

**Hybrid Conference Programme**

Start (GMT)	Finish (GMT)	Presenter details
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**Wednesday 14 February 2024**

<b>12:00</b>	<b>13:00</b>	<b>Registration, lunch and networking</b>
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12:45	13:00	Briefing for Keynote & Session 1 speakers, microphone runners, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium
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<b>13:00</b>	<b>13:10</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
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**Scientific Programme Committee:**

[Denise Morais da Fonseca, University of São Paulo, Brazil](#)

[Lindsay Hall, Quadrum Institute, UK](#)

[Alan Walker, University of Aberdeen, UK](#)

[Jerry Wells, Wageningen University, The Netherlands](#)

<b>13:10</b>	<b>14:10</b>	<b>Keynote 1</b>
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Chair: Lindsay Hall

Moderator: Jerry Wells

Tracking microbial function using genome-resolved metagenomics and AI

[Niranjana Nagarajan, A\\*STAR Genome Institute of Singapore](#)

14:10	14:15	Comfort break
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<b>14:15</b>	<b>15:45</b>	<b>Session 1: Under Represented Microbiomes</b>
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Chair: Denise Fonseca

Moderator: Alan Walker

14:15	14:45	Microbiome in the first 1000 days of life: assembly, development and challenges & perspectives in Brazilian children
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[Carla Taddei de Castro Neves, University of São Paulo, Brazil](#)

14:45	15:15	Structural and functional determinants of African gut microbiomes
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[Thulani Makhwanyane, University of Pretoria, South Africa](#)

15:15	15:30	Selected from abstracts
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Short talk speaker

15:30	15:45	Selected from abstracts
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Short talk speaker

15:45	16:30	Refreshment break and networking
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16:15	16:30	Briefing for Session 2 speakers, microphone runners, chair & moderator - Auditorium
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**16:30 18:00 Session 2: Microbiome and Immunity**

*Chair: Jerry Wells  
Moderator: Lindsay Hall*

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|-------|-------|---|
| 16:30 | 17:00 | Title TBC<br><a href="#"><i>Friederike Ebner, Technische Universität München, Germany</i></a> |
| 17:00 | 17:30 | Title TBC<br><i>Ahmed Hegazy, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin</i>                        |
| 17:30 | 17:45 | Selected from abstracts<br><i>Short talk speaker</i>  |
| 17:45 | 18:00 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br><i>Short talk speaker</i>                               |

**18:00 18:30 Poster pitch talks for odd number posters**

*Chair: Alan Walker*

**18:30 19:30 Poster session 1 - odd number posters**

19:30 21:00 Dinner

Bar open (card payments only)

**Thursday 15 February 2024**

07:30 09:00 Breakfast

09:15 09:30 *Briefing for Session 3 speakers, microphone runners, chair & moderator - Auditorium*

**09:30 11:00 Session 3: Ecological Networks and Modelling**

*Chair: Thulani Makhalanyane, University of Pretoria, South Africa - confirmed  
Moderator: Denise Fonseca, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil*

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|-------|-------|--|
| 09:30 | 10:00 | Understanding and predicting microbiome dynamics<br><a href="#"><i>Katharine Coyte, University of Manchester, UK</i></a>   |
| 10:00 | 10:30 | Leveraging Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) for Gut Microbiome-based Colorectal Cancer Classification<br><a href="#"><i>Takuji Yamada, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan</i></a> |
| 10:30 | 10:45 | Selected from abstracts<br><i>Short talk speaker</i>   |
| 10:45 | 11:00 | Selected from abstracts<br><i>Short talk speaker</i>   |

11:00 11:45 Refreshment break and networking

11:30 11:45 *Briefing for Session 4 speakers, microphone runners, chair & moderator - Auditorium*

**11:45 13:15 Session 4: Live Biotherapeutics**

*Chair: Sarah Lebeer, University of Antwerp, Belgium - confirmed*

*Moderator: Lindsay Hall, Quadrum Institute, UKBC*

11:45 12:15 Fecal microbiota transplantation in combination with systemic therapy in cancer patients

[\*Saman Maleki, Western University, Canada\*](#)

12:15 12:45 Probiotics for the treatment of type 2 diabetes

[\*Elena Rampanelli, Amsterdam UMC, The Netherlands\*](#)

12:45 13:00 Selected from abstracts

*Short talk speaker*

13:00 13:15 Selected from abstracts

*Short talk speaker*

13:15 14:30 Lunch and networking

14:15 14:30 Briefing for Session 5 speakers, microphone runners, chair & moderator - Auditorium

**14:30 16:00 Session 5: Gut-Brain Axis**

*Chair: Lindsay Hall, Quadrum Institute, UK*

*Moderator: Carla Taddei de Castro Neves, University of São Paulo, Brazil - confirmed*

14:30 15:00 Unravelling the role of perinatal gut microbiota in neurovascular development

[\*Maria Rodriguez Aburto, University College Cork, Ireland\*](#)

15:00 15:30 Gut microbial-derived proline metabolism and depression

[\*Jordi Mayneris Perxachs, Girona Biomedical Research Institute, Spain\*](#)

15:30 15:45 Selected from abstracts

*Short talk speaker*

15:45 16:00 Selected from abstracts

*Short talk speaker*

**16:00 16:30 Poster pitch talks for even number posters**

*Chair: Denise Fonseca, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil*

**16:30 16:45 Sponsored talk**

**16:45 17:45 Poster session 2 - even number posters**

17:45 18:30 Free time / meet the speakers / meet the editors

18:30 Dinner

Bar open (card payments only)

**Friday 16 February 2024**

07:30 09:00 Breakfast

09:15 09:30 Briefing for Session 6 speakers, microphone runners, chair & moderator - Auditorium

**09:30 11:00 Session 6: Vaginal Microbiomes**

*Chair: Maria Rodriguez Aburto, University College Cork, Ireland - confirmed*  
*Moderator: Alan Walker, University of Aberdeen, UK*

09:30 10:00 The Isala citizen-science project and the vaginal microbiome  
[Sarah Lebeer, University of Antwerp, Belgium](#)

10:00 10:30 Spatial characterisation of reproductive tract microbiota-host interactions in pregnancy and preterm birth  
[David Macintyre, Imperial College, London, UK](#)

10:30 10:45 Selected from abstracts  
*Short talk speaker*

10:45 11:00 Selected from abstracts  
*Short talk speaker*

11:00 11:45 Refreshment break and networking

11:30 11:45 Briefing for Keynote, microphone runners, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium

**11:45 12:45 Keynote 2**

*Chair: Alan Walker, University of Aberdeen, UK*  
*Moderator: Lindsay Hall, Quadrum Institute, UK*

Title TBC  
[Emily Balskus, Harvard University, USA](#)

**12:45 13:00 Closing remarks and prize presentation**

**Scientific Programme Committee:**  
[Denise Morais da Fonseca, University of São Paulo, Brazil](#)  
[Lindsay Hall, Quadrum Institute, UK](#)  
[Alan Walker, University of Aberdeen, UK](#)  
[Jerry Wells, Wageningen University, The Netherlands](#)

13:00 13:50 Lunch and departures

13:50 Coach departures for Stansted and Heathrow airports

14:00 Coach departures for Cambridge train station and city centre