Dear All,

The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh (RCPE) is organizing Infectious Diseases: Culture Change Symposium on Friday, 6th June, 2014. Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (SKMCH&RC) will have this telecasted live. There is no fee for attendance at the SKMCH venue but pre-registration is required especially for outside participants.

With the advent of new technologies the way in which we diagnose bacterial infection is changing. The traditional techniques of culture and identification are increasingly complemented by new molecular technology. This provides the opportunity for more rapid and precise diagnosis of infection. It also gives an opportunity to identify causative organisms and nowhere is this more apparent than in the diagnosis of mycobacterial disease. Over recent years we have come to appreciate the impact our prescribing has on the environment and how this influences the spectrum of disease in patients. The day will provide practical advice on the rational use of antibiotics. The symposium will provide many learning points for general physicians, microbiologists and infection specialists of all grades.

Dr Alisdair MacConnachie
Chair, Organising Committee

Note: For Further Details and Registration please visit:  https://www.shaukatkhanum.org.pk/contact-us.html
RCPE Symposium

Friday 6th June 2014

13.00 Registration
13.25 Welcome and Introductory Remarks
   by President, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh

Session 1 - Molecular diagnostics in bacteriology

Chair: Dr Alisdair MacConnachie, Consultant in Infectious Diseases and General Medicine, Gartnaval General Hospital, Glasgow

13.30 What's the bacterium and what kills it? Molecular diagnosis of bacteraemia
   Professor Kate Gould, Lead Public Health Microbiologist, Public Health England
   *an update on modern culture systems * the use of molecular techniques to identify causes of bacteraemia

14.00 The role of molecular diagnostics in Prosthetic Joint Infections (PJI)
   Dr Prema Singh, Consultant Microbiologist, Watford General Hospital, Watford
   * "non conventional" culture methods in the diagnosis of PJI * review of molecular techniques in optimising the diagnosis of PJI

14.30 Modern laboratory diagnosis of tuberculosis
   Dr Ian Laurenson, Director, Scottish Mycobacteria Reference Laboratory, Edinburgh
   *what is interferon gamma release assay and what does it tell us? *the role of molecular techniques to provide more rapid diagnosis and identification of mycobacterial infection *
   the role of molecular techniques to identify drug resistance

15.00 Tea/Coffee

Session 2 - When antibiotics go wrong

Chair: Dr Andrew Seaton, Consultant in Infectious Diseases and General Medicine, Gartnaval General Hospital, Glasgow

15.30 Collateral consequences of long term macrolide prescription
   Dr Ian Gould, Consultant Microbiologist, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen
   *why the long term prescription of macrolides? *selective pressure from macrolides *
   potential infections caused by macrolide prescription

16.00 ENDOWED LECTURE
   Chair: President, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh
   New aspects of Clostridium difficile infections, the role of the community and the microbiota
   Professor Ed Kuijper, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, Netherlands

16.45 Hi-Tea

Session 3 - The other mycobacteria
17.30  **Infection caused by the rapidly growing mycobacteria**  
   Speaker TBC  
   *overview of the rapidly growing mycobacteria * identification and management of infection caused by rapidly growing mycobacteria

18.00  **Leprosy: old disease in a new era**  
   Speaker TBC  
   *recognition and diagnosis of leprosy * modern management of leprosy

18.30  **Symposium feedback / tea**

**Session 4 - Practical aspects of antibiotic management**

Chair: Dr Stephanie Dundas, Consultant in Infectious Diseases, Monklands Hospital, Airdrie

18.55  **Peaks and troughs: what are we doing with therapeutic drug monitoring?**  
   Dr Alison Thomson, Senior Lecturer, Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy & Biomedical Sciences, Glasgow  
   *when to measure drug peaks and/or troughs * how do these levels influence prescribing with particular attention to aminoglycosides and glycopeptides

19.25  **Infections in pregnancy**  
   Speaker TBC  
   *three cases of infection in pregnancy highlighting diagnosis and management

19.55  **Infection and chronic back pain**  
   Speaker TBC  
   *infection in the aetiology of chronic low back pain * recent evidence in the efficacy of antibiotics * best management of spinal infection

20.25  **Discussion**

20.40  **Close**

**Note: For Further Details and Registration please visit :  [https://www.shaukatkhanum.org.pk/contact-us.html](https://www.shaukatkhanum.org.pk/contact-us.html)**