

Society for General Microbiology,

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The Society for General Microbiology was formally inaugurated on 16 February 1945, at a meeting of Original Members in London. Sir Alexander Fleming was elected as the first President. SGM had its origins in the (then) Society of Agricultural Bacteriologists: a number of members of that society had wished to see a broadening of its interests and scope beyond agriculture, to embrace virology, medical and agricultural bacteriology, protozoology and mycology. The idea was to bring members from different backgrounds together to gain the benefits of interdisciplinary discussion and learning from each other. This aim of the founders is still, after more than half a century, central to the ethos of SGM. It underlies the growth of the Society, from 241 Original Members, to its present position as the largest microbiological learned society in Europe, with a total membership of over 5000. Scientific Meetings and Groups The first scientific meeting of the Society took place in Cambridge in July 1945, and in 1946 the first of the continuing series of spring Symposia was held. Meetings were also held in autumn and, from 1963, winter. This programme of three main meetings per year continued until 2001, when the winter meeting was dropped. The spring and autumn meetings increased in size, with many parallel sessions. There has been further development of more specialized events such as regional meetings and advanced training workshops, and joint meetings with other societies. From 1960, the Society began to recognize the formation of a number of discipline-based special interest Groups, which have played a crucial part in the inception and detailed planning of meetings. An Irish Branch was formed in the 1970s in response to demand for an active programme of meetings in Ireland, and thrives to this day. The Scottish Branch was discontinued as a result of improved travel links, and the Society's policy of increasingly locating its main meetings at universities around the UK. Recently, however, stronger links have been established with the Scottish Microbiology Society.

BioNews Results for Society for General Microbiology,

- [Susceptibility of Mycobacterium bovis BCG Vaccine Strains to Antituberculous Antibiotics](#)

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