

Research Networks | A Case Study

NETWORK NAME: Edinburgh Infectious Diseases

RESEARCH AREA: Infectious Diseases

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Edinburgh
Infectious
Diseases

Summarise your network in just three words:

1. Inclusive
2. Collaborative
3. Connected

Tell us about your Research Network?

Edinburgh Infectious Diseases is the network of over 1000 scientists over 250 research groups, actively working in infectious disease research across the city of Edinburgh. The network is coordinated by the University of Edinburgh and includes other Edinburgh partner institutions, including NHS Lothian, the Moredun Research Institute, and Heriot Watt, Edinburgh Napier and Queen Margaret Universities.

Members have an extremely broad spectrum of backgrounds and research interests, including basic, clinical and veterinary sciences, bioethics and social science, from all Colleges at the UoE. They come from all career stages – including undergraduates, Msc and PhD students, postdoctoral researchers and group leaders. In FY2022/23 our members were awarded over £43M in competitive funding awards, and in 2023 published over 400 peer-reviewed papers.

Our activities are aimed at building a vibrant and integrated community of infectious diseases researchers that actively engages in the development of multidisciplinary collaborations. The Network links members via e-communications, topic-focused workshops, and larger symposia, creating an environment where new partnerships can be forged, developed and supported. We

also have close relationships with Edinburgh Innovations, the University's commercialisation service, who support knowledge exchange and industrial partnerships.

The environment created by the connected, collaborative community of researchers within Edinburgh Infectious Diseases, underpinned by world class laboratory and clinical facilities, serves to make Edinburgh one of the foremost places in Europe for infectious disease research.

What type of events/Initiatives does your network run?

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In addition to the network-wide activities we also support more focussed groupings including the Edinburgh Antimicrobial Resistance Forum, the Fleming Fund Fellowship Scheme, and the Wellcome Trust 4-year PhD programmes in One Health Models of Disease (in the R(D)SVS) and Hosts Pathogens and Global Health (in the School of Biological Sciences).

What does your network do to support and build communities and research collaborations?

We produce a weekly newsletter with details of seminars and events across the city, local job openings, and other activities that are relevant to our members. Our annual symposia and other workshops are intended as catalysts for wider engagement and collaboration, and facilitated funding-focussed discussions support development of interdisciplinary research proposals. EID also represents its members' research through varied interactions with stakeholders, including funders and industry.

What would be the benefits of being part of your network?

Being part of a welcoming, community of researchers and clinicians, that facilitates connections with colleagues across disciplines and campuses. EID will help broaden networks, facilitate interdisciplinary approaches and offer support for all infection-researchers.

How can researchers get involved?

If you would like to get involved, please visit our website, to sign up to our weekly newsletter, or drop us an email.

- **www:** www.ed.ac.uk/edinburgh-infectious-diseases
- **Email:** eid@ed.ac.uk

