European Society for Clinical Virology (ESCV)

UK Workshop on Outbreak Investigations

31st January 2017, 9-5pm, Senate Rooms, University of London, London, UK

The ESCV are organizing a workshop to be held in London on 31st January 2017 on the theme of Outbreak Investigation. The workshop is aimed at medical virology and bacteriology medical or clinical scientist trainees and consultants but is also open to any other interested individuals who wish to learn more about outbreak investigation. You are cordially invited to apply for a place at the workshop.

The workshop is funded by the ESCV to further the aims of the society which include education to improve knowledge of viral diseases for the promotion of public health. There will be no registration fee for the workshop and reasonable travel expenses will be paid (up to a maximum of £500 per participant)

Applicants for the workshop must be **current members of the ESCV**. Members should check and if necessary update their subscription status by logging into the members area of the website before submitting their application:

http://www.escv.org

If you are not a member it is easy to join and the website has the aims of the group. Annual membership is €40.
To apply ESCV members should complete the attached proforma and return it by email to pvallely@manchester.ac.uk
Completed proformas must be returned by **12th December 2016**.
Successful applicants will be informed by 19th December 2016.
Please address any queries to the above email in the first instance.

Further details of the workshop and the proposed programme are given below.

Sent on behalf of the UK organizing committee;

Dr Kate Templeton, Edinburgh
Dr Heli Harvela, London,
Dr Rory Gunson, Glasgow,
Prof. Paul Klapper, Manchester
Prof. Pam Vallely, Manchester
Prof Peter Coyle, Belfast

Viral Disease Outbreak Workshop

Target Audience: Medical virology, bacteriology or clinical scientist trainees and consultants as well as anybody who would like to learn something new. Good preparation for your professional exams, or simply revision of your previous knowledge!

Scope and the aim: The meeting will provide you with basic knowledge on outbreak investigations. The day will include two introductory lectures followed by two case studies. The first case study will introduce you to the ten-steps involved in outbreak investigations, and the second will guide you through how to perform outbreak-related molecular investigations. As a clinical scientist or medic working in virology (or bacteriology), you are likely to be familiar with the basic laboratory investigations and the management of outbreaks occurring in the hospitals and other health-care facilities. These case studies will not only reinforce your prior knowledge but also introduce you to additional tools used in outbreak investigation including classical and molecular epidemiology. Both case studies will demonstrate the importance of multi-disciplinary approach to outbreak investigations.

Outcome: At the end of first case study, you will be able to outline the main steps used to investigate an outbreak, formulate a case definition, generate and test hypothesis using both descriptive and analytical epidemiology used in outbreak investigations. At the end of second case study, you will be able to construct multiple alignment and phylogenetic tree using different software (i.e. SSE and MEGA), understand the basics behind alignments and phylogenetic analysis, to be able to access different databases, and to be aware of the importance and potential future issues relating to bioinformatics and phylogeny within clinical virology and public health microbiology.

Please do note that you need to have your own **laptop with** the following two **software installed:**

1) SSE Version 1.2 (freely downloadable - http://www.virus-evolution.org/Downloads/Software/)

2) MEGA 6.0 (freely downloadable - http://megasoftware.net/)

Programme:

9.00 – 9.20 Registration and Coffee

9.20 - 9.30 Introduction

9.30 - 10.30 Example of recent outbreak including follow up and lessons learned

10.30 - 11.00 Coffee Break

11.00 - 11.30 Outbreak investigations - what a clinical virologist should know?

11.30 - 12.30 Molecular epidemiology and _HHoutbreaks

12.30 - 13.30 Lunch

13.30 - 16.30 Case studies

Group I: Outbreak investigations (from ten steps to different study designs)

Group II: Hepatitis A outbreak in Europe (from sequences to phylogenetics: easy)

Group III: Hepatitis C (from sequences to diversity scans: harder)

Group IV: Sensitivity, Specificity and Prevalence calculations in Virology

16.45-17.00 Round-up and Conclusion