

James Ian Blenkarn

CBiol CSci FRSB FRSPH FIBMS

Curriculum Vitae



*Led by Science
Driven by Research*



James Ian Blenkarn

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Healthcare, occupational & environmental microbiologist

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I have an extensive background in aspects of occupational, environmental, and healthcare science (medical microbiology). Trained in the UK NHS and University Medical Schools, I specialise in microbiology, infection and infection prevention, and hygiene, with over 40 years post-qualification experience. Having worked on collaborative research projects with many clinical colleagues, in respiratory medicine, O&G, paediatrics & child health, orthopaedics, general, colorectal, vascular and endocrine surgery, cardio-thoracic surgery, renal medicine, intensive care, interventional radiology, anaesthetics etc, my experience includes a 7-year attachment as microbiologist to the academic Department of Surgery of the Royal Postgraduate Medical School where I greatly expanded research interests in device-related and surgical infection, antibiotic prophylaxis, and in particular in the prevention, diagnosis and management of hepatopancreaticobiliary tract infections.

I have additional research interests in infection prevention and control, laboratory diagnostics, antibiotic and chemotherapy, hygiene management, and the wider aspects of occupational and environmental hygiene management.

I have a wide academic overview and involvement in teaching and training of healthcare-related and occupational infection prevention & control, healthcare hygiene, sharps and biosafety, biohazardous waste management and waste-related occupational safety.

This creates a possibly unique role combining the skills of an infection prevention specialist and waste manager, academic, researcher, teacher, and trainer, with many years' experience in the healthcare, regulatory, academic, and commercial (pharmaceutical, manufacturing, waste management) sectors.

Teaching

In addition to invited teaching, including teaching overseas, I am a Lecturer in the School of Psychology, Social Work & Human Sciences and in the School of Nursing, Midwifery & Healthcare of the University of West London, teaching there and elsewhere on a range of specialist subjects including microbiology, infection and immunity, infection prevention, hygiene, antibiotic and chemotherapy, epidemiological techniques, molecular biology and genetics, and a more basic introduction to science.



I have taught for more than 30 years, both at home and abroad. I teach at all levels, from student technicians/analysts through pre- and post-registration nursing courses, to undergraduate, postgraduate, and post-doctoral science students.

Teaching includes formal taught course sessions, seminars, and tutorials as well as more individual training and supervision. Practical (bench) training is included.

For several years, I was an examiner in bacteriology for the Institute of Biomedical Sciences.

Teaching commitments also extend internationally and by invitation, I have planned and delivered several extensive specialised training courses in several countries. Projects have included both academic and commercial undertakings and have included the provision of on-going educational and academic support for organisations and individuals. I have taught for the International Health Academy and, most notably, in Ecuador, for The British Council.

Expert Witness

I have almost 40 years' experience in the preparation of Expert Witness reports and briefings, including work in County, Crown, and High Court, in the Coroner's Court, at Professional Regulatory hearings, at Employment Tribunals, in Arbitrations, and at Public Inquiry.

I have particular experience in both medical negligence/malpractice cases and in more complex high-value occupational and environmental cases and, under instruction by the Forensic Medical Advice Team of the National Crime Agency, in a modest number of criminal cases, including murder!

**Medico-Legal
Society**



I have experience also in commercial cases, in tribunals, in Planning and Licensing (Waste Permitting) applications and appeals, medical device and pharmaceutical licensing, and in Public Inquiry. I have much experience in Meetings of Experts.

Instructions, including instructions from outside the UK, are commensurate with my knowledge and experience and relate to matters of microbiology, in particular:

- infection, infection prevention and control
- post-surgical and device-related infections
- laboratory diagnostics and the control of chemotherapy
- sharps injury
- clinical and other biohazardous waste management
- related environmental and occupational microbiology
- biosafety

By far the majority of instructions involve cases of alleged medical malpractice and misadventure, the development of healthcare-associated infection, food safety, community, domestic and occupational hygiene, and biosafety.



I have additionally received Instruction in cases overseas, most recently from China. Reports are timely and detailed but concise, with a short and balanced review of the appropriate medical and scientific literature where appropriate.

I may offer pro bono support to a limited number of carefully selected cases.

Appearance in the Coronial Courts has also included invitations from the Procurator Fiscal to investigate and review activities at a large NHS Acute Trust in advance of a fatal accident inquiry (Scotland).

Presently, I receive around 30 instructions per annum with an approximately 50:50 split between defendant and claimant. With additional Liability and Causation reports, this entails in excess of 45 detailed investigations and reports, each addressed to the Crown, County or High Court as applicable. I also receive instruction from the National Crime Agency.

I have received additional instruction in respect of cases outside the UK, including Ireland, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Germany, Gibraltar, Jersey, Japan, Hong Kong, Bermuda, and China. I thus have experience working in different legal systems and where necessary through interpreters, including live interpreting during testimony and cross-examination etc.



Just a few of the interesting and more diverse cases I have accepted include:

- **Scottish Hospitals Inquiry**

I was invited to support the Inquiry in the role of Specialist and Expert Support Services on matters of microbiology, infection, and infection prevention and control.

- **MO -v- Croydon Health Services NHS Trust (2022)**

A senior theatre nurse was ‘persecuted’ by senior managers and infection prevention staff regarding her insistence on wearing a small plain gold cross on a fine gold chain around her neck. As the cross was visible at the neck of her scrubs, it was demanded that it be removed or hidden. She refused to do this as the cross was a central feature of her religion.

Initially downgraded and demoted to reception duties, and eventually dismissed for gross misconduct, she took the case to the Employment Tribunal which found in her favour. The defendant claimed, erroneously, that the cross was contaminated with bacteria and that these were hazardous to patients. It was clear that this contamination would arise only from contact with skin. Her ID badge and its lanyard, and the clothes she was required to wear, would be similarly contaminated and would shed bacteria far more readily than the small metal cross. This nonsensical use of flawed IPC reasoning was accepted by the Tribunal, which found that the Respondent’s conduct was sufficiently serious to amount to a repudiatory breach of contract and that the Claimant had been entitled to resign and claim constructive dismissal. The dismissal had been both discriminatory and unfair.

- **Reverend Dr William J U Philip & ors (Scottish churches) (2021)**

Judicial review, Outer House, Court of Session P74/21 against restrictions imposed by the Scottish Government to prohibit church services for worship under emergency Covid-19 measures while permitting limited funeral services and wedding ceremonies.



Successfully presented a logical scientific case highlighting the irrationality of that prohibition and, when applying core infection prevention guidance of hands, face, space together with enhanced ventilation etc, that prohibition was unnecessary and unreasonable.

- **IKEA UK & Ireland**

Ongoing support to IKEA operating across the UK and Ireland to maintain all aspects of their direct services and services fulfilled by contractors (deliveries, installations etc) throughout various stages of the Covid-19 pandemic, to ensure the most efficient business continuity while complying with various national recommendations.

- **Christian concern (2020)**

Christian Concern were adamant that Government restrictions on the provision of church services, despite the evolving Covid-19 pandemic were inappropriate, unnecessary, and unacceptable, and possibly contrary to the provisions of Magna Carta.

A comprehensive report was presented to outline the many key safety steps necessary for in situ services and additional telecast services that would ensure a high level of biosecurity.

- **Avon and Somerset Constabulary Major Crime Investigation Team on the Instruction of the National Crime Agency (2020)**

A comprehensive evaluation of the case of an elderly and partially disabled lady who was seriously injured at a UK holiday camp when an air conditioning unit fell from the ceiling and hit her, causing multiple injuries. After many weeks in hospital, she succumbed to infection. NCA needed to establish if the infection was a consequence of the initial injury, a complication of negligent hospital care, or perhaps a consequence of a pre-existing sacral pressure sore.

- **Prime Care Solutions (Kingston) Limited -v- Kingston Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (2020)**

In preparation for formal adjudication, a comprehensive examination and critical review of alleged defects of design and construction, and of maintenance, in several representative areas of this busy hospital was undertaken. The potential impacts on hygiene and infection prevention were evaluated together with an overarching assessment of the likelihood of excessive microbial loading of the clinical environment creating a likely risk to patients.

At adjudication, a successful outcome exceeding £1.25million was awarded to the Trust which had faced a challenge by the Claimant for deductions and non-payment of PPI fees.

- **The Equality Ombudsman (Diskrimineringsombudsmannen) -v- The State through Karolinska Institutet (2016), and**

- **The Equality Ombudsman (Diskrimineringsombudsmannen) -v- Folkvandvården Stockholms län AB (2017)**

In each case, discrimination was alleged when Muslim female dental students/dentists were prohibited from wearing disposable sleeves during clinical work to comply with religious obligations. The reason given was that disposable plastic sleeves contradicted an over-arching 'bare below the elbows' policy; that the risk to patients was great and would increase the risk of infection; that disposable sleeves might be contaminated with potentially harmful bacteria; that disposable sleeves could contaminate and be contaminated by the student's clothing; that disposable sleeves might contaminate the clinical environment during removal after



use; and that it would place an additional and unreasonable burden on teaching activities, and be difficult to audit compliance.

- ***Pseudomonas aeruginosa* prosthetic joint infection (2016)**
What was the impact and role of early hydrotherapy in the development of a cluster of prosthetic joint infections?
- ***Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infection after high ear piercing (2015)**
A cluster of 10+ severe and ultimately disfiguring *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infections following deep ear cartilage piercings. Questioning the lack of formal guidance and the poor-quality advice given during EHO inspections, the source of infection could be tracked to contamination of potable water and gaps in the spectrum of activity of the recommended antiseptic and disinfectant products, together with a lack of instruction regarding post-piercing care.
- **HH (a celebrity tattooist) -v- MGN Newspapers (2014)**
A celebrity tattooist was, without prior knowledge, identified in a national newspaper as being HIV+ with an implied risk to those visiting his salon and receiving tattoos or piercings.
- **Secretary of State for Justice / HMP Long Lartin (2013)**
Group litigation alleging unacceptable and unsafe restrictions in the supply of safe water supplies, and deficiencies in access to hygiene facilities, for prisoners housed in segregation.
- ***Clostridium difficile* infection in a hospital cleaner (2013)**
Was training, supervision, PPE provision, and standards of toilet cleaning sufficient to protect a hospital cleaner from acquired infection?
- **Powertrain Group Litigation (2010)**
Group litigation, led by Karl de-Lloyd of Thompsons Solicitors and Paul Bleasdale of No 5 Chambers, on behalf of 100+ former employees of Powertrain at the Longbridge car plant, Birmingham, who claimed damages for respiratory disease caused by exposure to contaminated coolant oil. The Defendants were their employers, Powertrain and Houghton Plc, who supplied the coolant oil and managed them on site during the material period.

In this, the UK's largest outbreak of occupational lung disease, critical failings were identified in the approach to management of metalworking fluid hygiene, methods of screening for bacterial and fungal contaminants, and containment of aerosols.

I received formal training in performing as an Expert Witness as part of the Imperial College Professional Development Programme before the Recorder of London on its *Acting as an Expert Witness* course.

I hold the Bond Solon/Cardiff University Law School Expert Witness Certificate (civil law). Additionally, I attended in June 2013 the Bond Solon 'Hot Tubbing' (Concurrent Expert Evidence) course. I have received relevant training updates from Cardiff University Law School/Bond Solon (2019 and 2020) and from the Royal Society of Medicine (2020) with relevant training updates from Cardiff University Law School/Bond Solon and with the Royal Society of Medicine.

I am registered with the following Expert Witness and Consultant organisations:

- Premex+
- UK Register of Expert Witnesses



- UK Medical
- National Expert Witness Agency (NEWA)
- Expert by Big Village (previously Engine International Inc)
- Silverlight Expert Network
- Gerson Lehrman Group Consulting
- Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)
- HKA Consultancy Services (Forensic Technical Services)
- CL Medical Aid
- National Crime Agency



I was the winner of the **Lawyer Monthly Expert Witness (Environmental and Microbiology) Award** in 2016, 2019, 2022, 2023 and again in 2025.

ICO Registration: Z2138376

DBS (Extended): 001958589127

I have (January 2022) been appointed to the ongoing Scottish Hospitals Inquiry under contract CASE/566755 - Specialist And Expert Support Services, with responsibility for matters of ventilation and water hygiene.

Professional and regulatory affairs

For the Royal Society of Biology

Formerly Vice Chair of the Royal Society of Biology Professional Registers Panel, and a member of the Editorial Board of the Royal Society of Biology award-winning journal, The Biologist.

For the Royal Society of Chemistry

I sat for the Royal Society of Chemistry on its Professional Registers Panel, in a reciprocal arrangement with the Royal Society for Biology.

For the Care Quality Commission

I was a Specialist Advisor to the Care Quality Commission (retired 28 February 2018)

For the Healthcare Commission

Until its dissolution in Q1 2009, I held an appointment with The Healthcare Commission, as a Specialist Advisor responsible for the investigation of complaints and concerns regarding individual patient episodes.

For the Health and Care Professions Council

Between 2013 and 2015, I sat on Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) Fitness to Practise panels. HCPC is the independent statutory regulator safeguarding the health and care of persons using or needing the services of its registrants.

For the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH)

I sat for some years on the RSPH Product Accreditation Panel and on its Behaviour Change Special Interest Group.



For the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland

I currently sit as an Independent Specialist member on the Clinical Safety Committee, upgraded in August 2024 to the Safety, Standards, Environment and Sustainability Committee, of The Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland (AAGBI).

Consulting

I deliver a consultancy service engaged by NHS Trusts, by the commercial sector, and by regulatory bodies, governments and government agencies, both at home and abroad.

I remain active in health policy matters, regulation, and the wider health & safety provision for healthcare professionals and support staff, and enhanced patient care.

In addition to the above, I consult to a diversity of NHS Acute, Community and Ambulance Trusts, and to commercial and other organisations, advising on matters that include *inter alia* improved hygiene management, sharps safety, and healthcare waste management.

In the commercial sector, I advise both informally and formally at Board and Investor level regarding applications, product placement and opportunities, relevant regulatory frameworks, and business threats, to new ventures and products. This expands to the provision of technical advice and guidance on product refinement, assessment and evaluation, regulatory compliance, innovative market opportunities and, where appropriate, on clinical trial or early in-use assessment and scientific or other publication and presentations.

Commercial consultancy appointments may be task-specific or more general but are always covered by a non-disclosure agreement. Clients have typically included:

- compliant disposal of medical devices and pharmaceutical products
- antiseptic and disinfectant developers/manufacturers
- waste packaging and healthcare waste treatment providers
- waste treatment technology developers
- cleaning & hygiene product developers
- PPE and safety device developers

I regularly represent clients in their negotiations with and submissions to regulators, to ease the path to regulatory approval/compliance.

Research

I maintain an active and successful research program that includes, *inter alia*, a substantial undertaking in contract research, guest and commercial presentations, and specialist training and support for a number of postgraduate and doctoral students.

Flowing from this research, I have an extensive publication record comprising blue sky, translational and applied research publications in addition to review and opinion papers and contributions to a number of major textbooks.

My research-driven practice embraces a range of both analytical and consultancy services, extending also to matters of planning and licensing, personal injury and professional negligence, medical malpractice, healthcare and occupational microbiology and hygiene, waste management and biosafety.

I offer specialist services in several key areas:



- teaching & training
- healthcare, occupational & environmental microbiology
- hospital, community & environmental infection control; healthcare & occupational hygiene
- sharps (needlestick) injury
- safety evaluation; risk assessment; teaching & training; instruction manuals
- litigation; briefings; planning & licensing
- other contract research & research training

An increasing number of supplementary consultancy appointments created opportunities for further research output, including but not restricted to studies of novel antimicrobials and of infection risks associated with sharps and other healthcare wastes.

It is an additional feature of my approach to a research-driven consultancy that I have often found it possible to integrate research and teaching into contract audit and investigation of NHS Trusts' activities. Thus, contracts involving the audit of a Trust's waste management activities, environmental hygiene or sharps safety compliance invite, as standard, an infection prevention and control (IPC) nurse or environment manager to join the study. This provides a chaperone to facilitate task completion without undue delay, while providing an opportunity to teach and when possible to support that individual in an additional course of study with a project in fulfilment of a university degree or professional qualification course.

Currently active research programmes include:

- hand hygiene for healthcare ancillary and support staff
- fake science & fake science publishing
- conflict between hygiene and infection prevention policies; possible administrative and religious discrimination
- planning applications for clinical waste management sites – what is the basis for fear and resentment?
- science and regulation – why the continuing discord?
- contamination of and around sharps bins – an overlooked hazard in the healthcare environment
- blood and body fluid exposures of hospital ancillary staff and waste handlers

**The Healthcare Commission
and
Care Quality Commission**

From 2006 until its dissolution in 2009, I held an appointment as a Specialist Advisor to the Healthcare Commission. In this role, I reviewed, investigated, and advised on many complex cases concerning issues of infection, infection prevention and control, post-surgical sepsis, errors in antibiotic prophylaxis and diagnostics, and infections caused by the predictable 'superbugs' *Clostridioides difficile* and methicillin-resistant strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA).

I have additionally investigated issues of communication failures in the healthcare environment, and the relationship between management obligations to government healthcare policy and delivery targets and clinical safety, with emphasis on hospital hygiene and infection prevention.



**Healthcare and other
biohazardous waste
management**

More general advice to the Healthcare Commission embraced issues having a root cause in communication errors, policy and process, staffing levels and continuity of care, and patient expectations.

Subsequently, I held an appointment as Specialist Advisor to the Care Quality Commission (CQC), the successor organisation of The Healthcare Commission, retiring from there on 28 February 2018.

I have held appointments and a diversity of consultancy appointments/engagements, at home and elsewhere, in aspects of predominantly clinical (healthcare) waste management over more than 25 years.

I have specialised in the integration of healthcare waste and safe sharps waste management with effective hygiene management and infection prevention and control, in the healthcare environment, across the waste industries, and in the community.

This has included much teaching and consultancy in resource-poor and developing countries and has evolved to a specialism in the particular difficulties faced by, and seeking pragmatic solutions for, isolated and island communities in the UK and elsewhere.

By invitation, I was the author of the Scirus Topic Page on Clinical Wastes. A SciTopics Page was, until recently, a freely accessible, wiki-like service for the scientific community where scientific experts summarise specific scientific topics, and where links to the latest, most relevant journal literature and web sources are presented on one page. Authors are invited based on the merit of their published research and will always be scholars who are known and respected in the field.

I have contributed a chapter on clinical waste management in the Encyclopedia of Environmental Health (Blenkarn JI. *Clinical waste management*. In: Nriagu JO (ed). 2011; 1: 716–731. Burlington: Elsevier. 2011). This Encyclopedia was subsequently updated as *Reference Module in Earth Systems and Environmental Sciences*. Nriagu JO (ed). Elsevier Inc, 2015.

I was recognised as Top Reviewer for 2010, and for 2012, for the Elsevier journal *Waste Management*, “In recognition of an outstanding contribution to the quality of Waste Management”.

I am the owner, creator and moderator of the *Clinical Waste Discussion Forum* accessible at <http://www.ianblenkarn.com>.

CIWM Waste
Regulation award

I received the prestigious **Chartered Institution of Wastes Management Waste Regulation Award** for 2008, for my paper:

Blenkarn JI. Quo vadis? Science and regulation as uneasy bedfellows
The Open Waste Management Journal 2008; 1: 1-3

Health &
Safety

As a member, until 2021 of the CIWM Health & Safety Group Steering Committee, I was responsible for several key developments in H&S matters, including:

- integration of a commitment to health & safety within the Institution’s CPD programme requirements



- studies to review and evaluate the uptake of this initiative and its place in the creation of further educational opportunities, and to seek means to circumvent barriers to health & safety aspects of professional development
- work with other organisations to prepare a range of flashcards of other simple safety guides, aimed particularly at temporary and agency staff, using pictograms and foreign language translations
- the reporting of serious adverse incidents and health & safety prosecutions in the weekly CIWM online newsletter

Other appointments

By invitation, I hold an additional appointment to the NHS National Institute for Health Research as an assessor in the following categories:

- Health Technology Assessment (Prioritisation & Commissioning)
- Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation
- Public Health Research
- Service Delivery and Organisation

I was a member of the Infectious Diseases Research Network and of the Healthcare Waste and Environmental Resources Group of Northampton University.

I am an assessor/adviser for major funding applications submitted to the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)

I was a contributor to the ASTM International F2132 sharps container standard task group, reporting to the corresponding BSI/ISO committee.

Media

Over 30 or so years, I have received occasional invitations to contribute to live-link and other video presentations, in addition to both live and recorded pieces on UK television and radio. I have also, again by invitation, provided briefings and/or prepared quotes and/or commentaries for publication.

Topics include matters of infection prevention and control, hygiene, antibiotic, resistance, and more general matters of microbiology including the global spread of 'superbugs', occupational infection risks, and more general occupational and domestic hygiene issues.

In addition to this, I have for many years prepared for clients Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and training manuals, product and topic reviews, and more comprehensive scientific and technical guides.

Scientific publishing

Founding Editor-in-Chief:

International Journal of Hospital Environment & Hygiene Management

Member of the Editorial Board of:

The Journal of Hospital Infection

The Open Waste Management Journal



Former member of the Editorial Board of:

The Biologist
The Journal of Infection Prevention
Journal of Electronic Health
The International Journal of Engineering, Science and Technology

Regular reviewer for:

Journal of Hospital Infection
Infection Prevention in Practice
Journal of Infection Prevention
Public Health
PLOS One
The Journal of Public Health (Oxford)

and other medical, scientific, and technical journals as invited

Established reviewer for the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) Evaluation, Trials and Studies Coordinating Centre applications and reports.

I conceived and wrote the bimonthly '*And Finally...*' column in the **Journal of Infection Prevention**, written under the pen name '*IPSus*'.

***Pro bono, unpaid, &
charitable appointments***

On behalf of the British Council, I have provided support and teaching in several South American countries on topics of clinical waste management, infection control and hospital hygiene. This has been most active in Ecuador where, since 1996, I have been an Honorary Fellow of Fundación Natura, Quito.

I am a member of Sense about Science <http://www.senseaboutscience.org.uk>

I have provided *Pro bono* consultancy support to The International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent and to Médecins Sans Frontières in aspects of infection control during emergency healthcare delivery and healthcare waste management, respectively.

I provided *Pro bono* support and guidance to individuals involved in adverse health matters following the 2001 UK Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak. Additionally, I continue to support a cohort of over 40 waste handlers who suffered sharps injury during the course of their employment. This forms part of an ongoing research portfolio that includes, *inter alia*, many overlapping studies of biohazardous and clinical waste management activities.

I provide advice and support to a number of charitable and aid agencies, including the UK-based NOMADS Hepatitis C support group.

Stemnet

I devote additional time to 'put a little extra back' and invest in the futures of young people, to help formulate their career aspirations and setting of future goals, to support, enthuse and inspire the scientists of tomorrow, and more generally to engage school students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.



To achieve this, I am a volunteer and Ambassador for StemNet (www.stemnet.org.uk), the UK educational charity that works with schools to encourage youngsters to choose a science, technology, engineering and mathematics career.

Spark!

I support and volunteer for SPARK!, London's Original Education Business Partnership. Spark! works in association with Hounslow Education Business Charity to find inspiring opportunities for young people to gain work experience, understand the labour market and develop confident enterprise and employability skills. For SPARK! I contribute with project-related tutorials and project evaluations, mock interviews, mentoring and more generally career guidance initiatives.

Social Mobility Foundation

I provide long-term mentoring in science, particularly the biological and medical sciences, to gifted young people from generally low-income backgrounds through the [Social Mobility Foundation](http://www.socialmobilityfoundation.org).

Achieving for children

I provide practical support as a mentor to children through Achieving for Children (<http://www.achievingforchildren.org.uk/>), the social enterprise company created by the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames and the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames to provide their children's services.

Current External Appointments

- **Specialist Lecturer** **University of West London**
- **Independent Specialist Member of the Clinical Safety Committee** **Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland (AAGBI)**

Membership of Learned Societies

- Fellow: Royal Society of Biology – P0103498
- Fellow: Institute of Biomedical Sciences – 00060364
Holder of IBMS 50-year Commemorative Medal
- Fellow: The Royal Society for Public Health – 26311
- Member: Healthcare Infection Society – 1405
- Member: British Infection Association
- Member: International Society for Infectious Diseases
- Member: Royal Society of Medicine (00720430)
- Member: Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) – 170659
- Member: Microbiology Society – C018196
- Member: European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) – 448651
- Full Member: The Medico-Legal Society
- Registered Member: UK Register of Expert Witnesses
E/2317 – Environmental and related healthcare microbiology
- Chartered Biologist: BMS109002046
- Chartered Scientist: BMS109002046

I hold the National General Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health.



This NEBOSH Certificate consolidates appointments as the Deputy Safety Officer to the Department of Infectious Disease, Imperial College London, from the mid-1980s to 2004, and subsequently as a Safety Advisor to several SME clients.

Lectures

In addition to case presentations, ward and laboratory tutorials etc, and formal teaching at RPMS, Imperial College, and the University of West London, I have lectured extensively, including many Guest Lectures, at Universities, Medical Schools and Hospitals, and at conferences and symposia around the world. Topics have included post-surgical infection, general clinical and laboratory bacteriology, antibiotic and chemotherapy, epidemiology, hospital infection control, hygiene, and healthcare and sharps waste management.

Reviews and original papers have been read at many national and international symposia. On behalf of various pharmaceutical companies, I have written and delivered detailed product reviews and have appeared on several video presentations for commercial use. By invitation, I have made several presentations on national TV and radio, generally concerning matters of widespread public concern regarding healthcare-related infection risk.

Continuing professional development

I am an active participant in the CPD schemes of:

- Royal Society of Biology
- Institute of Biomedical Science

Science and Business Ethics

I am fully committed to the Department of Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform Universal Ethical Code for Scientists

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/universal-ethical-code-for-scientists>)

This Ethical Code demands rigour, honesty and integrity, respect for life, the law and the public good, and responsible communication.

Publications

Research papers

Anaerobic bacteriology of chronic bronchial disease with a refined method of sampling bronchial secretions.

Gardiner IT, **Blenkarn JI**, Stradling P, Darrell JH.

British Journal of Diseases of the Chest 1977; **71**(4): 277-84

The effect of iodination on the haemolytic property and the fatty acids of Newcastle Disease virus.

Blenkarn JI, Apostolov K.

Biochimica et Biophysica Acta 1980; **597**: 358-63

Localised inhibition of clindamycin-2-phosphate hydrolysis due to product inhibition by inorganic phosphate.

Blenkarn JI, Darrell JH.

Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy 1981; **7**: 101-4

The correlation of fatty acid content of infected cells and virions with Newcastle Disease Virus (NDV) virulence.



Blenkarn JI, Apostolov K.

Journal of General Virology 1981; **52**: 355-8

An improved system for external biliary drainage.

Blenkarn JI, McPherson GAD, Blumgart LH.

Lancet 1981; **ii**: 781-2

The significance of bacteria in external biliary drainage systems: a possible role for antisepsis.

McPherson GAD, **Blenkarn JI**, Nathanson B, Bowley NB, Benjamin IS, Blumgart LH.

Journal of Clinical Surgery 1982; **1**: 22-6

Suction apparatus and hospital infection due to multiply-resistant *Klebsiella aerogenes*.

Blenkarn JI, Hughes VM.

Journal of Hospital Infection 1982; **3**: 173-8

Systemic inflammatory complications following jejunio-ileal bypass.

Fagan EA, Elkon K, Griffin G, **Blenkarn JI**, Kennedy C, Hughes GRV, Chadwick VS, Hodgson HJF.

Quarterly Journal of Medicine 1982; **51**: 445-60

Septic complications of percutaneous transhepatic biliary drainage: evaluation of a new closed drainage system.

Blenkarn JI, McPherson GAD, Blumgart LH.

American Journal of Surgery 1984; **147**: 318-21

Streptococcal bacteraemia in hepatobiliary operations.

Blenkarn JI, Blumgart LH.

Surgery, Gynecology & Obstetrics 1985; **160**: 139-41

Colonoscopy-related endotoxaemia.

Kelley CJ, Ingoldby CJH, **Blenkarn JI**, Wood CB.

Surgery, Gynecology & Obstetrics 1985; **161**: 332-4

Prevention of bacteriuria during urinary catheterisation of patients in intensive care units: evaluation of the Ureofix 500 closed drainage system.

Blenkarn JI.

Journal of Hospital Infection 1985; **6**: 187-93

Biological activity of polynoxylin - an insoluble urea-formaldehyde condensation product.

Blenkarn JI.

Journal of Clinical and Hospital Pharmacy 1985; **10**: 367-72

A randomised controlled trial of pre-operative oral ursodeoxycholic acid in obstructive jaundice.

Thompson JN, Cohen J, McConnell JS, Matkin J, **Blenkarn JI**, Blumgart LH.

British Journal of Surgery 1985; **72**: 1027

Decreased biliary excretion of piperacillin after percutaneous relief of extrahepatic obstructive jaundice.

Blenkarn JI, Habib N, Mok D, John L, McPherson GAD, Gibson R, Blumgart LH, Benjamin IS.

Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy 1985; **28**: 778-80



Isolation of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* from bile.

Blenkharn JI, Blumgart LH.

Journal of Infection 1986; **12**: 175-8

Infectious complications following pancreatic surgery.

Blenkharn JI, Blumgart LH.

Digestive Surgery 1986; **2**: 65-9

A randomised clinical trial of oral ursodeoxycholic acid in obstructive jaundice.

Thompson JN, Cohen J, **Blenkharn JI**, McConnell JS, Barr J, Blumgart LH.

British Journal of Surgery 1986; **73**: 634-636

Prevention of septic complications associated with TPN.

Blenkharn JI.

Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition 1986; **10**: 436-7

Expectant management of patients with unilateral hepatic duct stricture and liver atrophy.

Hadjis N, Carr D, **Blenkharn JI**, Banks L, Gibson RN, Blumgart LH.

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