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PROFILE

I have an extensive educational background with a BSc in Chemistry and an MSc and PhD in Polymer Chemistry. I worked as a lecturer at the College of Science, Chemistry Department at the University of Basra, Iraq, from 1979 - 1981. In 1982, I joined the Clinical Engineering department at Liverpool University, as a Senior Research Fellow. During 14 years of work at the University of Liverpool, I was involved in a number of collaborations with major medical devices and biotechnology companies.

In 1995, I joined Innovative Technologies Plc (now Advanced Medical Solutions plc), where I was Principal Scientist in Polymer Chemistry. During this time I managed the development of medical devices and multiple projects in biomaterials.

In 1996, I was the key co-founder and Technical Director of PolyBioMed Limited. PolyBioMed was acquired by Lombard Medical Technologies plc in 2001, and I became the Managing Director of PolyBioMed Limited (very recently the company has been acquired by Bayer). I was integral to the development of the business since its foundation, including strategic development, fundraising, commercialisation, technical development and the establishment of its intellectual property portfolio. Very recently I have joined ARTERIUS Limited a start-up company to develop a fully biodegradable coronary stent. The company is working closely with Southampton University, Bradford University and Sheffield University on this project.

My main interests are biomaterials, surface modifications and coating of materials commonly used in medical devices, drug delivery systems, hydrogels for medical applications, cardiovascular devices, woundcare products, urology and tissue engineering devices. To date, I have over 28 years of experience in these fields and have published over 40 scientific papers in international journals. In addition, I hold over 12 granted patents/patent applications.

I am a member of EPSRC Peer Review College and a member of the Medical Devices Technology Journal Advisory Board committee. I was also one of the founders of the Medical Devices Innovation Forum in July 2005. I have been selected as an assessor for the Technology Strategy Board (TSB) Programmes allocated by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

I have been successfully awarded many grants from the DTI, the TSB and Yorkshire Forward for the research and development of healthcare projects. Furthermore, I have chaired scientific events at national and international medical device conferences and have given many presentations as an invited speaker.