



European Monitoring Group on Meningococci
8th Meeting

Scientific Programme

Wednesday 7th September 2005

14.00 – 18.00hrs: [EU-IBIS meeting](#)

Closed meeting restricted to EU-IBIS participants

Thursday 8th September 2005

08.15 – 08.30

Welcome

Mary Cafferkey, Irish Meningococcal and Meningitis Reference Laboratory

Opening Address

Ms Mary Harney TD,

Tánaiste and Minister for Health and Children, Government of Ireland

08.30-12.15

[Session 1](#)

[EU-IBIS & Epidemiology](#)

Moderator: Mary Ramsay (UK)

08.30-09.00

[European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control \(ECDC\)](#)

1.1

[Overview of ECDC](#)

Karl Ek Dahl (SWE)

09.00-09.15

[EU-MenNet Keynote Address](#)

1.2

[EU-MenNet Overview](#)

Matthias Frosch (GER)

09.15-09.45

[EU-IBIS Keynote Addresses](#)

1.3

[The Epidemiology and Surveillance of Meningococcal Disease in Europe](#)

Mary Ramsay (UK) and Caroline Trotter (UK)

[EU-IBIS & Epidemiology Free Papers](#)

09.45-10.00

1.4

[EU-MenNet: Genetic characterisation of European meningococcal disease isolates](#)

[C. Brehony](#), M.C.J. Maiden, K.A. Jolley and the EU-MenNet Consortium

10.00-10.15

1.5

[Ascertainment of invasive meningococcal disease in Germany, 2003: Capture-Recapture Analysis of cases reported to the national statutory surveillance system and cases with diagnostic testing at the National Reference Centre for Meningococci](#)

[A. Schrauder](#), H. Claus, J. Elias, U. Vogel, W. Hass, W. Hellenbrand, R. Koch

10.15-10.30

Discussion

10.30-11.00

Coffee/Tea Break

EU-IBIS & Epidemiology continued

Moderators: James Stuart (UK) and Martin Maiden (UK)

Free Papers continued

- 11.00-11.15 1.6 **Spatio-temporal analysis of meningococcal disease in Germany (2002-2005)**
J. Elias, D. Harmsen, H. Claus, C. Meinhardt, M. Frosch, U. Vogel
- 11.15-11.30 1.7 **ST-23 complex of *Neisseria meningitidis* Y emerging in the Czech Republic**
P. Kriz, M. Musilek, J. Kalmusova
- 11.30-12.00 **Epidemiology Keynote address**
1.8 **What is the evidence for Public Health Management of meningococcal disease?**
James Stuart (UK)
- 12.00-12.15 **Discussion**

12.15-13.15 Session 2 **The meningococcus and clinical disease**

Moderator: Simon Nadel (UK)

- 12.15-12.45 **Clinical Aspects Keynote Address**
2.1 **Clinical aspects of meningococcal disease**
Petter Brandtzaeg (Nor)
- 12.45-13.05 2.2 **Meningococci: are some strains more virulent than others?**
Simon Kroll
- 13.05-13.15 **Discussion**

13.15-14.15 **Lunch Break & Poster walk**

14.15–1700 Session 3 **Overview of Strain characterisation & New methods of typing**

Moderators: Andrew Fox (UK), Ulrich Vogel (Ger)

- 14.15-14.45 **Strain Characterisation Keynote Address 1**
3.1 **Phenotypic and genotypic methods for strain characterisation for meningococci - Reference Laboratory perspective**
Andrew Fox, S. Gray, A. Carr, L. Newbold, R. Unwin, E. Kaczmarek (UK)

- 14.45-15.15** **Strain Characterisation Keynote Address 2**
- 3.2 **DNA sequence based fine typing of meningococci: A great progress with some limitations**
Ulrich Vogel (Ger)
- 14.45-15.00** **3.3** **Strain Characterisation Free Papers**
An update on the provision of monoclonal antibodies used to characterise meningococci
C. Vipond, J. Suker , I. Feavers
- 15.00-15.15** **3.4** **Sequencing of PorB gene: a tool for the characterisation of *Neisseria meningitidis* nonserotypable strains**
R. Abad, C. Salcedo, R. Enriquez, B. Alcala, MJ. Uria, JA. Vazquez,
- 15.15-15.30** **3.5** **How to detect PorA protein deficiency with a combined phenotypic and genetic approach**
P. Molling, S. Jacobsson, S. Thulin, P. Olcen
- 15.30-15.45** **3.6** **Strain characterisation: towards the routine use of molecular methods in the National Reference Laboratory**
J. Kalmusova, M. Musilek, P. Kriz
- 15.45-16.00** **3.7** **Design and evaluation of a CustomSeq microarray for genotypic characterisation of *Neisseria meningitidis***
C.E. Corless, R Barrow, E Kaczmarski, M Guiver
- 16.00-16.15** **3.8** **Meningococcal serogenotype determination using Luminex xMAP flow analysis technology**
C.E. Corless, R.Borrow, M. Guiver, E. Kaczmarski,
- 16.45-17.00** **Discussion**
- 17.00-17.30** **Coffee/Tea Break**
- 17.30-18.30** **EMGM General Meeting including Working Group reports**

Friday 9th September 2005

08.15-09.10 Session 4 Safety

Moderator: Ed Kaczmarek (UK)

08.15-08.35 4.1 Laboratory acquired meningococcal disease or co-incident infection?
How does a laboratory respond to this issue?

D. Martin, A. Glennie, N. Ruijne

08.35-08.55 4.2 Safe working with meningococci

Steve J. Gray, E. Kaczmarek

08.55-09.10 Discussion

09.10-11.30 Session 5. Antibiotics: treatment, prophylaxis, resistance and molecular detection of resistance

Moderators: Muhamed-Kheir Taha (FRA) and Julio Vazquez (ESP)

09.10-09.40 Antibiotics Keynote Address

5.1 Selected issues in the use of antibiotics for the prevention and treatment of meningococcal disease

Colin Block (ISR)

Free Papers

09.40-09.55 5.2 Additional isolates of *Neisseria meningitidis* with decreased susceptibility of ciprofloxacin in Spain

R. Enriquez, R. Abad, C. Salcedo, B. Alcalá, M.J. Uria, J.A. Vazquez

09.55-10.10 5.3 Penicillin susceptibility testing of Irish *Neisseria meningitidis* isolates and molecular analysis

D.E. Bennett, M.T. Cafferkey,

10.10-10.30 Coffee/Tea Break

Free Papers continued

10.30-10.45 5.4 Molecular basis for reduced susceptibility to penicillin G in Swedish *Neisseria meningitidis* isolates

S. Thulin, P. Olcen, H. Fredlund, M. Unemo

10.45-11.00 5.5 Interlaboratory comparison of PCR-based detection of susceptibility to penicillin G in *Neisseria meningitidis*

M-K. Taha, M.L. Zarantonelli, A. Neri, J. Vazquez, P. Stefanelli

11.00-11.15 Discussion

11.15-13.00 Session 6 Global Epidemiology

Moderator: Dominique Caugant (NOR)

Invited Talks

- 11.15-11.30 6.1 **The global burden of meningococcal disease**
Montse Soriano-Gabarro
- 11.30-11.45 6.2 **Meningococcal disease in Africa**
Marie-Pierre Preziosi
- 11.45-12.00 6.3 **High meningococcal meningitis activity in Asia and India in 2005**
Eric Bertherat, K. Fernandez and W. Perea
- 12.00-12.15 6.4 **Meningococcal disease in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**
Yagob Almazrou
- 12.15-12.30 6.5 **Meningococcal disease in South America**
Julio Vazquez
- 12.30-12.45 6.6 **Free Paper**
Genetic and Antigenic Characterisation of Serogroup A *Neisseria meningitidis* strains from Ethiopia from 2002-03 and 1988-89
G. Norheim, E. Rosenqvist, A. Aseffa, MA. Yassin, G. Mengistu, A. Kassu, D. Fikremariam, W. Tamire, , Y. Merid, E.A. Hoiby, M. Harboe, T. Alabel, D. Caugant
- 12.45-13.00 **Discussion**

13.00-14.15 **Lunch Break & Poster walk**

14.15-17.15 Session 7 Experience with the available vaccines

Moderators: Per Olcen (SWE) and Ray Borrow (UK)

Group C conjugate vaccines

- 14.15-14.25 7.1 **MenC immunisation in Europe**
Caroline Trotter
- 14.25-14.35 7.2 **Intensified surveillance after introduction of vaccination against meningococcal C disease in The Netherlands**
S. de Greff, L. Spanjaard, M. van Deuren, H. Ruijs, A. van der Ende, A. Timen, M. de Vries, L. Schouls, H. de Melker

- 14.35-14.45 7.3 **An update of the meningococcal C conjugate vaccine effectiveness in Spain four years after its introduction**
R. Cano, A. Larrauri, M. Garcia, S. de Mateo
- 14.45-14.55 7.4 **Changes in circulating meningococcal population since MenC vaccine introduction in Ireland**
D. E. Bennett, M.T. Cafferkey
- 14.55-15.05 7.5 **Effect of the conjugate serogroup C-polysaccharide vaccine on the carriage and population structure of *Neisseria meningitidis***
A.B. Ibrah-Pavon, R. Unwin, M.C.J. Maiden
- 15.05-15.20 7.6 **On vaccine failures and waning immunity**
 Ray Borrow
- 15.20-15.30 **Group C conjugate vaccines Discussion**
- Group B OMV vaccines**
- 15.30-16.10 7.7 **The New Zealand vaccine and the NZ experience of vaccination**
 D. Martin, P. Oster and colleagues
- 16.10-16.20 **Discussion of New Zealand experience**
- 16.20-16.40 **Coffee/Tea Break**
- 16.40-16.55 7.8 **Cross protective effect of OMV vaccines? The Normandie discussions**
 Muhamed-Kheir Taha
- 16.55-17.00 **Cross-protection Discussion**
- 17.00-17.30 **What's new in vaccines and Poster Overview**
 Ian Feavers
- 17.30–18.00 Session 8**
"Where do we go from here?"
- Conclusions**
Take home messages
Future work
 Andrew Fox, Matthias Frosch, Martin Maiden & Mary Ramsay