	B&TRL	Department of Medical Microbiology
Miss. Katherine Steel	UCL	Dept of Primary Care & Population Sciences
Dr. Sheldon Stone	RFH	Department of Medicine for the Elderly
Ms. Jenny Vu	CDSC South East	
Ms. Sally Wellstead	DofH	Sexual Health Team
Dr. Angela Williams	MRC	Antibiotic Resistance
Professor Michael Wilson	Eastman Dental Institute	Dept of Microbiology
Dr. Peter Wilson	UCLH	Dept of Clinical Microbiology
Professor Richard Wise	ICSM	Clinical Sciences Centre

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## Programme

### 9:00 Registration

### 9:30 Introduction

Introduction to the London Infectious Disease Research Network  
 Aims of the workshop and deliverables  
 Network support offered to selected projects

### 10:00 Overview

The problem of antimicrobial resistance  
*Prof. Richard Wise*

### 10:30 Coffee

### 10:45 Strategic considerations

Medical Research Council briefing  
*Dr. Angela Williams*  
 Wellcome Trust briefing  
*Dr. Pat Goodwin*

### 11:15 Research questions and approaches in antibiotic resistance

Relating resistance and patient outcome  
*Dr. Michael Millar*  
 Surveillance of hospital-acquired infection  
*Dr. Andrew Pearson*  
 Resistance and variation in prescribing in primary care  
*Dr. Sharon Hillier*  
 Approaches to examine the economic burden of resistance  
*Dr. Jenny Roberts*  
 Saving the Baby, not the Bathwater: a systematic review, with epidemiological and economic modeling, of the effectiveness of MRSA isolation policies  
*Dr. Sheldon Stone*  
 A cross-disciplinary approach to antimicrobial resistance  
*Dr. Christophe Fraser*  
 Molecular epidemiology to investigate emerging resistance  
*Prof. Stephen Gillespie*

### 12:50 Round-up

Summary of pan-London projects suggested by speakers

### 13:00 Lunch

### 14:00 Parallel Workshop 1: Pan-London antibiotic resistance data collection

Practical issues of setting up such a system

- 14:45 Parallel Workshop 2: Research questions that could be addressed by such a system or other mechanism**  
Delegates' suggestions for projects & prioritisation
- 16:00 Round-up**  
Rapporteur feedback from parallel workshops and Question and Answer session  
Selection of 1-2 collaborative projects  
Framework for collaborative working and initial steps in developing Protocol Development Groups
- 17:30 Close of meeting**

## Research Strategy Workshops

Collaborative projects were proposed in the following fields. For further details of projects please contact the IDRN Co-ordinating Centre:

### Group A

The acquisition of resistance in commensal/colonising organisms and in organisms causing infection, evaluation of the impact of rapid diagnostic tests for the early identification of resistance, the enhancing of surveillance data to be able to link prescribing, resistance and outcome, a trial of interventions aimed at improving compliance with hand-washing and transmission dynamics of resistance between hospitals and nursing homes.

### Group B

A survey of laboratory and surveillance methods – to assess the baseline situation – across London was suggested to underpin research into the level of resistance in the community in commensals, the natural history of MRSA and resistance and outcomes in neonatal intensive care units.

## Taking forward projects

### Participants

In the follow-up to the meeting, participants expressed interest in contributing to specific proposals and have been put in contact with one another.

### Projects prioritized by delegates for IDRN support

Delegates recorded scores, based on two criteria – relevance to the health of Londoners and dependence on cross-London collaboration - to select a few projects that the IDRN should support fully in the developmental stages.

The projects scoring most highly on this basis were those relating to the:

- Natural history of MRSA and
- Resistance and outcomes in neonatal intensive care units

### Protocol Development Groups

The first steps were taken in developing collaborative groups. Delegates expressed interest in taking part in developing the suggested projects and were put in touch with one another.

## Support offered to selected projects

Support offered by the IDRN, aiming to support project quality and reduce start-up times for multi-centre work, is as follows:

- Assistance in identifying relevant inter-disciplinary expertise in London (this researchers' database will also be available online by January 2003)
- Distribution of protocol drafts to IDRN members for comment regarding study design, ethical or practical concerns and, as the protocol is finalised, for recruitment estimates
- Identification of external peer-reviewers to comment on study design.
- Provision of a central meeting place (IDRN financed & arranged) for protocol development groups to meet in London on a quarterly basis.
- Provision of a suggested collaborative research framework to facilitate collaborations and the work process flow.
- Grant application and ethics submissions preparation.
- Hosting a project start-up meeting after a project has received its own funding but before recruitment begins.
- Communication facilitation through virtual means also, by way of an extranet for each protocol development group on the IDRN website (being developed in 2003).

## Support offered to other projects

- Assist in identifying relevant inter-disciplinary expertise to support the development of collaborations

## Next steps

For delegates, invitees/other researchers

- *For selected projects*, if interested in actively participating in developing the protocol and/or project delegates and invitees not already involved are invited to express their interest by contacting the IDRN co-ordinating centre (Tel: 020 7472 6138 or email: [l.idrn@idrn.org](mailto:l.idrn@idrn.org)).
- *For other projects*, researchers are encouraged to contact the IDRN for further details or if further contributors with specific areas of expertise or in a particular geographic area are sought.

The IDRN will:

- Put potential collaborations in contact with one another for all suggested projects by distribution of the report to all invitees.
- For selected projects, contact delegates and invitees expressing interest in actively participating, to arrange the first Protocol Development Group (PDG) meetings at which synopsis development and project planning will be initiated.
- For all projects on request assist in developing the collaboration by provision by January 2003 of an on-line searchable database of inter-disciplinary researchers.