

Emerging Infections and Biohazards in Australia

A symposium to mark the opening of the Emerging Infections
& Biohazard Response Unit (EIBRU)

ALERT BUT NOT ALARMED – PLANNING FOR UNKNOWN BIOLOGICAL THREATS

WEDNESDAY, 15TH AUGUST, 2007,
JOHN LOEWENTHAL AUDITORIUM, EDUCATION BLOCK, WESTMEAD HOSPITAL

- Chairperson:** Professor Lyn Gilbert
8.30-9:15 **Registration**
- 9:15-9:25 Introduction and welcome to Westmead - **Prof Steven Boyages** (Chief Executive, SWAHS)
- 9:25-9:45 Introduction to the EIBRU and virtual tour video – **Prof Lyn Gilbert** (Director, Centre for Infectious Diseases & Microbiology)
- 9:45-11:45 **INFLUENZA AND PANDEMIC PLANNING – THE UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE; ARE WE READY?**
Public Health:
National: **Dr Jenean Spencer** (Director, Pandemic Preparedness Section, Health Protection Policy Branch, Dept of Health & Ageing, Canberra)
State: **Dr Paul Armstrong** (Director, Bio preparedness Unit, NSW Dept of Health)
Laboratory:
National: **Dr Dominic Dwyer** (Medical Virologist, Centre for Infectious Diseases & Microbiology)
International: **Prof Anne Kelso** (Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Influenza, Victoria)
- Panel discussion**
- 11:45-12:15 **MORNING TEA**
- 12:15-12:50 **SUSPICIOUS INCIDENTS AND UNKNOWN AGENTS**
White powder – aspirin, amphetamine or anthrax?
Dr Tony Raymond (Director, National Institute of Forensic Science Victoria)
Tracing the sources of suspicious substances
Dr Bronwyn Morrish (Team Leader, Australian CBRN data centre, AFP, Canberra)
- 12:50-13:50 *Hypothetical* - Moderator: **Prof Lyn Gilbert**
An unknown powder is found in a public place and an anonymous message threatens that anyone who touches it will die
Panel: **Ms Rebecca Hoile** (Forensic Microbiologist, NSW Police);
Richard Wood Head, NSW Police Forensic Counterterrorism and Victim Identification Unit
Mr Greg James (Senior Hospital Scientist, EIBRU)
Dr Kerry Chant (Director, Health Protection & Deputy CHO, NSW Dept of Health)
Mr Wayne Geddes (NSW Health Media)
Dr Bronwyn Morrish (Team Leader, Australian CBRN data centre, AFP, Canberra)
- 13:50-14:30 **LUNCH**
- 14:30-16:00 **EMERGING INFECTIONS AND BIOHAZARDS**
Mosquito-borne disease in a changing climate
Prof Richard Russell (Director of Medical Entomology, CIDM)
Securitisation of infectious diseases
Dr Christian Enemark (Centre for International Security Studies; USYD)
Ethical Aspects of Infectious Diseases
Prof Ian Kerridge (Centre for Values Ethics and the Law in Medicine, USYD)
- Panel discussion**
- 16:00 **Drinks – kindly sponsored by the Westmead Association**

WESTMEAD ASSOCIATION