Exploring future directions in Infectious Diseases

the latest on vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostic tools

Wednesday, 7 July 2004, London

The rising incidence of HIV and hepatitis, inadequate efficacy of current drugs, and recent terrorist threats have renewed interest in infectious diseases. The ease of international travel allowing infectious diseases to spread and a growing patient pool in developing countries, have also contributed to the phenomenal opportunity for new therapies and vaccines in the anti-infectives market. This event will give you unique access to London's academic intellectual brilliance and special knowledge assessing cutting-edge research and latest developments in this highly competitive field:

- How can pharma and biotech companies tackle the problem of drug-resistant pathogens?
- How will new drugs with novel mechanisms of action, improved diagnostics and the introduction of vaccines influence especially the anti-viral sector?
- How can closer interactions between the various sectors of the industry meet the need for a strong R&D pipeline to sustain revenues?

18:00 – 18:30 **Registration with tea and coffee**

18:30 – 18:40 **Introduction to aims and objectives of LTN**
Peter Reid, *Chief Executive Officer,* **LONDON TECHNOLOGY NETWORK**

18:40 – 20:00 **Speaker presentations and Q&A**

20:00 – 21:00 **Wine reception & buffet – networking opportunity and poster sessions from London's universities showcasing the latest research in this area**

1. **Introduction from the chair: determining the latest infectious disease research issues**

Professor Brendan Wren, *Professor of Microbial Pathogenesis*,
LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE & TROPICAL MEDICINE

2. **Evaluating new therapies, vaccines and technologies and their effect on target and drug discovery for infectious diseases from a pharmaceutical company's point of view**

- Investigating UK R&D drivers and commercial potential for infectious diseases
- Determining where academic research can fill gaps in the R&D pipeline of pharma companies
- Enhancing current R&D strategies for infectious diseases by collaborative projects with academia

Dr Chris Hitchcock, *Head of Discovery Anti-Infectives,* **PFIZER GLOBAL R&D**

3. **Highlighting the most important recent developments and future strategies in treating and preventing Hepatitis C in the UK**

- Assessing what drugs are available on the market and assessing tools for the value of therapies
- Clarifying how academic research can be directed to meet industry needs
- Analysing potential academic input at all stages of drug discovery and drug development

Professor Howard Thomas, *Head of Department of Medicine A & Dean (Clinical), Faculty of Medicine,* **IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON**

4. **Linking academic infectious disease research into business to solve the problem of drug-resistant pathogens**

- Considering key barriers for the production of new antimicrobial drugs
- Establishing benefits of the recent sequencing of the genomes of pathological bacteria to widen potential targets available for developing antibiotics
- Assessing the critical role of basic research for the development of new drugs dealing with drug-resistant pathogens

Professor Ken Powell, *Chief Executive Officer,* **ARROW THERAPEUTICS**

5. **Question and answer session from the audience with the speaker panel**

All events are by INVITATION ONLY

Speaker profiles

Chris Hitchcock – PFIZER GLOBAL R&D

Chris joined Pfizer in 1989, working in the Discovery Biology department at the Sandwich laboratories. He was a member of the team responsible for discovering the anti-fungal medicine voriconazole, a breakthrough treatment for life-threatening fungal infections in patients with impaired immune systems, including patients with HIV. Before joining Pfizer, he was a post-doctoral research fellow at Leeds University in the UK. In 1997, Chris was made Head of Discovery Anti-Infectives at the Sandwich laboratories, with responsibility for all pre-clinical aspects of antiviral drug discovery, including identifying target compounds and screening, to the nomination of drug candidates in the company's pipeline for development in patients.

Ken Powell –ARROW THERAPEUTICS

Ken began his career as a virologist and after his PhD spent five years in the USA. He joined the Wellcome Foundation as Head of Anti-viral Research and developed his commercial view of the pharmaceutical industry through his interest in in-licensing products and identifying acquisition targets. In 1995, Glaxo bought Wellcome and Ken was asked to become the UK Research Director, not believing that huge research groups were particularly productive he moved to UCL to help form Wolfson Institute for Biomedical Research WIBR where he set up four companies including Ark Therapeutics (a recent IPO candidate in Europe) and Inpharmatica, which he led for two years. Ken founded Arrow Therapeutics, a specialist anti-microbial company with five colleagues in 1998. The company now has more than 70 employees and an excellent research facility in central London. It has just completed one of the largest European fund raisings of recent times. Arrow has recently commenced clinical trials of its first drug – discovered through its own research.

Peter Reid – LONDON TECHNOLOGY NETWORK

Peter is Chief Executive Officer of the London Technology Network and the Centre for Scientific Enterprise. Peter is an alumnus of both University College London (Physics) and London Business School (Sloan Fellow – MSc in Management). He founded three companies that were variously involved with developing new patent-protected products, precision and process engineering.

Howard Thomas – IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON

Howard is Head of Medicine A, Dean (Clinical) at Imperial College, London, and also Director of the Hepatology section. His research has focused on the pathogenesis and treatment of virus induced liver disease and cancer. He received a PhD in Medicine from Glasgow University in 1974. He was a Wellcome Senior Research Fellow in Clinical Science from 1978-1983. He became Professor of Medicine at the Royal Free Hospital Medical School at London University in 1984 and Professor and Chairman of Medicine at St Marys Hospital Medical School in 1987. In 1997, he was appointed Professor of Medicine and Head of Department of Medicine A; Deputy Chairman of Division of Medicine at Imperial College School of Medicine; and Consultant Physician/Hepatologist at St Marys Hospital. In addition, he was appointed Dean (Clinical) of the Faculty of Medicine at Imperial College in 2001.

Brendan Wren – LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE & TROPICAL MEDICINE

Brendan became a microbiologist by chance. He started life as a physical chemist studying the effect of ionising radiation on the atomic structure of DNA at Leicester University. In 1985, he decided to work on something larger and living, and researching on single celled bacteria seemed a logical choice. This change in career took him to St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, where he had a close up view of the importance of bacterial pathogens. In 1999, he accepted a chair in Microbial Pathogenesis and moved to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Currently, he heads the Pathogen Molecular Biology Unit that includes 50 members of staff.

See what participants said about previous LTN events:

"informative and entertaining speakers spanning a broad spectrum and perspective",
M. Hill-King, *Research Development Executive*, **IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON**

"I wanted a good snapshot of what's going on in London in the field, and that's what I got"
P. Sams, *White Space Manager*, **UNILEVER**

"I found the event extremely stimulating, it was good to get different viewpoints and I will be making arrangements to visit some of the departments in the near future"
M. Pullen, *Chief Systems Architect*, **SYMBIAN**

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London Technology Network
Ideas into Action

LTN's Mission:

To help technology-intensive companies be more effective and efficient in their "knowledge acquisition" from London's universities.

Each month, London Technology Network brings together industrial and academic thought leaders in the most powerful new technologies, both on the stage and in the audience. LTN discussions identify common technology platforms shared across industries and disciplines, and explore how industry, government and academia can collaborate to introduce and exploit these technologies. Attendees build personal networks that foster efficient transfer of technology and drive down the cost and time to deliver new products to market.

How to get to the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

The LTN event will take place at the **London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine,** Keppel Street, London WC1E 7HT, Tel: 020 7636 8636 marked with ★ below. For further information go to http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/location/ or http://www.streetmap.co.uk:

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine Buildings
Entrances
Underground Station

By Tube

Nearest Underground Stations are Goodge Street (Northern Line), Tottenham Court Road (Northern and Central Lines), Russell Square (Piccadilly Line), Euston Square (Circle and Metropolitan Lines) and Warren Street (Victoria Line).

By Bus

Nos 10, 24, 29, 73, 134 and 390 stop in Gower Street southbound and Tottenham Court Road northbound. Bus nos 7, 59, 68, 91, 168 and 188 stop in Russell Square. Bus nos 1, 8, 14, 19, 25, 38, 55, 98, 134 and 242 stop in New Oxford Street.

By Rail

Euston, St Pancras and Kings Cross are a short walk (10-15 minutes) from the School's main buildings. The other London mainline stations are a short tube, bus or taxi journey away.

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