

Hybrid Conference Programme

Start (GMT)	Finish (GMT)	Presenter details
Wednesday 13 May 2026		
12:30	13:30	Registration, lunch and networking
13:15		Briefing for Session 1 speakers, microphone runners, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium
13:30	13:40	Welcome and introductions
		<i>Wellcome Connecting Science:</i> Nagehan Ramazanoglu Bahadir, Wellcome Connecting Science, UK <i>Scientific programme committee:</i> Petter Brodin, Imperial College London, UK / Karolinska Institute, Sweden Carolina Lucas, Yale University, USA Vanessa Sancho-Shimizu, Imperial College London, UK David Thomas, University of Cambridge, UK
13:40	15:10	Session 1: Immunology and physiology
		<i>Chair: David Thomas, University of Cambridge, UK</i> <i>Moderator: TBC</i>
13:40	14:10	Outside the brain: how glial cells orchestrate tissue immunity Franze Progalzky, University of Oxford, UK
14:10	14:40	Physics of immune cells as biomarkers of their fitness Erdinc Sezgin, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden
14:40	14:55	A Crucial Role for Thyroid Hormone Signalling in Immunity <i>Emily Thomas, University of Cambridge, UK</i>
14:55	15:10	Mapping the plasma proteomic architecture of systemic lupus erythematosus <i>Geoffrey Ho Duen, Imperial College London, UK</i>
15:10	15:40	Refreshment break and networking
15:25		Briefing for session 2 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
15:40	17:10	Session 2: Genes to function
		<i>Chair: Anne Puel, French Institute of Health and Medical Research (Inserm), France</i> <i>Moderator: TBC</i>
15:40	16:10	Scalable mapping of variant effects in inborn errors of immunity Benjamin Izar, Columbia University, USA
16:10	16:40	JAK2 in Infection: Linking Genetic Signal to Immune Function Vanessa Sancho-Shimizu, Imperial College London, UK
16:40	16:55	Chromosomal Instability Preserves Antigen Presentation While Reshaping Adaptive Immune Architecture <i>Eileen Parkes, University of Oxford, UK</i>
16:55	17:10	Optimization and Harmonization of Single-Cell Omics Applications for Clinical Use in Decentralized Multi-Center Studies <i>Fleur Anne Peters, Dzne, Germany</i>
17:10	17:50	Poster pitch talks for odd number posters
17:50	18:50	Poster session 1 - odd number posters
18:50		Dinner
18:50		Bar open (card payments only)

Thursday 14 May 2026

09:15	Briefing for Session 3 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium	
09:30	11:00	Session 3: Human immune variation
		Chair: David Thomas, University of Cambridge, UK Moderator: TBC
09:30	10:00	Rare TNFAIP3 hypomorphic variants are a massively underestimated driver of human inflammatory disease Daniella Schwartz, University of Pittsburgh, USA
10:00	10:30	Te Whare Arai Mate: Immuno-genetic Landscape of Pacific Peoples in Aotearoa NZ Chris Pulluvea, Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand
10:30	10:45	Archaea as key drivers of human mucosal T cell responses Paul Klenerman, University of Oxford, UK
10:45	11:00	Single-nuclei multiomics reveal heterogeneity of dendritic cell activation trajectories in response to diverse nucleic acid stimuli Marie Bourdon, LMU Munich, Germany
11:00	11:45	Refreshment break and networking
11:30	Briefing for session 4 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium	
11:45	13:15	Session 4: Human immune responses to infection
		Chair: Vanessa Sancho-Shimizu, Imperial College London, UK Moderator: TBC
11:45	12:15	Regulation of the germinal center B cell response to vaccination Ali Ellebedy, Washington University St. Louis, USA
12:15	12:45	Novel Inborn Errors of the alternative NF-κB pathway Anne Puel, French Institute of Health and Medical Research (Inserm), France
12:45	13:00	Differential TLR7/8 responses impact mRNA vaccine-induced SARS-CoV-2 neutralising immunity Charlotte Chaloner, The Crick, UK
13:00	13:15	Temporal transcriptomic trajectories of childhood sepsis Claire Dunican, Imperial College London, UK
13:15	14:30	Lunch and networking
14:15	Briefing for Session 5 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium	
14:30	16:00	Session 5: Sex and age differences in immunology
		Chair: Petter Brodin, Imperial College London, UK / Karolinska Institute, Sweden Moderator: TBC
14:30	15:00	The Immune System Across the Lifespan: Insights from Ageing Phenotypes Nollaig Bourke, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
15:00	15:30	Understanding the causes and consequences of immune variability Darragh Duffy, Institut Pasteur, France
15:30	15:45	Heterogeneity of innate immunity in elderly individuals revealed upon vaccine challenge Sophie Mueller, German Centre for Neurodegenerative Disease, Germany
15:45	16:00	Age-independent and targetable transcription factor networks regulating CD8+ T cell senescence in aging humans Ricardo Martinez Zamudio, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Rutgers University, USA
16:00	16:15	TB and the male sex bias: investigating the effect of sex hormones on mycobacterial killing in vitro - VIRTUAL Raadiyah Mathee, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
16:15	17:00	Refreshment break and networking
17:00	17:20	Poster pitch talks for even number posters
17:20	17:35	Talk title tbc Pixelgen Technologies, Stockholm
17:35	18:35	Poster session 2 - even number posters
18:35	20:30	Dinner
18:35	Bar open (card payments only)	

Friday 15 May 2026

09:15 Briefing for Session 6 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium

09:30 11:00 Session 6: Biophysics and biomechanics of immune response

Chair: [Carolina Lucas, Yale University, USA](#)
Moderator: TBC

09:30 10:00 From molecular immunology to global evolution: a giant leap across scales
[Michael Lassig, University of Cologne, Germany](#)

10:00 10:30 Identification and targeting mechanism regulating ferroptosis resistance
[Jose Pedro Freidmann Angeli, University of Wurzburg, Germany](#)

10:30 10:45 Proteomic identification and functional characterization of micro- and nanoplastics particles (MNPs) interacting differentially with human blood proteins and immune cells
[Hermann-Josef Thierse, German Federal Institute for Assessment](#)

10:45 11:00 PSYCHE (TMEM128) is a novel regulator of reactive oxygen species production
[Priyanga Balendran, University of Cambridge, UK](#)

11:00 11:30 Refreshment break and networking

11:15 Briefing for Keynote, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium

11:30 13:00 Session 7: Neglected health

Chair: [Petter Brodin, Imperial College London, UK / Karolinska Institute, Sweden](#)
Moderator: TBC

11:30 12:00 Serotype skewing and immune imprinting shape response to the tetravalent dengue virus Qdenga vaccine
[Carolina Lucas, Yale University, USA](#)

12:00 12:30 Recreating a functional thymic microenvironment from stem cells
[Roberta Ragazzini, Francis Crick Institute, UK](#)

12:30 12:45 Dynamic genetic regulation of the maternal immune system in 1,300 pregnancies
[Sophie Hoffman, Wellcome Sanger Institute, UK](#)

12:45 13:00 Protective immunity to clinical malaria is modified by the genetic diversity of *P. falciparum* antigens
[Myo Naung, Deakin University/Burnet Institute, Australia](#)

13:00 13:05 Closing Remarks

Scientific Programme Committee:
[Petter Brodin, Imperial College London, UK / Karolinska Institute, Sweden](#)
[Carolina Lucas, Yale University, USA](#)
[Vanessa Sancho-Shimizu, Imperial College London, UK](#)
[David Thomas, University of Cambridge, UK](#)

13:05 13:45 Lunch and departures

13:45 Coach departures for Stansted and Heathrow airports

13:55 Coach departures for Cambridge train station and city centre