

Hybrid Conference Programme		
Start (GMT)	Finish (GMT)	Presenter details
Wednesday 4 November 2026		
12:00	13:00	Registration, lunch and networking
12:45	13:00	Briefing for Session 1 speakers, microphone runners, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium
13:00	13:10	Welcome and introductions Wellcome Connecting Science: Andy Mains, Wellcome Connecting Science, UK Scientific programme committee: Jordana Bell, King's College London, UK Christoph Bock, CeMM Research Center for Molecular Medicine, Austria Claudia Kleinman, McGill University, Canada Charlotte Ling, Lund University, Sweden
13:10	14:00	Keynote 1 Chair: Charlotte Ling, Lund University, Sweden Moderator: Jordana Bell, King's College London, UK 13:10 14:00 DNA methylation: the beauty and the beast in population studies Bas Heijmans, Leiden University, The Netherlands 14:00 14:05 Comfort break (no refreshments)
14:05	15:35	Session 1: Epigenetics, development and disease Chair: Claudia Kleinman, McGill University, Canada Moderator: Jordana Bell, King's College London, UK 14:05 14:35 Synthetic Ex Utero Embryogenesis: from Naive Pluripotent Cells to bona fide Embryo Models Jacob Hanna, Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel 14:35 15:05 The cooperative, context-dependent rules of TF binding in human development Seán Jassas, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute, Canada 15:05 15:20 Placental epigenetic dysregulation predicts early child developmental outcomes Lucas Casten, Max Planck Institute Of Psychiatry, Germany 15:20 15:35 DNA methylation captures shared and protein-specific variation in the inflammatory proteome across development Wim Schalkwijk, University Medical Center Utrecht, Netherlands 15:35 16:15 Refreshment break and networking 16:00 16:15 Briefing for session 2 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
16:15	17:45	Session 2: Epigenetic mechanisms in ageing and age-related diseases Chair: Charlotte Ling, Lund University, Sweden Moderator: Jordana Bell, King's College London, UK 16:15 16:45 Decoding Cell-Free DNA: Integrating Epigenetic and Fragmentomic Signatures for Liquid Biopsy Biomarkers of Neurodegenerative Disease Emma Dempster, University of Exeter, UK 16:45 17:00 AgeMap: Harmonising multi-tissue epigenomic data to study cell type-aware, tissue-specific ageing Peter Brederlow, University of Cambridge, King's College London, UK 17:00 17:15 Shared and clock-specific genetic architecture across three generations of epigenetic clocks Siyi Wang, University Of Exeter, UK 17:15 17:30 Cell-to-cell variability and gain of methylation at polycomb CpG islands as a hallmark of aging Tommy Kaplan, Queen Mary University of London, UK
17:30	17:50	Poster pitch talks for odd number posters Chair: Charlotte Ling, Lund University, Sweden
17:50	19:05	Poster session 1 - odd number posters
19:05	20:30	Dinner
19:05		Bar open (card payments only)

Thursday 5 November 2026		
09:15	09:30	Briefing for Session 3 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
09:30	11:00	Session 3: Epigenetic cell plasticity and cancer Chair: Claudia Kleinman, McGill University, Canada Moderator: Charlotte Ling, Lund University, Sweden
09:30	10:00	Epigenetic lineage tracing in human normal tissues and cancer Trevor Graham, The Institute of Cancer Research, UK
10:00	10:30	Targeting RNA Modifications in Cancer Michaela Frey, DFKI, Germany
10:30	10:45	Promoter-enhancer rewiring during terminal adipogenesis links epigenomic regulation to metabolic disease risk Ionel Sandovici, University of Cambridge, UK
10:45	11:00	Effects of rituximab versus cladribine on the pace of biological aging in people with multiple sclerosis Eirik Sandvik Gulbrandsen, Oslo University University, Norway
11:00	11:45	Refreshment break and networking
11:30	11:45	Briefing for session 4 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
11:45	13:00	Session 4: Genetics, epigenetics and environment Chair: Jordana Bell, King's College London, UK Moderator: Charlotte Ling, Lund University, Sweden
11:45	12:15	Lessons from single cell epigenome in cardiometabolic disease and accelerated aging risk assessment Pavni Pakkanta, UCLA, USA
12:15	12:30	Nature vs nurture? Dissecting the contribution of genetics, environment, and their interaction to DNA methylation variability across the first 5 years of life Erick Navarro-Delgado, The University Of British Columbia, Canada
12:30	12:45	Identifying genetic impacts on DNA methylation variability to uncover gene-environment and gene-gene interactions in GoDMC Xiaopu Zhang, King's College London, UK
12:45	13:00	Cis and trans genetic control of DNA methylation in cord blood highlights neurodevelopmental and immune regulatory processes Emilie Willoch Ostad, University of Oslo, Norway
13:00	14:15	Lunch and networking
14:00	14:15	Briefing for Session 5 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
14:15	15:45	Session 5: Epigenetics and common disease: establishing causality Chair: Charlotte Ling, Lund University, Sweden Moderator: Claudia Kleinman, McGill University, Canada
14:15	14:45	Translational Epigenetics of Brain Vulnerability and Longitudinal Monitoring Maja Jasicic, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
14:45	15:15	Title TBC - virtual Yijun Ruan, Zhejiang University, China
15:15	15:30	Epigenetic Signatures Classifying Brain Insulin Resistance in Humans Meriem Ouni, German Institute of Human Nutrition Potsdam-Rehbrücke, Germany
15:30	15:45	Towards Equitable Population Epigenomics: Implications for DNA Methylation Research and Global Health Josine Min, University Of Bristol, UK
15:45	16:30	Refreshment break and networking
16:15	16:30	Briefing for Keynote speaker, chair & moderator - Auditorium
16:30	17:20	Keynote 2 Chair: Jordana Bell, King's College London, UK Moderator: Claudia Kleinman, McGill University, Canada Muzlifah Haniffa, Wellcome Sanger Institute, UK
17:20	17:40	Poster pitch talks for even number posters Chair: Jordana Bell, King's College London, UK
17:40	17:55	Sponsored talk - Illumina Leading the epigenetics future: Illumina's expanding DNA methylation portfolio Nicole Renke, Illumina, UK
17:55	19:10	Poster session 2 - even number posters
19:10	21:00	Dinner
19:10		Bar open (card payments only)

Friday 6 November 2026		
09:15	09:30	Briefing for Session 6 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium
09:30	11:00	Session 6: New frontiers in epigenomic technologies Chair: Claudia Kleinman, McGill University, Canada Moderator: Charlotte Ling, Lund University, Sweden
09:30	10:00	Understanding epigenetic regulation during early human embryonic brain development at single cell resolution Fides Zerk, EPFL, Switzerland
10:00	10:30	Molecular Basis of the Gene Regulatory Code Jussi Taipale, Wellcome Sanger Institute, UK
10:30	10:45	Resolving cell-type-specific DNA methylation from heterogeneous tissues using long-read sequencing Ellis Hannon, University Of Exeter, UK
10:45	11:00	maxATAC-v2: Enhanced Genome-Wide TF Binding Site Prediction from (sc)ATAC-seq Akshata Rudrapatna, University Of Cincinnati/Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, USA
11:00	11:40	Refreshment break and networking
11:25	11:40	Briefing for Keynote, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium
11:40	12:30	Keynote 3 Chair: Jordana Bell, King's College London, UK Moderator: Charlotte Ling, Lund University, Sweden
11:40	12:30	Disturbances of DNA methylation and metabolic health in Asian populations John Chambers, Precision Health Research, Singapore
12:30	12:45	Closing Remarks Scientific Programme Committee: Jordana Bell, King's College London, UK Christoph Bock, CeMM Research Center for Molecular Medicine, Austria Claudia Kleinman, McGill University, Canada Charlotte Ling, Lund University, Sweden
12:45	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