Spread of Infectious Diseases in Indoor Environments: A Way Forward
Panel Discussion

ISIAQ Webinar Series: Spread of Infectious Diseases in Indoor Environments
Tuesday, June 16 @ 1pm UTC

Dr. Amy Kirby
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
USA

Catherine Noakes CEng, FIMechE, FIHEEM
Professor of Environmental Engineering for Buildings
Deputy Director Leeds Institute for Fluid Dynamics
School of Civil Engineering
University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

William P. Bahnfleth, PhD, PE, FASHRAE, FASME, FISIAQ
Professor of Architectural Engineering
The Pennsylvania State University

Professor Torben Sigsgaard
Department of Public Health - Institute of Environmental and Occupational Medicine
Aarhus University, Denmark

Dr. M. Khalid Ijaz
D.V.M., M.Sc. (Honors), Ph.D., FRSPH
Senior Research Fellow, Global Research & Development for Lysol and Dettol, Reckitt Benckiser LLC
Montvale, New Jersey
Adjunct Professor, Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York (CUNY), Brooklyn, NY
Fellow of Royal Society of Public Health (UK)

Professor Yuguo Li
Department of Mechanical Engineering and School of Public Health
The University of Hong KongPokfulam Road
Hong Kong SAR, China

Bios:

Yuguo Li is Chair Professor of Building Environment, Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Honorary Professor, School of Public Health, at The University of Hong Kong. He studied at Shanghai Jiaotong University, Tsinghua and KTH in Stockholm, and was a Principal Research Scientist at CSIRO, Australia. His main research interests are on building environment engineering (indoor air quality, city climate, and environment studies of infection). He led the development of 2009 WHO guidelines on natural ventilation. He currently serves as Editor-in-chief of Indoor Air and was the President of ISIAQ Academy of Fellows.
Catherine Noakes is a Professor of Environmental Engineering for Buildings in the School of Civil Engineering at the University of Leeds. She is a chartered mechanical engineer with a background in fluid dynamics, and expertise in ventilation and indoor air quality. Her research group conduct experimental and modelling based studies, with a strong focus understanding the influence of the environment on the transmission of disease through air and surface contact routes, and evaluating the effectiveness of engineering control approaches. She has been an investigator on projects funded by UK research councils (EPSRC, MRC, AHRC), Department of Health and US CDC which have supported 11 postdoctoral researchers/KTP associates and 14 PhD students, and have allowed her to work with researchers across a wide range of disciplines. She has over 100 peer reviewed journal and conference papers and has supported the development of guidance for CIBSE, the NHS and UK government. Cath is Deputy Director of Leeds Institute for Fluid Dynamics and Co-director of the EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Fluid Dynamics.

William Bahnfleth is a professor of architectural engineering at Penn State University in the US where he teaches and conducts research on HVAC systems. He holds a PhD in mechanical engineering and is a Registered Professional Engineer. Dr. Bahnfleth is a Fellow of ASHRAE, ASME, and ISIAQ. Dr. Bahnfleth’s primary current research area is indoor air quality, in particular, microbial control with optical radiation. He is the author of over 180 papers and co-author of 14 books and book chapters. He is a past president of ASHRAE (2013-2014) and currently chairs the ASHRAE Epidemic Task Force. He is a recipient of the ASHRAE Exceptional Service Award, Louise and Bill Holladay Distinguished Fellow Award, E.K. Campbell Award (for teaching), and F. Paul Anderson Award, ASHRAE’s highest honor for technical achievement. He is also a recipient of the Penn State Engineering Alumni Society World Class Faculty Award.
Professor Torben Sigsgaard is head of the Danish Centre for Indoor air and Health in Dwellings with more than 40 researchers working actively with indoor air and health. His research interest covers the outdoor, indoor and occupational environment. The methods span epidemiology, exposure estimations and human toxicology. The group hosts one of the best human exposure facilities in the world, and indoor air research has been performed here for more than 50 years. Dr. Sigsgaard’s primary research interests include the human environmental interaction underlying the pathogenesis in allergy, asthma, and inflammatory respiratory disease. For many years Hygiene hypothesis proposes that, since the advent of increased hygiene in urban civilizations.

Dr. M. Khalid Ijaz, D.V.M., M.Sc. (Honors), Ph.D., FRSPH Dr. Ijaz is Senior Research Fellow at Global Research & Development for Lysol and Dettol, Reckitt Benckiser LLC, based in Montvale, New Jersey. Additionally, he’s an adjunct faculty at Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York (CUNY), Brooklyn, NY. He has been on the faculty in different international medical, pharmacy & veterinary schools. He obtained his DVM, MSc (Honors) both from the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Pakistan and his Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology from the University of Ottawa, Canada, where he worked on aerobiology of rota- and human coronaviruses. He did post-doctoral work at the Vaccines and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO), University of Saskatchewan, Canada. His current research focuses on human pathogens’ spread via the environment and mitigational role of hygiene agents. He is an active member of various national and international scientific societies. Last year he was elected Fellow of Royal Society of Public Health (UK).
Dr. Amy Kirby is an Environmental Microbiologist in the Waterborne Disease Prevention Branch at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). She has a Bachelor’s of Science in Agriculture (BSA, major: Microbiology) from the University of Georgia, a PhD in Microbiology from the University of Buffalo, and a Master’s of Public Health in Epidemiology from Emory University. At CDC, Dr. Kirby studies antibiotic resistant (AR) bacteria in natural and man-made water systems. She is currently deployed to the COVID-19 response as part of the Community Interventions and At Risk Task Force, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Team. As part of that team, she is leading the evaluation of sewage surveillance as a measure of community prevalence.