



**Professor David J. Blackburn
University of Aberdeen Representative**

David is Professor of Virology and Head of the School of Medicine, Medical Sciences and Nutrition at the University of Aberdeen.

David's PhD (1990) is in molecular genetics and he has worked on different aspects of virology and immunology including in the USA, where he worked at the University of California for nine years on HIV and related diseases those infected with HIV develop.

David returned to the UK from the USA in 1999 to his first lectureship at the University of Glasgow. As an independent investigator, he has had a very strong interest in what can be learned of immune system function by studying mechanisms of virus immune evasion.

In 2005 David moved to the University of Birmingham, where in 2010 he was appointed Professor of Virology. He moved to the University of Surrey in 2013 to Head the School of Biosciences and Medicine, a position he held for eight years. In January 2022 he moved to the role of Director of the Institute of Medical Sciences at the University of Aberdeen.

He has authored over £8m in funded research grants, published 80 manuscripts and supervised over 50 laboratory trainees. His publications have been cited over 5500 times. In 2009 he was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology and is currently one of three Editors-in-Chief for *FEMS Microbiology Reviews*, a leading journal publishing invited comprehensive and authoritative reviews from preeminent authors on all aspects of microbiology.