

Hybrid Conference Programme

Start (BST)	Finish (BST)	Presenter details
Day Date Month Year		
12:00	13:00	Registration, lunch and networking
12:45		<i>Briefing for keynote speaker, Session 1 speakers, microphone runners, chair, moderator and committee</i>
13:00	13:10	Welcome and introductions
		Wellcome Connecting Science: Nagehan Ramazanoglu Bahadir, Wellcome Connecting Science, UK Scientific programme committee: Anders Børglum, Aarhus University, Denmark Kristen Brennand, Yale University, USA Danielle Posthuma, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands Mina Ryten, University of Cambridge, UK
13:10	14:10	Opening keynote
		<i>Chair: Mina Ryten, University of Cambridge, UK</i>
13:10	14:10	Title TBC Matthew Hurler, Wellcome Sanger Institute, UK
14:10	14:15	Comfort break
14:15	15:45	Session 1: Genes in Context: When and Where Genetic Risk Acts
		<i>Chair: Kristen Brennand, Yale University, USA</i>
14:15	14:45	Title TBC Laura M. Huckins, Yale University, USA
14:45	15:15	Understanding the molecular and cellular impact of stress: from cerebral organoids to postmortem brain studies Elisabeth Binder, Max Planck Institute of Psychiatry, Germany
15:15	15:30	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>
15:30	15:45	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>
15:45	16:15	Refreshment break and networking
16:00	16:15	<i>Briefing for Session 2 speakers, chair and moderator</i>
16:15	17:45	Session 2: The Healthy Brain: A Genomic Reference Map
		<i>Chair: Danielle Posthuma, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands</i>
16:15	16:45	Title TBC Jonathan Mill, University of Exeter, UK
16:45	17:15	Title TBC Henne Holstege, Amsterdam UMC, the Netherlands
17:15	17:30	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>
17:30	17:45	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>
17:45	18:25	Poster pitch talks for odd number posters
18:25	19:25	Poster session 1 (odd number posters) and networking reception
19:25	21:30	Dinner
19:25		Bar open (card payments only)

Thursday 17 September 2026		
09:15		Briefing for Session 3 speakers, chair and moderator
09:30	11:00	Session 3: From Association to Mechanism
		<i>Chair: Anders Børglum, Aarhus University, Denmark</i>
09:30	10:00	A neuroscientist's guide to Schizophrenia - using genetic risk as a compass Jens Hjerling-Lefler, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
10:00	10:30	Unraveling the complexity of brain disorders using genetically diverse human cellular models Ralda Nehme, Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, USA
10:30	10:45	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>
10:45	11:00	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>
11:00	11:45	Refreshment break and networking
11:30		Briefing for Session 4 speakers, chair and moderator
11:45	13:15	Session 4: New Tools to Decode Brain Disorders
		<i>Chair: Danielle Posthuma, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands</i>
11:45	12:15	Title TBC Kristen Maynard, Johns Hopkins University, USA
12:15	12:45	From tissue to targets to treat brain diseases Inge Huitinga, Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience
12:45	13:00	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>
13:00	13:15	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>
13:15	14:30	Lunch and networking
14:15		Briefing for Session 5 speakers, chair and moderator
14:30	16:00	Session 5: Genomics-Driven Patient Stratification
		<i>Chair: Anders Børglum, Aarhus University, Denmark</i>
14:30	15:00	Stratifying patients with neurodegeneration Valentina Escott-Price, Cardiff University, UK
15:00	15:30	ADHD genetics and polygenic architecture of severe outcomes across psychiatric disorders Ditte Demontis, Aarhus University, Denmark
15:30	15:45	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>
15:45	16:00	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>
16:00	16:40	Refreshment break and networking
16:40	17:20	Poster pitch talks for even number posters
17:35	18:35	Poster session 2 (even number posters) and networking reception
18:35	20:30	Dinner
18:35		Bar open (card payments only)

Friday 18 September 2026		
09:15		Briefing for Session 6 speakers, chair and moderator
09:30	11:00	Session 6: From Human Genetics to High-Confidence Targets
		Chair: Mina Ryten, University of Cambridge, UK
09:30	10:00	Title TBC Eli Stahl, Regeneron Genetics Center, USA
10:00	10:30	Long read sequencing identifies alternative SNCA 5'UTR mRNA isoforms associated with PD risk Ben Logsdon, Cajal Therapeutics, USA
10:30	10:45	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker
10:45	11:00	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker
11:00	11:40	Refreshment break and networking
11:30		Briefing for keynote, chair, moderator and committee
11:40	12:40	Closing keynote
		Chair: Kristen Brennand, Yale University, USA
		Single-cell circuitry, foundation models, and brain-matched organoids for personalized precision therapeutics in brain disorders Manolis Kellis, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA
12:40	12:55	Closing remarks
		Scientific Programme Committee: Anders Børglum, Aarhus University, Denmark Kristen Brennand, Yale University, USA Danielle Posthuma, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands Mina Ryten, University of Cambridge, UK
12:55	13:45	Lunch
13:45		Coach departures for Stansted and Heathrow airports
13:55		Coach departures for Cambridge train station and city centre