Hybrid Conference Programme

Start (GMT)	Finish (GMT)	Presenter details
Monday 23 March 2026		
12:00	**13:00**	**Registration, lunch and networking**
12:45		*Briefing for Keynote 1 speaker, Session 1 speakers, microphone runners, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium*
13:00	**13:10**	**Welcome and introductions** ***Wellcome Connecting Science:*** *Nagehan Ramazanoglu Bahadir, Wellcome Connecting Science, UK* ***Scientific programme committee:*** *Kate Baker, University of Cambridge, UK* *Sylvain Brisse, Institut Pasteur, France* *Sabiha Essack, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa* *Yonatan Grad, Harvard University, USA*
13:10	**14:00**	**Keynote 1** *Chair: Kate Baker, University of Cambridge, UK* *Moderator: TBC*
13:10	13:40	Overcoming barriers to genomic surveillance of antimicrobial resistance in Nigeria *Iruka Okeke, University of Ibadan, Nigeria*
14:00	14:05	Comfort break
14:05	**15:30**	**Session 1: Epidemiology and Surveillance innovations** *How can we improve the detection and interpretation of AMR?* *Chair: Sabiha Essack, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa* *Moderator: TBC*
14:05	14:30	AMR Rules: Interpretive Standards for AMR Genotypes Kat Holt, LSHTM, UK
14:30	15:00	ACORN2: patient-focused AMR surveillance in Africa and Asia Paul Turner, Cambodia-Oxford Medical Research Unit (COMRU), Cambodia
15:00	15:15	Using network analysis and transmission modelling to design an efficient WGS surveillance system to rapidly detect emerging Clostridioides difficile strains in England *Diane Pople, UK Health Security Agency, United Kingdom*
15:15	15:30	SubGraphia: Improving Metagenomic Antimicrobial Resistance Gene Detection and Genomic Context Characterisation *David Mahoney, Dalhousie University, Canada*
15:30	16:15	Refreshment break and networking
16:00		*Briefing for session 2 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium*
16:15	**17:45**	**Session 2: Big Data and Antimicrobial use** *How can big data and advanced analytics deepen our understanding of antimicrobial use and resistance?* *Chair: Sylvain Brisse, Institut Pasteur, France* *Moderator: TBC*
16:15	16:45	AllTheBacteria - a community project to assemble, curate, annotate and search all prokaryotic genomes Zamin Iqbal, Bath University, UK
16:45	17:15	The evolutionary dynamics of antibiotic resistance Sonja Lehtinen, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
17:15	17:30	Pre- and postantibiotic epoch: The historical spread of antimicrobial resistance *Adrian Cazares, Sanger Institute, United Kingdom*
17:30	17:45	Age–sex heterogeneity in the link between antibiotic prescribing in primary care and resistance in Escherichia coli bloodstream infections in England *Lanre Edun, LSHTM, United Kingdom*
17:45	**18:30**	**Poster pitch talks for odd number posters** *Chair: Sylvain Brisse, Institut Pasteur, France*
18:30	**19:15**	**Poster session 1 - odd number posters**
19:15		Dinner

19:15		Bar open (card payments only)

Tuesday 24 March 2026

09:15		*Briefing for Session 3 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium*
09:30	**11:00**	**Session 3: Antimicrobial resistance beyond bacteria**
		What can we learn about antimicrobial resistance from non-bacterial pathogens?
		Chair: Sabiha Essack, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
		Moderator: TBC
09:30	10:00	The Forgotten Kingdom: Fungi and Antifungal Resistance in the Big Data Revolution Amelia Barber, Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Germany
10:00	10:30	HIV Drug Resistance Evolution, Botswana Experience Simani Gaseitsiwe, Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute, Botswana
10:30	10:45	Multi-omic profiling reveals genetic markers associated with artemisinin tolerance in Plasmodium falciparum Kelch13 C580Y mutant parasites with different survival phenotypes *Anthony Ruberto, University of Georgia, United States*
10:45	11:00	Targeted Sequencing as a Tool to Detect and Track Antifungal Resistance: From Fungal Pathogen Identification to Resistance Prediction *Isabella Gagnon-Arsenault, Universite Laval, Canada*
11:00	11:45	Refreshment break and networking
11:30		*Briefing for session 4 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium*
11:45	**13:15**	**Session 4: Innovations in diagnostics and infection prevention**
		What diagnostic and prevention technologies can enhance early detection and control of antimicrobial resistance?
		Chair: Sylvain Brisse, Institut Pasteur, France
		Moderator: TBC
11:45	12:15	Genomic AST for NGS Diagnostics Miriam Huntley, Day Zero Diagnostics, USA
12:15	12:45	Title TBC Keertan Dheda, University of Cape Town, South Africa
12:45	13:00	The Spot and Stop Protocol: Genomic Integration for Timely Outbreak Confirmation and Infection Control in an LMIC AMR Surveillance *Pamela Tan, Department Of Health - Research Institute For Tropical Medicine, Philippines*
13:00	13:15	From within-host ecology to between-host spread: a theoretical model for ESBL-producing Escherichia coli and Klebsiella pneumoniae *Camille Schneider, Institut Pasteur, France*
13:15	14:30	Lunch and networking
14:15		*Briefing for Session 5 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium*
14:30	**16:00**	**Session 5: Novel therapeutics and anti-AMR strategies**
		What new therapeutic approaches and strategies are on the horizon for AMR?
		Chair: Yonatan Grad, Harvard University, USA
		Moderator: TBC
14:30	15:00	Developing phage therapy by steering evolved traits in AMR bacteria. Paul Turner, Yale University, USA
15:00	15:30	Vaccines for E. coli and Klebsiella - the challenges and opportunities Susie Dunachie, University of Oxford, UK
15:30	15:45	Reducing Microbial Virulence and Antibiotic Resistance Without Antibiotics: Effects of Yaq001 on the Gut Microbiome *Jose Garcia, Kings College London, United Kingdom*
15:45	16:00	Scaling Phage therapy by genomic surveillance to combat global antibiotic resistance *Balint Kintses, HUN-REN Biological Research Centre Szeged, Hungary*
16:00	16:45	Refreshment break and networking
16:45	**17:30**	**Poster pitch talks for even number posters**
		Chair: Yonatan Grad, Harvard University, USA
17:30	**18:15**	**Poster session 2 - even number posters**
18:15		Dinner
18:15		Bar open (card payments only)

Wednesday 25 March 2026

09:15		*Briefing for Session 6 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium*
09:30	**11:00**	**Session 6: Surviving antimicrobials: persistence, tolerance, resilience**
		What strategies do microbes employ to survive antimicrobials? *Chair: Kate Baker, University of Cambridge, UK* *Moderator: TBC*
09:30	10:00	The evolution of non-canonical forms of drug escape in M. tuberculosis Sarah Fortune, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, USA
10:00	10:30	The archetypes of growth-arrested bacteria: consequences for treatment Nathalie Balaban, Hebrew University, Israel
10:30	10:45	Nutrient Environments Dictate Antibiotic Susceptibility Across Gut Bacteria *Sonja Blasche, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom*
10:45	11:00	Phage-plasmid borne methionine tRNA ligase mediates epidemiologically relevant antimicrobial survival *P. Malaka De Silva, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom*
11:00	11:05	TARGet AMR: the Transdisciplinary Antimicrobial Resistance Genomics Network *Kate Baker, University of Cambridge, UK*
11:05	11:45	Refreshment break and networking
11:30		*Briefing for Keynote 2 speaker, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium*
11:45	**12:35**	**Keynote 2**
		Chair: Yonatan Grad, Harvard University, USA *Moderator: TBC* From genomes to antibiotics: Leveraging resistance for antibiotic discovery *Gerry Wright, McMaster University, Canada*
12:35	**12:45**	**Closing Remarks**
		Scientific Programme Committee: *Kate Baker, University of Cambridge, UK* *Sylvain Brisse, Institut Pasteur, France* *Sabiha Essack, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa* *Yonatan Grad, Harvard University, USA*
12:45	13:45	Lunch and departures
13:45		Coach departures for Stansted and Heathrow airports
14:00		Coach departures for Cambridge train station and city centre