

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 Wellcome Sanger Institute: Liä Bárbara Arruda, Wellcome Sanger Institute, United Kingdom Scientific programme committee: Deogratius Ssemwanga, LSHTM and MRC-UVRU, Uganda Kate Grabowski, Johns Hopkins University, United States of America Nick Loman, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom	Auditorium
13:10	14:00	Opening keynote Chair: Nick Loman Moderator: Kate Grabowski	Auditorium
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: Animals and zoonoses Chair: Deogratius Ssemwanga Moderator: Nick Loman	Auditorium
14:10	14:40	Ecology and evolution of North American H5Nx viruses Louise Moncla, University of Pennsylvania, United States of America	
14:40	15:10	Title TBC Erik Karlsson, Institut Pasteur du Cambodge, Cambodia	
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	17:35	Session 2: Epidemics and outbreaks Chair: Deogratius Ssemwanga Moderator: Nick Loman	Auditorium
16:20	16:50	Title TBC Christophe Fraser, University of Oxford, United Kingdom	
16:50	17:05	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
17:05	17:20	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
17:20	17:35	Short talk selected from abstracts Short talk speaker	
17:35	18:05	Poster pitch talks for odd number posters	Auditorium
18:05	19:05	Poster session 1 (odd number posters) and networking reception	Event Space
19:05	21:00	Dinner Bar open (card payments only)	Hinxton Hall Restaurant Graham Cameron Bar

Thursday 12 November 2026

9:15	Briefing for Session 3 speakers, chair and moderator		Auditorium
9:30	11:00	Session 3: Vaccines and treatment <i>Chair: Kate Grabowski</i> <i>Moderator: Deogratius Ssemwanga</i>	Auditorium
9:30	10:00	Vaccination against fast-evolving pathogens Sarah Cobey, University of Chicago, United States of America	
10:00	10:30	Understanding HIV diversity and evolution for contemporary immunogen design Thumbi Ndung'u, University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa	
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	11:40	Refreshment break and networking	Event Space
11:25	Briefing for Session 4 speakers, chair and moderator		Auditorium
11:40	12:55	Session 4: Viral metagenomics and microbiome <i>Chair: Nick Loman</i> <i>Moderator: Deogratius Ssemwanga</i>	Auditorium
11:40	12:10:00	Title TBC Joshua Quick, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom	
12:10	12:25	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
12:25	12:40	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
12:40	12:55	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
12:55	14:10	Lunch and networking	Hinxton Hall Restaurant
13:55	Briefing for Session 5 speakers, chair and moderator		Auditorium
14:10	15:25	Session 5: Adaptation and evolution: virus dynamics within and between hosts <i>Chair: Kate Grabowski</i> <i>Moderator: Nick Loman</i>	Auditorium
14:10	14:40	The antigenic and genetic evolution of dengue virus Henrik Salje, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom	
14:40	14:55	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
14:55	15:10	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
15:10	15:25	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
15:25	16:10	Refreshment break and networking	Event Space
15:55	Briefing for Session 6 speakers, chair and moderator		Auditorium
16:10	17:25	Session 6: Bioinformatics, machine learning and AI <i>Chair: Nick Loman</i> <i>Moderator: Deogratius Ssemwanga</i>	Auditorium
16:10	16:40	Title TBC Moritz Kraemer, University of Oxford, United Kingdom	
16:40	16:55	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
16:55	17:10	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
17:10	17:25	Short talk selected from abstracts <i>Short talk speaker</i>	
17:25	17:55	Poster pitch talks for even number posters	Auditorium
17:55	18:55	Poster session 2 (even number posters) and networking reception	Event Space

18:55	21:00	Dinner	Hinxton Hall Restaurant
18:55		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 Sophie Duraffour, Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, Germany	
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	12:30	Closing remarks Scientific Programme Committee: Deogratius Ssemwanga, LSHTM and MRC-UVR, Uganda Kate Grabowski, Johns Hopkins University, United States of America Nick Loman, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom	Auditorium
12:30	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