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## **Copper Triumphs at 75<sup>th</sup> Celebration**

### **First results from Copper Clinical Trial Announced**

Professor Tom Elliott, leader of the Copper Clinical Trial being undertaken at Selly Oak Hospital, University Hospital Birmingham, announced the forthcoming publication of the first results during his presentation as guest speaker at an event to mark the 75th anniversary of Copper Development Association at Grocers' Hall, London on the 1st October.

The event, attended by representatives from all parts of the copper supply chain - producers, fabricators, manufacturers, distributors and specifiers – featured an exhibition of some of the copper alloy products installed in the test ward – taps, door handles, sink fittings, dispensers and light switches.

Angela Vessey, CDA Director, explains: "The clinical trial aims to demonstrate copper's efficacy at reducing contamination in a ward environment and builds on the laboratory research of Professor Bill Keevil at Southampton University. His work demonstrates copper's natural antimicrobial effect against a broad range of micro-organisms, including MRSA, C. difficile, Influenza A and E. coli. We are extremely fortunate to have Professor Elliott as our trial champion as he has considerable expertise, an international reputation regarding the interaction between bacteria and surfaces in the clinical environment and the support of a multi-disciplinary team. "

During his speech Professor Elliott announced that the first publishable results were being written up and that he is impressed with copper's performance, stating:

*"I am extremely excited about the latest results which clearly demonstrate copper's ability to reduce contamination in a real ward situation where it is challenged with clinical strains of bacteria. The results are now being written up for publication and the abstract has been accepted for presentation at the Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy in Washington in October."*

After his speech, Professor Elliott was presented by Angela Vessey with a copper stethoscope – one of the items on his ‘wish list’ of equipment and fittings which were highlighted as potential reservoirs of infection and therefore could benefit from copper’s antimicrobial properties.

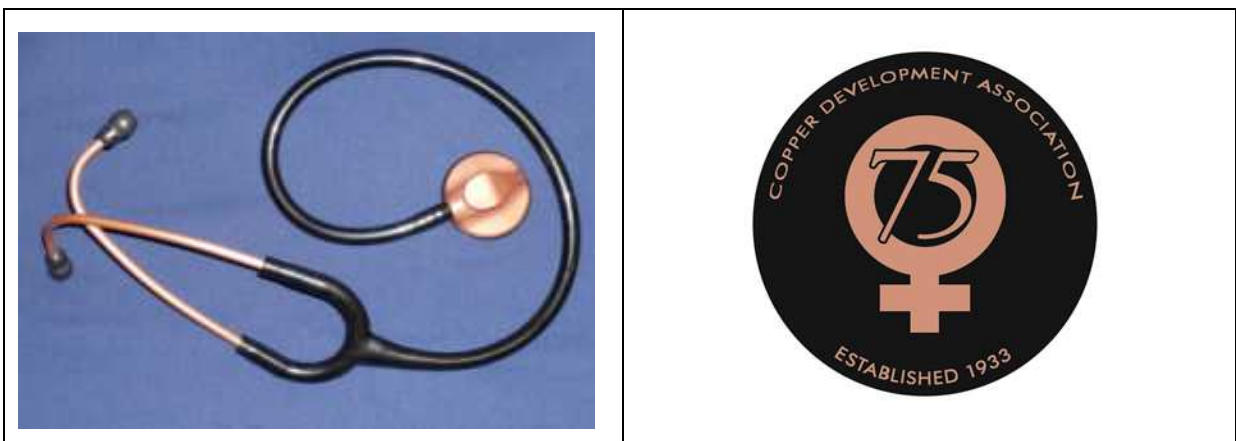
Copper Development Association has been working with the supply chain to support the development of copper and copper alloy healthcare products for the trial through the provision of information on the efficacy of different copper alloys and their suitability for different applications.

Any stakeholders with an interest in designing out infection in hospitals – architects, designers, facilities managers, material suppliers and product manufacturers – are welcome to join the Antimicrobial Copper Interest Group to be kept up to date with the latest news and as a networking opportunity. Further information on the Interest Group and antimicrobial properties of copper can be found at [www.copperinfo.co.uk/antimicrobial](http://www.copperinfo.co.uk/antimicrobial).

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