The Cervicovaginal Microbiome, Bacterial Vaginosis and a Career Devoted to Improving Sexual Health

The King’s Fund, Cavendish Square, London

18th March 2016; 12:00 – 15:30

Chair: Michael Perry

12:00 – 13:00 Exhibition

13:00 – 13:05 Chair’s Introduction

13:05 – 13:40 Sexually Transmitted Infections and the Cervicovaginal Microbiome
Professor Janneke van de Wijgert, University of Liverpool

13:40 – 14:15 Bacterial Vaginosis is merely an imbalance in vaginal ecology and not a sexually transmitted infection
Dr Phillip Hay, St George’s Hospital
Dr Janet Wilson, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

14:15 – 15:00 BASHH Honorary Life Fellowship Lecture – BASHH, Bugs and Me!
Professor Cathy Ison, Chair of the BASHH Bacterial Special Interest Group

15:00 – 15:30 TEA/COFFEE

This meeting was kindly sponsored by Becton Dickinson UK Ltd, Cepheid UK Ltd, Hologic Ltd, Kora Healthcare, Roche Diagnostics Ltd and Sekisui Diagnostic
**Professor Janneke van de Wijgert** is a clinical epidemiologist at the University of Liverpool, Institute of Infection and Global Health. The focus of her research has been prevention, diagnosis and treatment of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections in resource-poor HIV endemic settings, including clinical trials of new prevention technologies and diagnostics. More recently, her research has focused on the role of the urogenital microbiome in health and disease.

**Dr. Phillip Hay** is Reader and Honorary Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV Medicine St. George's Hospital, London. He trained at St. Thomas's Hospital, London, qualifying in 1983. He trained in Infectious Diseases and Genitourinary Medicine in Oxford, Edinburgh and St. Mary’s Hospital, London before starting at St. George’s in 1992. He leads the clinical trials team at St. George’s doing phase 2-4 studies of antiretroviral drugs, treatments for co-morbidities, treatments for STIs and diagnostic tests. He has a particular interest in infections in pregnancy; participating in a mother and baby HIV clinic, family clinic and recurrent vaginal discharge clinic. He is on the BHIVA pregnancy guidelines committee and the bacterial special interest group of BASHH. He has published widely on clinical aspects of HIV infection, PK of antiretrovirals in pregnant women and neonates and on STIs particularly bacterial vaginosis in pregnancy and chlamydia and PID.

**Dr Janet Wilson** has been a Consultant in Sexual Health and HIV at Leeds since 1991. She was President of the British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) from 2012 to 2014 and is the Secretary General of the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI). Her main areas of research are the clinical application and cost-effectiveness of diagnostic tests, managing recurrent vaginal infections and infections in pregnancy.

**Professor Catherine Ison** retired in December 2013 as Head of the Sexually Transmitted Bacteria Reference Unit at Public Health England, Colindale, London. Her main research interests have been the surveillance, molecular epidemiology and genetic basis of antimicrobial resistance in gonorrhoea. She was Project Lead for the Gonococcal Resistance to Antimicrobials Surveillance Programme (GRASP) for England & Wales and was the co-ordinator for the microbiology component of ESSTI and Euro-GASP. She was the founder member of the Bacterial Special Interest Group and remains as its Chair. She continues to review and edit for a number of journals.