

Professor Hugh Pennington

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Making predictions is difficult - particularly about the future! So Sam Goldwyn said. A better motto for Evolution is hard to find. It reminds us that one of the biggest challenges for Public Health is being ready for new microbes. A good way forward is to learn from experience. This talk will be a personal view of recent challenges: E.coli O 15 7, MRSA, BSE, FMDV, SARS, H5N1, and a bit of history.

Professor Pennington has made significant contributions to medical microbiology, both in relation to the development of the science and enhancing public awareness of infectious diseases. He is President of the Society for General Microbiology, a member of the Scottish Food Advisory Committee (Food Standards Agency), the BBC Rural Affairs Advisory Committee, Vice-Chair of the Broadcasting Council for Scotland, and Director of the Rowett and Moredun Research Institutes.