**COVID 19: KNOWN UNKNOWNS**

***Facing up to scientific uncertainty during a pandemic***

**Friday 20th November 2020**

8.45-9.00 **Welcome and Introduction**

**Welcome**: Dr Fiona Godlee, *Editor British Medical Journal*

**Introduction**: Professor George Davey Smith, *Director of the MRC Integrative Epidemiology Unit (IEU), University of Bristol*

**MC:** Dr Phil Hammond, *GP, journalist and broadcaster*

Regional responses

***Chair: Professor Helen Lambert,*** *Professor of Medical Anthropology, University of Bristol*

9.00-9.15 **New Zealand**: Professor Michael Baker, *Department of Public Health, University of Otago, Wellington, New Zealand*

9.15-9.30 **India** – Dr Ramanan Laxminarayan, *Director and Senior Fellow, Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics and Policy, New Delhi, India*

9.30-9.45 **East Asia** – Professor Gabriel Leung, *Dean of Medicine, University of Hong Kong*

*9.45-10.00* **Discussion**

Covid: what we need to know

***Chair: Dr Fiona Godlee****, Editor British Medical Journal*

10.00-10.15 **Survey data** – Professor Helen Ward, *Professor of Public Health, Imperial College London*

10.15-10.30 **Morbidity data** – Dr Nisreen Alwan, *Associate Professor in Public Health, University of Southampton*

10.30-10.45 **Transmission routes and dynamics** – Dr Muge Cevik, *Clinical Lecturer, University of St Andrews*

10.45-11.00 **Discussion**

11.00-11.15 BREAK

**Chair: Dr Phil Hammond**, *GP, journalist and broadcaster*

11.15-11.30 **Disease X** - Dr Mark Honigsbaum, *Senior Lecturer in Journalism, City, University of London*

11.30-11.45 **Discussion**

Interventions

***Chair: Professor Jonathan Sterne****, Professor of Medical Statistics and Epidemiology, University of Bristol*

11.45-12.00 **Non-pharmaceutical interventions** - Professor Lucy Yardley, *Professor, School of Psychological Science, University of Bristol*

12.00-12.15 **Vaccines** – Professor Adam Finn*, Professor of Paediatrics*, *University of Bristol*

12.15-12.30 **Treatment** – Professor Peter Horby, *Professor of Emerging Infectious Disease and Global Health, Nuffield Department of Medicine, University of Oxford*

12.30-12.45 **Discussion**

12.45-13.00 Lunch/break

Testing

1.00-2.00**Round table chaired by Dominic Mellon***, Lead Consultant in Health Protection, Public Health England South West*

Including speakers and: Dr Susan Hopkins, Prof Ewan Birney, Dr Margaret McCartney, Dr Angela Raffle, Prof Raj Bhopal, Prof Caroline Relton and Prof Allyson Pollock.

Modelling

***Chair:* Professor Allyson Pollock**, Clinical Professor of Public Health, Newcastle University

14.00-14.15 **Effects of interventions** - Dr Adam Kucharski, *Associate Professor, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine*

14.15-14-30 **Implications of heterogeneity** - Dr Gabriela Gomes, *Professor, Mathematics and Statistics, University of Strathclyde*

14.30-14.45 **Long term prospects** - Professor Marc Lipsitch, *Professor of Epidemiology, Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, USA*

14.45-15.00 **Discussion**

15.00-15.15 Break

Regional responses

***Chair:* DrMichelle Kelly Irving**, *Inserm scientist, University of Toulouse, France*

15.15-15.30 **Africa** – Dr Marguerite Massinga Loembé – *Senior Consultant Laboratory Advisor, Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), Africa*

15.30-15.45 **Norway**: Professor Camilla Stoltenberg, *Director General,* *Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Oslo, Norway*

15.45-16.00 **Sweden**: Professor Johan Giesecke, *Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden*

16.00-16.15 **Discussion**

Communicating covid data and science

***Chair: Michael Blastland****, Freelance writer and broadcaster, Winton Centre for Risk and Evidence Communication, University of Cambridge*

16.15– 16.30Robert Cuffe, *Head of Statistics at BBC News*

16.30-16.45 Professor David Spiegelhalter, *Winton Professor of the Public Understanding of Risk at Faculty of Mathematics, University of Cambridge*

16.45-17.00 Deborah Cohen, *UK Correspondent, BBC Newsnight*

17.00-17.15 Fiona Fox, *Chief Executive, Science Media Centre*

17.15-17.30 **Discussion**

17.30-17.45 **Wrap up**

Dr Fiona Godlee, *Editor British Medical Journal*

Professor George Davey Smith, *Director of the MRC Integrative Epidemiology Unit (IEU), University of Bristol*