

Virus Genomics, Evolution and Bioinformatics

11-13 November 2026

Hybrid Conference Programme

Start (GMT)	Finish (GMT)	Presenter details	Location
Wednesday, 11 November 2026			
12:00	13:00	Registration, lunch and networking	
12:45		Briefing for keynote speaker; Session 1 speakers, microphone runners, chair, moderator and committee	Auditorium
13:00	13:10	Welcome and introductions	Auditorium
		Wellcome Sanger Institute Liã Bárbara Arruda, Wellcome Sanger Institute, United Kingdom	
		Scientific programme committee: Deograti Ssemwanga, LSHTM and MRC-UVRI, Uganda Kate Grabowski, Johns Hopkins University, United States of America Nick Loman, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom	
13:10	14:00	Opening keynote	Auditorium
		Chair: Nick Loman Moderator: Kate Grabowski	
13:10	14:00	Title TBC Marion Koopmans, Erasmus University Medical Centre, Netherlands	
14:00	14:10	Comfort break	
14:10	15:40	Session 1: Vaccines and treatment	Auditorium
		Chair: Kate Grabowski Moderator: Deograti Ssemwanga	
14:10	14:40	Title TBC Emily Toth Martin, University of Michigan, USA	
14:40	15:10	Understanding HIV diversity and evolution for contemporary immunogen design Thumbi Ndung'u, University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa	
15:10	15:25	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
15:25	15:40	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
15:40	16:20	Refreshment break and networking	Event Space
16:05	16:20	Briefing for Session 2 speakers, chair and moderator	Auditorium
16:20	17:45	Session 2: Animals and zoonoses	Auditorium
		Chair: Deograti Ssemwanga Moderator: Nick Loman	
16:20	16:50	Ecology and evolution of North American H5Nx viruses Louise Moncla, University of Pennsylvania, United States of America	
16:50	17:20	Title TBC Erik Karlsson, Institut Pasteur du Cambodge, Cambodia	
17:20	17:35	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
17:35	17:50	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
17:50	18:30	Poster pitch talks for odd number posters	Auditorium
18:30	19:30	Poster session 1 (odd number posters) and networking reception	Event Space
19:30	21:30	Dinner	Hinxton Hall Restaurant
19:30		Bar open (card payments only)	Graham Cameron Bar

Thursday 12 November 2026			
9:15		Briefing for Session 3 speakers, chair and moderator	Auditorium
9:30	10:45	Session 3: Epidemics and outbreaks Chair: Deogratius Ssemwanga Moderator: Nick Loman	Auditorium
9:30	10:00	Title TBC Christophe Fraser, University of Oxford, United Kingdom	
10:00	10:15	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
10:15	10:30	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
10:30	10:45	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
10:45	11:30	Refreshment break and networking	Event Space
11:15		Briefing for Session 4 speakers, chair and moderator	Auditorium
11:30	12:45	Session 4: Viral metagenomics and microbiome Chair: Nick Loman Moderator: Deogratius Ssemwanga	Auditorium
11:30	12:00	Title TBC Joshua Quick, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom	
12:00	12:15	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
12:15	12:30	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
12:30	12:45	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
12:45	14:00	Lunch and networking	Hinxton Hall Restaurant
13:45		Briefing for Session 5 & 6 speakers, chair and moderator	Auditorium
14:00	15:15	Session 5: Adaptation and evolution: virus dynamics within and between hosts Chair: Kate Grabowski Moderator: Nick Loman	Auditorium
14:00	14:30	The antigenic and genetic evolution of dengue virus Henrik Salje, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom	
14:30	14:45	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
14:45	15:00	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
15:00	15:15	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
15:15	15:25	Comfort break	Event Space
15:25	16:40	Session 6: Bioinformatics, machine learning and AI Chair: Nick Loman Moderator: Deogratius Ssemwanga	Auditorium
15:25	15:55	Title TBC Moritz Kraemer, University of Oxford, United Kingdom	
15:55	16:10	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
16:10	16:25	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
16:25	16:40	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	

16:40	17:20	Refreshment break and networking	Event Space
17:20	17:50	Poster pitch talks for even number posters <i>Chair: Nick Loman</i>	Auditorium
17:50	18:50	Poster session 2 (even number posters) and networking reception	Event Space
18:50	21:00	Dinner	Hinxton Hall Restaurant
18:50		Bar open (card payments only)	Graham Cameron Bar

Friday 13 November 2026

9:15		Briefing for Session 7 speakers, chair and moderator	Auditorium
9:30	11:00	Session 7: Viral genomics and public health <i>Chair: Deogratius Ssemwanga</i> <i>Moderator: Kate Grabowski</i>	Auditorium
9:30	10:00	Operational perspectives on genomic surveillance of viral pathogens in field settings <i>Sophie Duraffour, Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, Germany</i>	
10:00	10:15	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
10:15	10:30	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
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	11:30	Refreshment break and networking	Event Space
11:15		Briefing for keynote, chair, moderator and committee	Auditorium
11:30	12:20	Closing keynote <i>Chair: Kate Grabowski</i> <i>Moderator: Nick Loman</i> Title TBC Bryan Grenfell, Princeton University, United States of America	Auditorium
12:20	12:35	Closing remarks Scientific Programme Committee: Deogratius Ssemwanga, LSHTM and MRC-UVRI, Uganda Kate Grabowski, Johns Hopkins University, United States of America Nick Loman, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom	Auditorium
12:35	13:45	Lunch	Hinxton Hall Restaurant
13:45		Coach departure for Stansted and Heathrow airports	Main entrance
13:55		Coach departure for Cambridge train station and city centre	Main entrance