

# **Recent Advances in Anaerobic Bacteriology**

**S.P. Borriello and J.M. Hardie**  
editors in chief

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Clinical Microbiology**

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# RECENT ADVANCES IN ANAEROBIC BACTERIOLOGY

Proceedings of the fourth Anaerobic Discussion Group Symposium held  
at Churchill College, University of Cambridge, July 26–28, 1985

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## PREFACE

The Anaerobe Discussion Group (ADG) has organised four International Symposia, all at Churchill College, Cambridge. The first was held in July 1979, the second in July 1981, the third in July 1983, and this, the fourth, on July 26-28th, 1985. The proceedings of each of these meetings have been published (see below).

As on previous occasions, the scientific programme was designed to appeal to the wide range of interests represented by ADG members. The meeting was attended by delegates from all over the world, including medical microbiologists, veterinarians, dentists, biochemists, geneticists and scientists from several other disciplines, all of whom share a common interest in anaerobic micro-organisms. The interchange of scientific information and ideas between the delegates in such pleasant surroundings was, as always, a valuable and rewarding experience.

Unlike previous Biennial Symposia in the series, this meeting was sponsored by a number of companies rather than by a single sponsor. Despite some initial concern by the organising committee, this arrangement worked well and we are extremely grateful to all the companies who supported the meeting so generously. The names of the sponsors are listed individually in the acknowledgements section. We were also very pleased to welcome those companies who took part in the Trade Show during the meeting.

This book contains the papers given by invited contributors, followed by abstracts of the poster demonstration presented at the meeting.

S.P. Borriello  
J.M. Hardie

List of Published Proceedings of Previous ADG Symposia

1. Pathogenic, Immunological and Therapeutic Aspects of Anaerobic Infections. Edited by J.G. Collee and S. Tabaqchali. Research and Clinical Forums 1, No.3. (1979)
2. Control of the Alimentary Flora in Health and Disease. Edited by S. Tabaqchali and the Steering Committee of the Anaerobe Discussion Group, The European Journal of Chemotherapy and Antibiotics 2, No. 1 (1982).
3. Models of Anaerobic Infection. Edited by M.J.Hill and the Steering Committee of Anaerobe Discussion Group. Martinus Nijhoff (1984) ISBN 0-89838-688-8.

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The ADG committee are most grateful to Ms. Nina Liu for all her help with the organization of the 4th Biennial Symposium, and to Miss A.E. Hammerton and her staff at Churchill College, Cambridge, for the excellent local arrangements.

We are pleased to acknowledge the assistance received from the University of London Computer Centre, particularly Clare Steward and John Gilbert, and from Bob Nash and Jenny Wale at the London Hospital Medical College, during the preparation and editing of these proceedings.

No meeting of this kind can be organised without adequate financial support and we are extremely grateful to the following companies for their generous sponsorship:

Don Whitely Scientific Ltd.  
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In addition to these companies, bursaries to enable selected younger workers to attend the meeting were kindly provided by:

Abbott Laboratories Ltd.,  
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Photographs were taken by Mr. Phillip J. Reed, (Clinical Research Centre, Watford Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 3UJ).



ANAEROBE DISCUSSION GROUP

4th Biennial Symposium, Churchill College, Cambridge

26th - 28th July, 1986

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



From left to right:

Back row

David Jackson, Brian Capel, Michael Hudson, Peter  
Borriello

Front row

Jeremy Hardie, Nina Liu, Brian Duerden, Bo Drasar

(absent from photograph, Dick Lysons)

## INTRODUCTION TO THE ANAEROBE DISCUSSION GROUP

The Anaerobe Discussion Group (ADG) was formed in 1975 when 16 people working on various aspects of anaerobe bacteriology met at the Central Public Health Laboratory, London, to exchange information and ideas. The initial group included people interested in human infection, the human gut, dental bacteriology, veterinary bacteriology and toxicology and it quickly became apparent that the various subgroups could benefit greatly from each other's expertise, so we have attempted to maintain this mix of interests and, where possible, to extend it. The aim of this group is to raise the technical standards of anaerobic bacteriology to the maximum and to increase the general awareness of the function of anaerobic bacteria in health and disease, and in the environment. It holds three or four meetings a year, usually on Tuesday afternoons in or around London, although a few "country" meetings have been held further afield in recent years. Wherever possible, younger workers are encouraged to present their research findings at these half-day meetings.

Until recently the ADG had no formal constitution, but in 1985 a constitution was adopted and the group became the ADG Ltd. Over 250 names are on the mailing list and average attendance at the regular meetings during recent years has been around 60-70. Although many of the members are in the London area, an increasing number come from more distant parts of the country and abroad. The Biennial Symposia at Cambridge have always been particularly well attended (over 200 delegates in 1985) and have attracted contributors from many countries around the world.

The ADG is run by a committee, currently consisting of Jeremy Hardie (Chairman; London Hospital Medical College), Brian Capel (Treasurer; CAMR), Michael Hudson (CAMR), Brian Duerden (University of Sheffield Medical School), Richard Lysons (ARC, Compton), Bo Drasar (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine), Peter Borriello (Clinical Research Centre, Northwick Park Hospital) and David Jackson (May and Baker Ltd.).

The group especially welcomes people who are new to the field of anaerobic bacteriology, whatever their scientific background, and anyone interested in joining should contact one of the committee members. Presently, the membership fee is £3:00 p.a. for UK residents and £4:00 pa for overseas members. Fees may be paid in advance for periods of one or three years.

J.M. Hardie

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