Biofilms have a significant impact on human health. This is estimated to be:

**$7.2bn in the UK and $387bn globally**

**Cystic Fibrosis**
- UK: $493M
- Global: $7.5bn

The mucus produced in the lungs of cystic fibrosis patients is colonised by biofilm forming pathogens. In the UK cystic fibrosis accounts for 9,500 hospital admissions and over 100,000 hospital bed-days every year. More than 70,000 people worldwide are living with cystic fibrosis.

**Central Venous Catheter Bloodstream Infection**
- UK: $38.7M
- Global: $11.5bn

Biofilms colonise catheters and can lead to infection. A European study in 2009 estimated that 210,000 central venous and arterial catheters were placed annually in the UK leading to 8,940 bloodstream infections.

**Prosthetic Cardiac Valves and Pacemakers**
- UK: $3M
- Global: $220M

The risk of infection is around 1% for a new device and 3% for a replacement device. Over one million pacemakers are implanted globally. This infection is typically in the form of a biofilm on the artificial surfaces of the pacemaker. These can only be treated by surgery removal and replacement.

**Catheter–Associated Urinary Tract Infection**
- UK: $99M
- Global: $1bn

Biofilms colonise catheters and can lead to infection. Around 150 million people globally experience a urinary tract infection (UTI) every year; it is the most common bacterial infection among women. In England, 17.2% hospital acquired infections are UTIs; they are the most common type of hospital acquired infection.