



Royal College of Surgeons,  
 35/43 Lincoln's Inn Fields,  
 London, WC2A 3PE  
 T. 0207 405 3474

# Reducing Risk of CJD Transmission

Attendees:

Organisation:

Tel/Fax:

Email Address:

**Please fax this form back to 01483 771507**

Please direct any enquiries regarding the organisation of the event to Margaret Parton  
 Hollywood House, Church Street East, Woking, GU21 1HJ  
 Tel: 01483 713329 Email: [margaret.parton@businesslinksurrey.co.uk](mailto:margaret.parton@businesslinksurrey.co.uk)

Please direct any enquiries regarding the programme to Professor Alan Colchester  
 Tel: 01227 827200 Email: [a.colchester@ukc.ac.uk](mailto:a.colchester@ukc.ac.uk)



4.00pm - 6.00pm Wednesday 4th April 2001 at the Royal College of Surgeons



# Reducing Risk of CJD Transmission



## Challenges and Opportunities

CJD can theoretically be transmitted between individuals. Because of the resistance of the prion agent to conventional sterilisation, special precautions are taken if known cases have surgery. Unfortunately, with the emergence of variant CJD there could now be large numbers of apparently healthy people incubating the disease. The Department of Health has assigned a budget of more than £200 million to put into place precautionary measures which include the following:

- Improved identification of patients who may be at risk of developing CJD
- Improved cleaning and sterilisation standards
- Labelling and tracing all re-usable instruments and equipment
- Introduction of disposable instruments wherever practicable

The measures pose a significant challenge to healthcare providers but, at the same time, there are important opportunities for industry. Providers of the following will find the meeting of interest:

*sterilisation equipment, cleaning and sterilising agents, apparatus to detect contamination, diagnostic tests for use on tissue specimens, labelling of stainless steel instruments and delicate equipment, logistic support for instrument tracing.*

This meeting, organised by the Southern Medical Alliance in conjunction with the Kent Institute of Medicine and Health Sciences, will provide a stimulating overview of these issues.

## Programme

**4.00pm - 6.00pm Wednesday 4th April 2001**

at the Royal College of Surgeons,  
35/43 Lincolns Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PE

**4.00pm – 4.10pm** Professor Alan Colchester  
Professor of Clinical Neuroscience, Kent Institute of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Kent  
Consultant Neurologist, Guy's and St. Thomas' Trust  
**Welcome and Introduction - challenges for healthcare providers and opportunities for industry**

**4.10pm – 4.40pm** Professor Alan Colchester  
**CJD: The Background**

- What is CJD?
- What are the different types?
- How can prions be transmitted?
- Previous cases who have acquired the disease from other patients

**4.40pm – 5.10pm** Dr John Stephenson  
Scientific Programme Manager for CJD Research in the Department of Health  
**Prion decontamination: how to kill a non-living replicating agent**

- Theoretical risks of transmission in the era of variant CJD
- Evolution of DoH policy on measures to reduce risks
- DoH-sponsored research into novel methods of detection and decontamination

**5.10pm – 5.40pm** Beverley McNeil (BSc Hons) Dip N RGN  
Theatre Sister, East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust  
**Implementing current DoH guidelines for minimising the risk of transmission of CJD within the hospital environment**

- Current DoH guidelines
- Implementing DoH guidelines in a hospital environment
- Educating staff about procedures
- How do we monitor compliance?

**5.40pm – 6.00pm** Discussion  
**An opportunity for all participants to respond to the presentations**

**6.00pm** Discussion continues over supper