

# Virus Genomics, Evolution and Bioinformatics

## 11-13 November 2026

### Hybrid Conference Programme

| Start (GMT)                        | Finish (GMT) | Presenter details                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Location                |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Wednesday, 11 November 2026</b> |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                         |
| 12:00                              | 13:00        | <b>Registration, lunch and networking</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                         |
| 12:45                              |              | Briefing for keynote speaker, Session 1 speakers, microphone runners, chair, moderator and committee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Auditorium              |
| 13:00                              | 13:10        | <b>Welcome and introductions</b><br><b>Wellcome Sanger Institute</b><br>Liã Bárbara Arruda, Wellcome Sanger Institute, United Kingdom<br><br><b>Scientific programme committee:</b><br><a href="#">Deogratius Ssemwanga, LSHTM and MRC-UVRI, Uganda</a><br><a href="#">Kate Grabowski, Johns Hopkins University, United States of America</a><br><a href="#">Nick Loman, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom</a> | Auditorium              |
| 13:10                              | 14:00        | <b>Opening keynote</b><br>Chair: Nick Loman<br>Moderator: Kate Grabowski                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Auditorium              |
| 13:10                              | 14:00        | Title TBC<br><a href="#">Marion Koopmans, Erasmus University Medical Centre, Netherlands</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                         |
| 14:00                              | 14:10        | Comfort break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                         |
| 14:10                              | 15:40        | <b>Session 1: Animals and zoonoses</b><br>Chair: Deogratius Ssemwanga<br>Moderator: Nick Loman                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Auditorium              |
| 14:10                              | 14:40        | Ecology and evolution of North American H5Nx viruses<br><a href="#">Louise Moncla, University of Pennsylvania, United States of America</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                         |
| 14:40                              | 15:10        | Title TBC<br><a href="#">Erik Karlsson, Institut Pasteur du Cambodge, Cambodia</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                         |
| 15:10                              | 15:25        | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                         |
| 15:25                              | 15:40        | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>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        | <b>Session 2: Epidemics and outbreaks</b><br>Chair: Kate Grabowski<br>Moderator: Deogratius Ssemwanga                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Auditorium              |
| 16:20                              | 16:50        | Title TBC<br><a href="#">Christophe Fraser, University of Oxford, United Kingdom</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                         |
| 16:50                              | 17:05        | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                         |
| 17:05                              | 17:20        | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                         |
| 17:20                              | 17:35        | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                         |
| 17:35                              | 18:15        | <b>Poster pitch talks for odd number posters</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Auditorium              |
| 18:15                              | 19:15        | <b>Poster session 1 (odd number posters) and networking reception</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Event Space             |
| 19:15                              | 21:30        | Dinner                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Hinxton Hall Restaurant |
| 19:15                              |              | Bar open (card payments only)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Graham Cameron Bar      |
| <b>Thursday 12 November 2026</b>   |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                         |

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|-------|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 9:15  |       | Briefing for Session 3 speakers, chair and moderator                                                                                                     | Auditorium              |
| 9:30  | 11:00 | <b>Session 3: Vaccines and treatment</b><br>Chair: Deogratius Ssemwanga<br>Moderator: Nick Loman                                                         | Auditorium              |
| 9:30  | 10:00 | Title TBC<br><a href="#">Emily Toth Martin, University of Michigan, USA</a>                                                                              |                         |
| 10:00 | 10:30 | Understanding HIV diversity and evolution for contemporary immunogen design<br><a href="#">Thumbi Ndung'u, University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa</a> |                         |
| 10:30 | 10:45 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                 |                         |
| 10:45 | 11:00 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                 |                         |
| 11:00 | 11:45 | Refreshment break and networking                                                                                                                         | Event Space             |
| 11:30 |       | Briefing for Session 4 speakers, chair and moderator                                                                                                     | Auditorium              |
| 11:45 | 13:15 | <b>Session 4: Viral metagenomics and microbiome</b><br>Chair: Nick Loman<br>Moderator: Deogratius Ssemwanga                                              | Auditorium              |
| 11:45 | 12:15 | Title TBC<br><a href="#">Joshua Quick, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom</a>                                                                      |                         |
| 12:15 | 12:45 | The richness of the human virome<br><a href="#">Evelien Adriaenssens, Quadram Institute Bioscience, United Kingdom</a>                                   |                         |
| 12:45 | 13:00 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                 |                         |
| 13:00 | 13:15 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                 |                         |
| 13:15 | 14:30 | Lunch and networking                                                                                                                                     | Hinxton Hall Restaurant |
| 14:15 |       | Briefing for Session 5 speakers, chair and moderator                                                                                                     | Auditorium              |
| 14:30 | 15:45 | <b>Session 5: Adaptation and evolution: virus dynamics within and between hosts</b><br>Chair: Kate Grabowski<br>Moderator: Nick Loman                    | Auditorium              |
| 14:30 | 15:00 | The antigenic and genetic evolution of dengue virus<br><a href="#">Henrik Salje, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom</a>                             |                         |
| 15:00 | 15:15 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                 |                         |
| 15:15 | 15:30 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                 |                         |
| 15:30 | 15:45 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                 |                         |
| 15:45 | 16:30 | Refreshment break and networking                                                                                                                         | Event Space             |
| 16:15 |       | Briefing for Session 6 speakers, chair and moderator                                                                                                     | Auditorium              |
| 16:30 | 17:45 | <b>Session 6: Bioinformatics, machine learning and AI</b><br>Chair: Nick Loman<br>Moderator: Deogratius Ssemwanga                                        | Auditorium              |
| 16:30 | 17:00 | Title TBC<br><a href="#">Moritz Kraemer, University of Oxford, United Kingdom</a>                                                                        |                         |
| 17:00 | 17:15 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                 |                         |
| 17:15 | 17:30 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                 |                         |
| 17:30 | 17:45 | Short talk selected from abstracts<br>Short talk speaker                                                                                                 |                         |
| 17:45 | 18:25 | Poster pitch talks for even number posters                                                                                                               | Auditorium              |

|              |              |                                                                        |                                |
|--------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>18:25</b> | <b>19:25</b> | <b>Poster session 2 (even number posters) and networking reception</b> | <i>Event Space</i>             |
| 19:25        | 21:30        | Dinner                                                                 | <i>Hinxton Hall Restaurant</i> |
| 19:25        |              | Bar open (card payments only)                                          | <i>Graham Cameron Bar</i>      |

## Friday 13 November 2026

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