

Hybrid Conference Programme

Start (BST)	Finish (BST)	Presenter details
Monday 11 May 2026		
11:30	12:30	Registration, lunch and networking
12:15		<i>Briefing for Keynote speaker and session 1 speakers, microphone runners, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium</i>
12:30	12:45	Welcome and introductions
		Wellcome Connecting Science: <i>Michelle Bishop, Wellcome Connecting Science, UK</i>
		Scientific programme committee: Christine Stabell Benn, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark Eleanor Fish, University of Toronto, Canada Katie Flanagan, RMIT University, University of Tasmania & Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization, Australia Jim Buttery, University of Melbourne, Australia Sabra Klein, Johns Hopkins, USA
12:45	13:30	Keynote lecture 1
		<i>Chair: Christine Stabell Benn, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark</i> <i>Moderator: Isaqueil Silva, Bandim Health Project, Guinea-Bissau</i>
12:45	13:15	The Infection Point: Vaccinology at the Crossroads of Biology, Technology, and Public Health Gregory Poland, Mayo Clinic, USA
13:15	13:30	Discussion
13:30	14:30	Session 1: The importance of genomics for immunomodulatory effects of vaccines
		<i>Chair: Katie Flanagan, RMIT University, University of Tasmania & Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization, Australia</i> <i>Moderator: Frederik Scholtz-Buchholzer, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark</i>
13:30	14:00	Designing a Universal Vaccine Through Integrated Organ Immunity - VIRTUAL PRESENTATION Bali Pulendran, Stanford University, USA
14:00	14:30	A systems immunology approach to uncover how the gut microbiota supports optimal infant vaccine responses David Lynn, Flinders University, Australia
14:30	15:00	Refreshment break & networking
14:45		<i>Briefing for Session 2 speakers, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium</i>
15:00	16:30	Session 2: Immunobiology of vaccines over the life course
		<i>Chair: Inna Ovsyannikova, Mayo Clinic, USA</i> <i>Moderator: Nelly Amenyogbe, Dalhousie University, Canada</i>
15:00	15:30	How estrogens and menopause impact immunity to influenza vaccines Sabra Klein, Johns Hopkins, USA
15:30	16:00	Trained immunity: from basic mechanisms to vaccination Mihai Netea, Radboud University, The Netherlands
16:00	16:30	Adjuvanted and high dose influenza vaccines trigger distinct molecular pathways in older adults Katie Flanagan, RMIT University, University of Tasmania & Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization, Australia
16:30	16:40	Comfort break
16:30		<i>Briefing for Session 2 (continued) speakers, panellists, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium</i>
16:40	17:40	Session 2: Immunobiology of vaccines over the life course continued
		<i>Chair: Inna Ovsyannikova, Mayo Clinic, USA</i> <i>Moderator: Nelly Amenyogbe, Dalhousie University, Canada</i>
16:40	16:55	Differential humoral, cellular, and inflammatory responses to an adjuvanted herpes zoster vaccine and an inactivated influenza vaccine in young and older adults Gizem Kilic, Radboud University Medical Center, Netherlands
16:55	17:10	Investigating the Mechanisms of Action of Vaccine Adjuvant AS01 in Human Lymph Nodes Anthony Cunningham, Centre for Virus Research, The Westmead Institute for Medical Research, Australia
17:10	17:50	Panel Discussion Gregory Poland, Mayo Clinic, USA Bali Pulendran, Stanford University, USA David Lynn, Flinders University, Australia Sabra Klein, Johns Hopkins, USA Mihai Netea, Radboud University, The Netherlands Katie Flanagan, RMIT University, University of Tasmania & Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization, Australia
17:50	18:30	Poster pitch talks for poster session 1
		<i>Chair: Frank Shann, University Of Melbourne, Australia</i>
18:30	19:30	Poster session 1
19:30	21:00	Dinner
19:30		Bar open (card payments only)

Tuesday 12 May 2026

08:45		Briefing for Keynote 2 Session 3 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
09:00	09:30	Keynote lecture 2 Chair: Jim Buttery, University of Melbourne, Australia and Eleanor Fish, University of Toronto, Canada Moderator: Guðfinna Kristín Björnsdóttir, University Of Southern Denmark, Denmark
09:00	09:30	Gold Standard Sickness: American Immunization Angela Rasmussen, University of Saskatchewan, Canada
09:30	10:30	Session 3: Vaccine Benefit-Risk Chair: Jim Buttery, University of Melbourne, Australia and Eleanor Fish, University of Toronto, Canada Moderator: Guðfinna Kristín Björnsdóttir, University Of Southern Denmark, Denmark
09:30	10:00	International Network of Special Immunization Services: Harnessing adversomics for vaccine safety evaluation Karina Top, University of Alberta, Canada
10:00	10:30	Real world datasets informing vaccine safety Jim Buttery, University of Melbourne, Australia
10:30	11:00	Refreshment break & networking
10:45		Briefing for session 3 (continued) speakers, panellists, chair & moderator - Auditorium
11:00	13:00	Session 3: Vaccine Benefit-Risk continued Chair: Jim Buttery, University of Melbourne Moderator: Guðfinna Kristín Björnsdóttir, University Of Southern Denmark, Denmark
11:00	11:30	Supporting RSV vaccine programmes through robust epidemiological vaccine safety investigations Julia Stowe, UK Health Security Agency, UK
11:30	11:45	Vaccine pharmacovigilance and sex - immune vs reporting reality? Hazel Clothier, Centre for Health Analytics, Melbourne Children's Campus, Australia
11:45	12:00	Population-Level Impact and Genotype Trends of Rotavirus After National Introduction of Rotavac and Rotasil in India (2016–2023) Tintu Varghese, Christian Medical College, India
12:00	13:00	Panel Angela Rasmussen, University of Saskatchewan, Canada Karina Top, University of Alberta, Canada Jim Buttery, University of Melbourne, Australia Julia Stowe, UK Health Security Agency, UK Hans-Henrik Kristensen, AJ Vaccines, Denmark Eleanor Fish, University of Toronto, Canada
13:00	14:00	Lunch and networking
13:45		Briefing for workshop and session 4 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
14:00	15:00	WORKSHOP: How to talk about vaccines and how to involve young researchers in studying vaccines, in the era of vaccine scepticism Chair: Jim Buttery, University of Melbourne, Australia Moderator: Asimena Angelidou, Boston Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, USA
14:00	15:00	How to talk about vaccines and how to involve young researchers in studying vaccines, in the era of vaccine scepticism Caitlín Jarrett, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK Marco De Ambrogi, The Lancet Group, UK
15:00	16:00	Session 4: Immunomodulatory effects of vaccines on health and disease Chair: Sabra Klein, Johns Hopkins, USA Moderator: Gizem Kılıç, Radboud University Medical Center, The Netherlands
15:00	15:30	Randomized Clinical Trials with BCG: CNS and Glycolysis Benefits with Clinical Endpoints Denise Faustman, Harvard University, USA
15:30	16:00	Preventing Dementia with Shingles Vaccination? Evidence from Quasi-Randomized Vaccine Rollouts - VIRTUAL PRESENTATION Pascal Geldsetzer, Stanford University, USA
16:00	16:30	Refreshment break & networking
16:15		Briefing for Session 4 continued speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
16:30	18:30	Session 4: Immunomodulatory effects of vaccines on health and disease continued Chair: Sabra Klein, Johns Hopkins, USA Moderator: Gizem Kılıç, Radboud University Medical Center, The Netherlands
16:30	17:00	Harnessing the power of trained immunity in asthma Eva Kaufmann, McGill University, Canada
17:00	17:30	mRNA vaccines as universal innate immune stimulants as anti-cancer therapy Steven Lin, University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, USA
17:30	17:45	Beneficial non-specific effects of nanoparticles: lung allergic inflammation and cancer - VIRTUAL PRESENTATION Magdalena Plebanski, RMIT University, Australia Q&A SESSION WITH Katie Flanagan, RMIT University, University of Tasmania & Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization, Australia
17:45	18:00	A bacterial-fungal-viral co-infection may be a proximate cause of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's—offering more explanation for the BCG vaccine's protective efficacy Annelise Barron, Department of Bioengineering, Schools of Medicine and of Engineering, Stanford University, United States
18:00	18:15	Innate immune training effects of a neonatal live-attenuated oral Rotavirus (RV3-BB) vaccination Prisca Benedicto-Matambo, Kamuzu University of Health Sciences, Medical Laboratory Sciences Department, Malawi
18:15	18:30	Discussion
18:30	19:00	Poster pitch talks for poster session 2 Chair: Hazel Clothier, Murdoch Childrens Research Institute, Australia
19:00	20:00	Poster session
20:00	21:00	Dinner
20:00		Bar open (card payments only)

Wednesday 13 May 2026

08:15		Briefing for Session 5 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
08:30	10:30	Session 5: Vaccine immunomodulatory effects informing vaccine policies Chair: Tobias Kollmann, Dalhousie University, Canada Moderator: Shaun Pennington, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK
08:30	09:00	Systems biology defines biomarkers of neonatal hepatitis B vaccine immunization Asimeria Angelidou, Boston Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, USA
09:00	09:30	Effect of BCG Danish and oral polio vaccine on neonatal mortality in newborn babies weighing less than 2000g in India: multicentre open label randomised controlled trial (BLOW2) Bethou Adhisivam, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), India
09:30	09:45	Bacillus Calmette–Guérin (BCG) vaccination and mortality in Quebec, Canada: Influence of timing and number of doses Jérémy Lelèvre, Centre Armand-Frappier Santé Biotechnologie, Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS), Canada
09:45	10:00	Maternal influenza vaccine reduces the risk of RSV and related respiratory hospitalisations in early infancy: an epidemiological study Charlie Holland, The Kids Research Institute Australia, Australia
10:00	10:30	Discussion
10:30	10:50	Refreshment break & networking
10:40		Briefing for Keynote, panellists, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium
10:50	11:20	Keynote lecture 3 Chair: Tobias Kollmann, Dalhousie University, Canada Moderator: Shaun Pennington, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK
10:50	11:20	Of paradigms and pragmatism Naor Bar-Zeev, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA
11:20	12:20	Panel: From genomics to policy - how does public health integrate findings from genomics? Chair: Mihai Netea, Radboud University, The Netherlands Moderator: Tobias Kollmann, Dalhousie University, Canada Naor Bar-Zeev, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA Julier Nabyongo, North-West University, South Africa Hanna Nohynek, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), Finland Katie Flanagan, RMIT University, University of Tasmania & Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization, Australia
12:20	12:30	Closing Remarks Scientific Programme Committee: Christine Stabell Benn, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark Eleanor Fish, University of Toronto, Canada Katie Flanagan, RMIT University, University of Tasmania & Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization, Australia Jim Buttery, University of Melbourne, Australia Sabra Klein, Johns Hopkins, USA
12:30		Lunch and departures
13:40		Coach departures for Stansted and Heathrow airports
13:50		Coach departures for Cambridge train station and city centre