

Hybrid Conference Programme

Start (GMT)	Finish (GMT)	Presenter details
Monday 10 November 2025		
12:00	13:00	Registration, lunch and networking
12:45		Briefing for Keynote & Session 1 speakers, microphone runners, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium
13:00	13:10	Welcome
		<p>Wellcome Connecting Science: Nagehan Ramazanoglu Bahadir, Wellcome Connecting Science, UK</p> <p>Scientific Programme Committee: Amel Karaa - Massachusetts General Hospital/ Harvard University, USA Nils-Goran Larsson - Karolinska Institute, Sweden Michelangelo Mancuso - University of Pisa, Italy Shamima Rahman - University College London, UK </p>
13:10	14:00	Keynote speaker
		<p>Chair: Michelangelo Mancuso - University of Pisa, Italy Moderator: Nils-Goran Larsson - Karolinska Institute, Sweden</p> <p>Developing therapeutic approaches by restoring mitochondrial quality control Carolyn Sue, The University of New South Wales, Australia </p>
14:00	14:10	Comfort break
14:10	15:40	Session 1: New mechanistic treatments
		<p>Chair: Amel Karaa - Massachusetts General Hospital/ Harvard University, USA Moderator: Shamima Rahman - University College London, UK</p>
14:10	14:40	<p>Late-onset Thymidine Kinase 2 Deficiency: Clinical Insights, Prognostic Biomarkers, and Pyrimidine Nucleoside Therapy Outcomes Christina Dominguez Gonzalez, Hospital 12 de Octubre, Spain </p>
14:40	15:10	<p>Perinatal therapeutic strategies for Surf1-Leigh Syndrome Dario Brunetti, University of Milan, Italy </p>
15:10	15:25	<p>Ubiquitin-mediated mitophagy regulates the inheritance of mitochondrial DNA mutations Michele Frison, University of Cambridge, UK </p>
15:25	15:40	<p>Optimising codon sequence and delivery of an AAV9 gene therapy for deoxyguanosine kinase deficiency in brain and liver Arianna Fozzato, University College London, UK </p>
15:40	16:20	Refreshment break and networking
16:05		Briefing for Session 2 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
16:20	17:50	Session 2: Mitochondria as signalling hubs
		<p>Chair: Nils-Goran Larsson - Karolinska Institute, Sweden Moderator: Michelangelo Mancuso - University of Pisa, Italy</p>
16:20	16:50	<p>Psychobiological Processes in Mitochondrial Diseases Martin Picard, Columbia University, USA </p>
16:50	17:20	<p>Modulating Mitochondrial Proteostasis: CLPP in Disease Intervention Aleksandra Trifunovic, University of Cologne, Germany </p>
17:20	17:35	<p>Dissecting Mitochondrial and Synaptic Dysregulation in LHON Using Human iPSC-Derived Retinal Ganglion Cells Andrea Cavaliere, Neurological Institute "Carlo Besta", Italy </p>
17:35	17:50	<p>Mitochondrial hubs in pontocerebellar hypoplasia type 6: New insights from patient-derived in vitro models Giorgia Babini, University of Bologna, Italy </p>
17:50	18:20	Poster pitch talks for odd number posters
18:20	19:20	Poster session 1 - odd number posters
19:20		Dinner
19:20		Bar open (card payments only)

Tuesday 11 November 2025

09:15 Briefing for Session 3 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium

09:30 11:00 Session 3: Role of mitochondria in inflammation and immunity

Chair: Carolyn Sue, University of South Wales, Sydney, Australia

Moderator: Amel Karaa - Massachusetts General Hospital/ Harvard University, USA

09:30 10:00 Innate immunity and inflammation in mitochondrial disease

[Phillip West, The Jackson Laboratory, USA](#)

10:00 10:30 Immunological dysfunction in primary mitochondrial disease

[Shamima Rahman, University College London, UK](#)

10:30 10:45 Delineating the neurodegenerative and inflammatory mechanisms underpinning POLG-related mitochondrial epilepsy

Laura Smith, Newcastle University, UK

10:45 11:00 Investigating inflammatory and metabolic changes in a mouse model of Leigh syndrome following the removal from hypoxia

Elizaveta Olkhova, Northumbria University, UK

11:00 11:45 Refreshment break and networking

11:30 Briefing for Session 4 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium

11:45 13:15 Session 4: New diagnostic technologies

Chair: Nils-Göran Larsson - Karolinska Institute, Sweden

Moderator: Michelangelo Mancuso - University of Pisa, Italy

11:45 12:15 Metabolic proteins in time and space — Insights from single-cell proteomics

[Florian Rosenberger, Karolinska Institute, Sweden](#)

12:15 12:45 Focusing on mitochondria with super-resolution light microscopy

[Stefan Jakobs, Max Planck Institute for Multidisciplinary Sciences in Göttingen, Germany](#)

12:45 13:00 Correlating "MitoPaint", a novel image-based profiling platform for characterising mitochondrial function, with proteomics to reveal drug-protein-functional axes

Sarah Franks, University of Oxford, UK

13:00 13:15 Graphene Windows: Innovating Liquid-Phase Electron Microscopy Methods for Mitochondrial Research

Katie Beims, Rosalind Franklin Institute, UK

13:15 14:30 Lunch and networking

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

14:30 15:45 Session 5: Aspects of mitochondrial biology and disease

Chair: Michelangelo Mancuso - University of Pisa, Italy

Moderator: Shamima Rahman - University College London, UK

14:30 14:45 Ten Years of Next Generation Sequencing: How Genetic Diagnosis and Molecular Epidemiology of Mitochondrial Diseases Have Evolved in Spain

Marcello Bellusci, H.12 de Octubre - CIBERER, Spain

14:45 15:00 Patient perspectives on receiving a diagnosis of primary mitochondrial disease

Katie Waller, The Lily Foundation, UK

15:00 15:15 Development of a targeted approach for introducing single large-scale mtDNA deletions in vivo

Harry Walker, University of Cambridge, UK

15:15 15:30 Ribonucleotide diphosphate reductase small subunit (RnrS) downregulation in Drosophila post-mitotic neuron cells demonstrated the essential role of the enzyme for Central Nervous System activity

Elisa Dell'Anna, University of Bologna, Italy

15:30 15:45 Quantification of mitochondrial complex I deactive/active transition during ischaemia in the murine heart

Katherine Hammond, University of Cambridge, UK

15:45 16:25 Refreshment break and networking

16:25 16:40 ARIA

16:25 16:40 Precision Mitochondria - A platform for engineering the mitochondrial genome

Nathan Wolfe, ARIA, UK

16:40 17:05 Poster pitch talks for even number posters
17:05 18:05 Poster session 2 - even number posters

18:05 Dinner

18:00 Bar open (card payments only)

Wednesday 12 November 2025		
09:15	Briefing for Session 6 speakers, panel members, chair & moderator - Auditorium	
09:30	11:20	Session 6: Clinical trials
	Chair: Shamima Rahman - University College London, UK Moderator: Michelangelo Mancuso - University of Pisa, Italy	
09:30	09:50	Clinical Trials and Registries in Rare Neurological Diseases: Lessons, Challenges, and Opportunities Teresinha Evangelista, The Institute of Myology, France
09:50	10:10	Mitochondrial disease drug development: the saga of sonlicromanol Jan Smeitink, Radboud University, Netherlands
10:10	10:30	Challenges in development of medicines for in rare neurological diseases Violeta Stoyanova-Beninska, European Medicines Agency (EMA), Netherlands
10:30	10:50	Nucleic Acid Therapy for Rare Disease - the current status and future perspectives Haiyan Zhou, University College London, UK
10:50	11:05	Cognitive dissonance: An approach to characterizing and assessing cognitive deficits in primary mitochondrial disease clinical trials Chad Glasser, Tisento Therapeutics, USA (sponsored talk)
11:05	11:35	Panel discussion
	Chair: Amel Karaa - Massachusetts General Hospital/ Harvard University, USA Moderator: Michelangelo Mancuso - University of Pisa, Italy Teresinha Evangelista, The Institute of Myology, France Jan Smeitink, Radboud University, Netherlands Violeta Stoyanova-Beninska, European Medicines Agency (EMA), Netherlands Haiyan Zhou, University College London, UK Chad Glasser, Tisento Therapeutics, USA	
11:35	12:10	Refreshment break and networking
11:55	Briefing for Keynote, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium	
12:05	12:55	Keynote speaker
	Chair: Shamima Rahman - University College London, UK Moderator: Nils-Goran Larsson - Karolinska Institute, Sweden Mitochondria in ischaemia reperfusion injury Mike Murphy, University of Cambridge, UK	
12:55	13:05	Closing remarks and prize presentation
	Scientific Programme Committee: Amel Karaa - Massachusetts General Hospital/ Harvard University, USA Nils-Goran Larsson - Karolinska Institute, Sweden Michelangelo Mancuso - University of Pisa, Italy Shamima Rahman - University College London, UK	
13:05	14:00	Lunch and departures
14:00	Coach departures for Stansted and Heathrow airports	
14:15	Coach departures for Cambridge train station and city centre	