

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: Jackie Toussaint, EMBL-EBI, United Kingdom
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: Johanna Dabernig-Heinz, Medical University of Graz, Austria
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: Jackie Toussaint, EMBL-EBI, United Kingdom
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	19:30	Poster session 1 - odd number posters
19:30		Dinner

19:30	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
	<i>What can we learn about antimicrobial resistance from non-bacterial pathogens?</i>
	Chair: Sabiha Essack, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa
	Moderator: Kara Tsang, McMaster University, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Canada and United Kingdom
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 Isabelle Gagnon-Arsenault, Université 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
	<i>What diagnostic and prevention technologies can enhance early detection and control of antimicrobial resistance?</i>
	Chair: Sylvain Brisse, Institut Pasteur, France
	Moderator: Kara Tsang, McMaster University, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Canada and United Kingdom
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
	<i>What new therapeutic approaches and strategies are on the horizon for AMR?</i>
	Chair: Yonatan Grad, Harvard University, USA
	Moderator: Johanna Dabernig-Heinz, Medical University of Graz, Austria
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	18:30 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 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