



Professor Bill Keevil, Chair in Environmental Healthcare, University of Southampton, UK

Bill is Professor of Environmental Healthcare and Heads the Microbiology Group in Biological Sciences at University of Southampton, working on rapid detection of infectious agents in the natural and built environments, and developing decontamination strategies for antimicrobial resistant bacteria, biofilms, viruses and prions. He formerly worked as Head of Microbial Technology Department and Scientific Leader at CAMR, Porton Down where he developed the continuous culture biofilm fermenter, and artificial urine and saliva media for biofilm studies. He gave the first description of 3D polymicrobial biofilm structures and initiated his work on antimicrobial copper in drinking water systems. He moved to University of Southampton as Director of the Environmental Healthcare Unit in 2001 where he elucidated the mechanisms of antimicrobial copper touch surfaces which have now been translated into practical use in hospitals and public transport systems worldwide. He was co-inventor of the EDIC microscope for high resolution detection of bacteria, biofilms and CJD prions on complex surfaces, and a member of the Department of Health Decontamination Working Group investigating new cleaning methods to remove CJD prions and biofilms from surgical instruments and endoscopes. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology and former Scientific Advisor to the House of Commons Science & Technology Committee.