

Introducing our Virtual Pathology Pub Quiz hosts

We're delighted to introduce your hosts for this year's [Virtual Pathology Pub Quiz](#), anatomic pathologist and Head of Pathology at the University of Surrey, Dr Nicola Parry and Head of School at the University of Surrey's School of Biosciences and Medicine, Prof Roberto La Ragione.

Dr Nicola Parry



Nicola is the Head of Pathology at the University of Surrey's School of Veterinary Medicine. She is an anatomic pathologist and is board certified by the American College of Veterinary Pathologists (ACVP), and is still readjusting to British soil, having only returned to the UK in April, after working in the United States for 21 years.

In addition to managing the School's fabulous Veterinary Pathology Centre, Nicola also directs the final year veterinary students' pathology rotation, as well as the School's new anatomic pathology residency training program. Her academic pathology interests focus on general diagnostic pathology, infectious diseases, gastrointestinal diseases, oncologic pathology, and animal models

of human disease. She enjoys collaborating on studies in these areas with other veterinary specialists, clinicians, and scientists.

Nicola has been actively involved as a volunteer in national and international pathology and other veterinary organisations for at least 15 years. She currently serves on the ACVP's Board of Directors and on the Certifying Examination Board's Test Item Writers Group. Additionally, she is the Chair of the American Veterinary Medical Association's Council on Education Selection Committee.

Outside of work, Nicola likes real books, audiobooks, and long walks with her dog, Orville. She also enjoys a well-brewed IPA, and you'll often find her as @VetPathSurrey on Twitter, where she posts about pathology and pets.

Prof Roberto La Ragione



Roberto graduated in 1995 and then went on to study for a post graduate degree in veterinary microbiology at the Royal Veterinary College (University of London). In 1996 he moved to the government Veterinary Laboratories Agency to undertake a PhD on the pathogenesis of *E. coli* in poultry. On completion of his PhD, he commenced a post-doctoral position at Royal Holloway (University of London), studying *E. coli* virulence factors and vaccine development.

In 2005 Roberto was appointed head of pathogenesis and control at the AHVLA (now the APHA) and in 2010 he was appointed Professor of Veterinary Microbiology and Pathology at the University of Surrey. Roberto gained the FRCPath in 2010 and in 2012 was appointed the Associate Dean for Veterinary Strategy in the new School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Surrey. In 2014 he established the Surrey Veterinary Pathology Centre and was the Director until 2020. He was the Head of the Department of Pathology and Infectious Diseases and Deputy Head of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Surrey until 2021. Roberto is currently Professor of Veterinary Microbiology and Pathology in the School of Veterinary Medicine and Head of the School of Biosciences and Medicine.



The Royal College of Pathologists

Pathology: the science behind the cure



Roberto is the current Chair of the Royal College of Pathologists Veterinary Pathology Specialty Advisory Committee, Chair of the Humanimal Trust, a member of the APHA science advisory board and a member of the Houghton Trust. Roberto is the past president of the Med-Vet-Net Association and the Veterinary Research Club. Roberto is an Associate member of the European College of Veterinary Microbiology (AECVM). In 2020 he was awarded Honorary Associateship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (HonAssocRCVS).

Roberto's research has largely focused on the analysis of colonisation, shedding and transmission of *E. coli*, *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella* and other foodborne pathogens by all farmed animal species and he has led a number of commercial, BBSRC, EPSRC, MRC, Defra, Innovate and EU projects. Roberto has published over 165 peer reviewed publications in the area of host-microbe interaction with a particular emphasis on foodborne pathogens and endemic diseases of poultry. His current research focuses on AMR transmission and the pathogenesis of food-borne pathogens with a particular interest in the development of rapid diagnostics and intervention strategies, including vaccination and pre and probiotics for the control of bacterial pathogens in animals.