

Hybrid Conference Programme

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

19:30	Bar open (card payments only)
Tuesday 24 March 2026	
09:15	<i>Briefing for Session 3 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium</i>
09:30 11:00 Session 3: Antimicrobial resistance beyond bacteria	
	<i>What can we learn about antimicrobial resistance from non-bacterial pathogens?</i>
	<i>Chair: Sabiha Essack, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa</i>
	<i>Moderator: Kara Tsang, McMaster University, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Canada and United Kingdom</i>
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 Gaseitswe, 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 <i>Anthony Ruberto, University of Georgia, United States</i>
10:45	11:00 Targeted Sequencing as a Tool to Detect and Track Antifungal Resistance: From Fungal Pathogen Identification to Resistance Prediction Isabelle Gagnon-Arsenault, Universite Laval, Canada
11:00	11:45 Refreshment break and networking
11:30	<i>Briefing for session 4 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium</i>
11:45 13:15 Session 4: Innovations in diagnostics and infection prevention	
	<i>What diagnostic and prevention technologies can enhance early detection and control of antimicrobial resistance?</i>
	<i>Chair: Sylvain Brisse, Institut Pasteur, France</i>
	<i>Moderator: Kara Tsang, McMaster University, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Canada and United Kingdom</i>
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	<i>Briefing for Session 5 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium</i>
14:30 16:00 Session 5: Novel therapeutics and anti-AMR strategies	
	<i>What new therapeutic approaches and strategies are on the horizon for AMR?</i>
	<i>Chair: Yonatan Grad, Harvard University, USA</i>
	<i>Moderator: Johanna Dabernig-Heinz, Medical University of Graz, Austria</i>
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	
	<i>Chair: Yonatan Grad, Harvard University, USA</i>
17:30 18:30 Poster session 2 - even number posters	
18:30	Dinner
18:30	Bar open (card payments only)

Wednesday 25 March 2026

09:15 Briefing for Keynote speaker 2, chair & moderator - Auditorium

09:30 10:20 Keynote 2

Chair: Yonatan Grad, Harvard University, USA

Moderator: Simon Akingbade, University College Hospital Ibadan, Nigeria

From genomes to antibiotics: Leveraging resistance for antibiotic discovery

[Gerry Wright, McMaster University, Canada](#)

10:20 11:05 Refreshment break and networking

10:50 11:00 Briefing for Session 6 speakers, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium

11:00 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: Simon Akingbade, University College Hospital Ibadan, Nigeria

11:00 11:30 The archetypes of growth-arrested bacteria: consequences for treatment
[Nathalie Balaban, Hebrew University, Israel](#)

11:30 11:45 Nutrient Environments Dictate Antibiotic Susceptibility Across Gut Bacteria
[Sonja Blasche, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom](#)

11:45 12:00 Phage-plasmid borne methionine tRNA ligase mediates epidemiologically relevant antimicrobial survival
[P. Malaka De Silva, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom](#)

12:00 12:30 The evolution of non-canonical forms of drug escape in *M. tuberculosis*
[Sarah Fortune, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, USA](#)

12:30 12:35 TARGet AMR: the Transdisciplinary Antimicrobial Resistance Genomics Network
[Kate Baker, University of Cambridge, UK](#)

12:35 12:45 Closing Remarks

Scientific Programme Committee:

[Kate Baker, University of Cambridge, UK](#)

[Sylvain Brisson, Institut Pasteur, France](#)

[Sabina 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