

Weqas


ANNUAL CONFERENCE



7-8 DECEMBER

Mercure Cardiff Holland House Hotel & Spa

CARDIFF 2Q21

 Theme: Weqas Connect (our new participant platform), including new report interpretation.

 Meet and greet / Registration - 11:00am - 11:30am


 Brunch - 11:30am - 12:30pm

 Introduction / Welcome - 12:30pm - 12:40pm



Speaker: Annette Thomas


Title: Introducing Weqas Connect and the new hierarchy for Healthcare organisations

 12:40pm - 1:10pm



Speaker: Wendy Woodfield


Title: How to navigate the website to use the self-service function and manage EQA participation

 1:10pm - 1:40pm



Speaker: Annette Thomas / Samantha Jones

Title: The new reports and statistical analysis

 1:40pm - 2:20pm




 Break - 2:20pm - 2:50pm



Speaker: Samantha Jones / Gareth Davies

Title: Identifying errors using problem solving tools - a practical case workshop

 2:50pm - 5:00pm



 Conference Dinner - 8:00pm



Theme: Covid-19 and the effects on healthcare delivery



Meet and greet / Registration - 8:00am - 9:00am



Speaker: Samantha Jones
Title: Client satisfaction feedback

9:00am - 9:40am



Speaker: Tim James
Title: The use of Angiogenic Markers in clinical practice and the changing landscape of Pre-Eclampsia diagnosis

9:40am - 10:20am



Speaker: Gareth Davies
Title: Pre-Eclampsia EQA - What we have learnt to date?

10:20am - 10:40am



Break - 10:40am - 11:10am



Speaker: David Housley
Title: A National Audit of Laboratories on the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic

11:10am - 11:50am



Speaker: Rachel Jones
Title: The Virology, transmission, pathogenesis and genomics of SARS-CoV-2 respiratory virus and the transformation of Virology Diagnostic services to manage the pandemic and unfolding clinical picture

11:50am - 12:30pm



Lunch - 12:30pm - 1:30pm



Speaker: Annette Thomas
Title: The impact of the Covid - 19 pandemic on transforming POCT services

1:30pm - 2:10pm



Speaker: Gareth Davies
Title: Weqas programmes updates - Procalcitonin, POCT Influenza & RSV and SARS-CoV-2 Antigen

2:10pm - 2:30pm



Break - 2:30pm - 2:45pm



Speaker: Mark Ponsford
Title: Covid-19 vaccine responses in immunocompromised individuals: using serosurveillance to direct precision therapy

2:45pm - 3:30pm



Speaker: Annette Thomas
Title: Weqas EQA SARS-CoV-2 Antibody programme – Which methods are best?

3:30pm - 4:00pm



Tea, Coffee & Close - 4:00pm

Title: Introducing Weqas Connect and the new hierarchy for Healthcare organisations



12:40pm - 1:10pm



Annette Thomas

Director - Weqas

Annette Thomas is a Consultant Clinical Biochemist at Cardiff and Vale University Health Board with over 40 years' experience in Laboratory Medicine, 20 years of which has been as Director of Weqas.

Annette is also the national clinical lead for PoCT representing PoCT in Welsh Government advisory Committees and chairs the PoCT Strategic Board and PoCT Co-ordinators Network in Wales.

She is a member of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) Task Force on Global Lab Quality (TF-GLQ) and past chair of the Committee on Analytical Quality (C-AQ).

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Notes

Title: How to navigate the website to use the self-service function and manage EQA participation



1:10pm - 1:40pm



Wendy Woodfield

IT Manager - Weqas

Notes

Title: The new reports and statistical analysis



1:40pm - 2:20pm



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Samantha Jones

Operations Manager, Training Officer - Weqas

Samantha is the Operations Manager at Weqas with over 25 years' experience in Laboratory Medicine. Sam worked as a Biomedical Scientist at the Medical Biochemistry and Immunology Department at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff before moving to Weqas in 1998. Since 2010 she has been employed as the Operations Manager responsible for the day to day management of EQA / IQC services, and is also the Training Officer for the organisation.

She is a current member of the IFCC Working Group on FIT, represents Weqas at the United Kingdom Proficiency Testing Committee and represents BSI on the ISO CASCO WG57 for the revision of ISO/IEC 17043.

Notes

Title: Identifying errors using problem solving tools - a practical case workshop



2:50pm - 5:00pm



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Gareth Davies

Principal Biochemist, R and D Manager - Weqas

Gareth Davies is a Principal Biochemist and Research and Development Manager at Weqas with over 15 years experience in Laboratory Medicine. Gareth is responsible for new programme development and provides EQA interpretation, support and troubleshooting. He is a current member and former Minute Secretary of the All Wales Clinical Biochemistry Audit Group, and a current member of the ACB Pre-Analytical Phase Special Interest Group (ACB PA SIG).

Notes

Title: Client satisfaction feedback



9:00am - 9:40am



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Notes

A series of horizontal lines for taking notes.

Title: The use of Angiogenic Markers in clinical practice and the changing landscape of Pre-Eclampsia diagnosis



9:40am - 10:20am



Tim James

Oxford University Hospitals, NHS Foundation Trust

Tim James is laboratory manager and head BMS in Clinical Biochemistry at Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, a post he has held for the last 20 years. Within this role he manages three laboratory sites including a large teaching hospital service. Working with clinical departments to better understand testing and to ensure optimal utilisation are key aims of the service. He has worked with many clinical teams to evaluate current testing and where possible introduce new diagnostics and/or change where there are clear benefits for patients. In 2018 Oxford introduced testing for angiogenic markers into routine practice following an outcome-based study of benefit – the INSPIRE study. He has published over 100 peer reviewed papers in all areas of clinical chemistry and in the last five years developed a strong collaboration with the Oxford Obstetric team which has led to a series of publications encompassing diagnosis of pre-eclampsia, developing pregnancy specific reference intervals and identifying newer markers of obstetric disease.

Notes

Title: Pre-Eclampsia EQA – What we have learnt to date?



10:20am - 10:40am



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Notes

Title: A National Audit of Laboratories on the impact of the Covid-19
Pandemic



11:10am - 11:50am



David Housley

Luton and Dunstable University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Consultant Clinical Biochemist, BSc, MSc, PhD, DipRCPATH. Chemical Pathology
Department, Luton & Dunstable Hospital NHS Trust, Luton.

Notes

Title: The Virology, transmission, pathogenesis and genomics of SARS-CoV-2 respiratory virus and the transformation of Virology Diagnostic services to manage the pandemic and unfolding clinical picture



11:50am - 12:30pm



Rachel Jones

Public Health Wales

Clinical Lead Microbiology Cardiff. Consultant Virologist. BSc (Hons), MBChB, FRCPath. Department of Microbiology Cardiff, Public Health Wales.

Notes

Title: The impact of the Covid - 19 pandemic on transforming POCT services



1:30pm - 2:10pm



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Title: Weqas programmes updates - Procalcitonin, POCT Influenza & RSV and SARS-CoV-2 Antigen



2:10pm - 2:30pm



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Title: Covid-19 vaccine responses in immunocompromised individuals: using serosurveillance to direct precision therapy



2:45pm - 3:30pm



Mark Ponsford

Cardiff & Vale University Health Board

Mark is a physician scientist training in Clinical Immunology at the Immunodeficiency Centre for Wales, Cardiff, United Kingdom (UK).

His training to date highlights a track record of commitment to excellence in clinical research. Graduating with distinction in Clinical Medicine and degree in Molecular Medicine from Oxford Medical School, he subsequently gained medical registration with the Royal College of Physicians (MRCP UK) with specific placements in respiratory medicine, rheumatology, cardiology, and vascular surgery providing relevant clinical exposure to a career in Clinical Immunology.

Mark recently completed the King's College Medical Immunology MSc top of the year alongside Part I for the Royal College of Pathology Examinations. These were conducted alongside clinical practice in Cardiff, demonstrating time management, laboratory skills, and capability for cross-site working.

Mark's clinical roles have included coordination of the All-Wales Primary Immunodeficiency Bone Marrow Transplant Multi-disciplinary Team. This setting continues to provide unique insights into extreme and rare manifestations of human illness caused by monogenic disorders, leading to a particular interest in how mutations in the STAT3 gene lead to multi-system effects from immune deficiency, infection, to widespread vascular abnormalities (tortuosity, ectasia, and aneurysms).

To date, Mark has led development and delivery of 5 REC-approved observational clinical studies, which have all resulted in successful international presentation & publications. This included the first description of clozapine-associated hypogammaglobulinaemia, allowing Mark to spearhead a successful multi-disciplinary team funding bid for a national validation study (£229k) and win appointment as a Welsh Clinical Academic Trainee (WCAT) Lecturer. Whilst a specialist immunology trainee he also helped setup and coordinate the Burden of Infection in Primary Antibody Deficiency (BIPAD) study. By performing detailed longitudinal symptom and pathogen profiling in patients and healthy controls, this study charts the difference in symptoms and infections that remains despite current medical therapies.

The COVID-19 pandemic has demanded a pivot in Mark's doctoral study time towards understanding of epidemiological and immunological risk factors for development of severe disease following SARS-CoV-2 infection.

Title: Weqas EQA SARS-CoV-2 Antibody programme – Which methods are best?



3:30pm - 4:00pm



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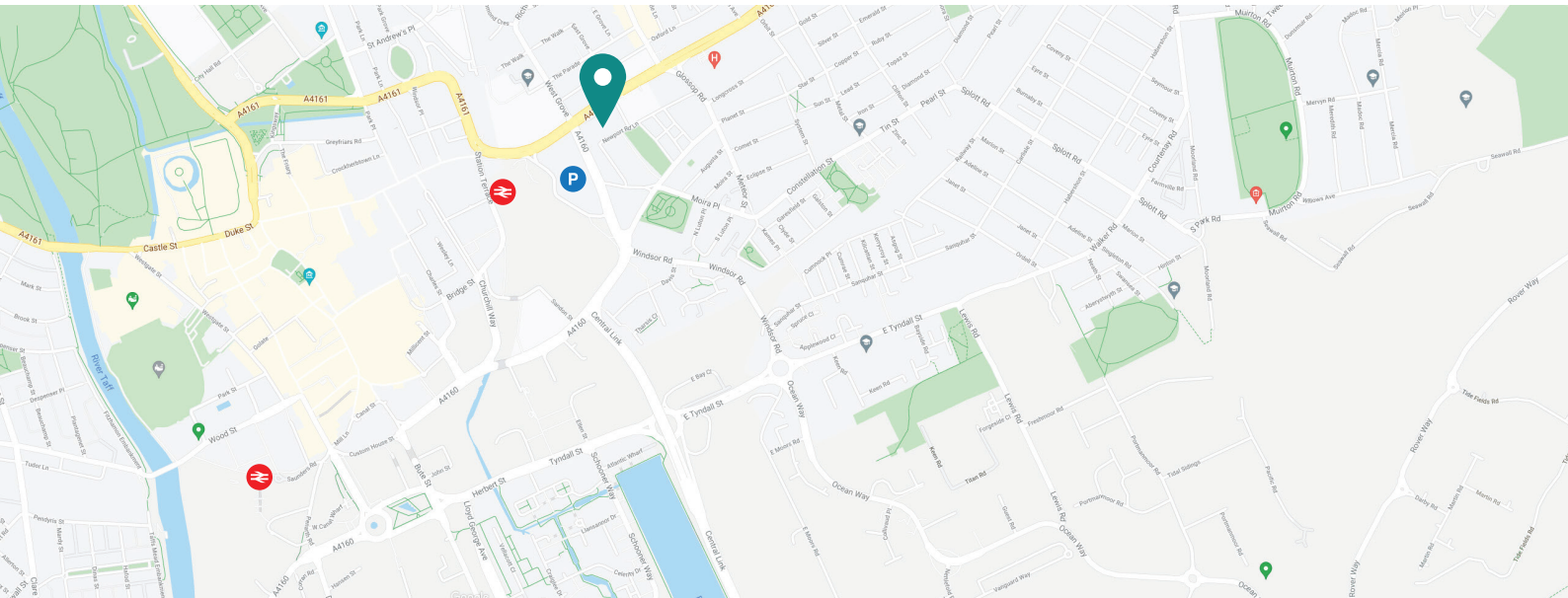
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Notes

CARDIFF 2021

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Mercure Cardiff Holland House Hotel & Spa



Conference Address:

Mercure Cardiff Holland
House Hotel & Spa
24-26 Newport Road
Cardiff, CF24 ODD

Tel: 02920 435000



Our Address:

Weqas
Unit 6, Parc Ty Glas
Llanishen, Cardiff
CF14 5DU

Tel: 02921 847810