

# Conference

## ***E. coli*: Cases, Controls and Common Sense**

Royal Society for Public Health

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2009, 28 Portland Place, London, W1B 1DE



### **Aims**

Food safety remains a major consumer concern and the subject of much media attention. This is particularly true for cases caused by *E. coli* O157 which can lead to severe complications in vulnerable populations. The John Barr outbreak in Wishaw, Scotland resulted in 350 cases and 20 deaths, and more recently the largest outbreak ever seen in Wales affected more than 150 people and killed one child.

The RSPH conference will bring together experts from industry, the legal profession and government involved in the issues surrounding the prevention and consequences of *E. coli* O157 outbreaks, as well as its control and management.



### **Programme will include**

#### **Morning session Chaired by Professor Hugh Pennington, Emeritus Professor of Bacteriology, University of Aberdeen**

##### ***E. coli* O157 – its epidemiology and microbiology**

Dr Iain Gillespie (Senior Epidemiologist, HPA)

##### **Management of *E. coli* O157 in fresh fruit and vegetable produce: How can we be safe?**

Kaarin Goodburn MBE, Secretary General, Chilled Food Association.

##### **The financial and other consequences of *E. coli* O157 outbreaks – a US perspective**

William Marler, Managing Partner, Marler Clark LLP PS

##### **Preventing *E. coli* outbreaks: the role of the Environmental Health Practitioner**

Dr Lisa Ackerley, Managing Director, Hygiene Audit Systems

##### **Findings from the South Wales *E. coli* O157 report**

Professor Hugh Pennington, Emeritus Professor of Bacteriology, University of Aberdeen

##### **The role of food safety culture in a case study of *E. coli* O157**

Professor Chris Griffith, Head of Food Research and Consultancy Unit at the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff and Editor of the British Food Journal

##### **The role of the Microbiologist in an *E. coli* outbreak**

Dr Richard Meldrum, Head of Food, Water and Environmental Section, NPHS Microbiology, Wales

#### **Expert round table discussion**

Delegates will have an opportunity to put questions to a panel of speakers which will also include Frank Yiannas Vice President for Food Safety at Wal-Mart.

#### **Who should attend?**

This meeting will provide an excellent opportunity to update on the issues surrounding *E. coli* O157. It is essential learning for those working in food hygiene and safety, the retail industry, the meat industry, and anyone involved in the preparation of food. It will be particularly relevant for Environmental Health Practitioners, Epidemiologists, Food Safety Trainers and Food Manufacturers.

The speakers, who are acknowledged experts in their fields, include Professor Hugh Pennington who has chaired two of the most important enquiries into UK outbreaks. Professor Pennington will be speaking about his findings from the Public Inquiry into the South Wales outbreak. He will also Chair the morning session.

Other speakers include William Marler, the world's leading food safety compensation lawyer from the USA and national expert in food borne illness prevention. Cases he has handled include the now famous 'Jack in the Box' *E. coli* O157:H7 outbreak, resulting in a landmark \$15.6 million settlement. William Marler will discuss the consequences that ripple out from a shiga-toxin producing *E. coli* outbreak, including the burdens of long-term health care on individuals and responsible parties; the legal, financial, and public relations repercussions on businesses; and the implications for public agencies, regulation, and legislation.

Our experts will examine key areas and issues along the food chain which have implications for the causes and management of *E. coli* O157 outbreaks.

# Administration details

*E. coli*: Cases, Controls and Common Sense, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2009

**Please return to:** Jennifer Tatman, Conference & Events Officer, RSPH, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Market Towers, 1 Nine Elms Lane, London SW8 5NQ.

**Venue:** The conference will take place at 28 Portland Place, London W1. Nearest underground stations are Great Portland St and Oxford Circus, both are within easy walking distance.

**Programme information:** Registration from 9.00am. Meeting starts at 9.45am. Close at 4.45pm.

**Enquiries:** Please contact Jennifer Tatman on 020 3177 1614 or [jtatman@rsph.org.uk](mailto:jtatman@rsph.org.uk)

**Continuing Professional Development:** CPD credits are currently being sought for this meeting.

**Fees:** (no VAT payable) Please tick box

- RSPH Members: £140  
 Public sector and charities: £165  
 Private Sector (Non-Members): £225

Cheques must be made payable to RSPH. Please note, places are guaranteed only upon receipt of payment and payments must be received by the RSPH 4 weeks prior to the course.

**Cancellation:** Substitutions can be made at any time. If notification is received 8 weeks prior to the course, a full refund will be made minus an administration charge of £40. Cancellations received after this time will receive no refund. Please note that notification of cancellation must be made in writing. The organisers reserve the right to change the timings and/or identity of the speakers.

**Special dietary requirements:** Please tick box

Vegetarian  Gluten Free  Lactose Free

Other (please specify) .....

Please fill out a separate booking form for each delegate.

## Personal/Contact details

Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Other .....

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Surname .....

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## Royal Society for Public Health

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