

Cystic Fibrosis our focus

“Trust funded research showcase”: UK Cystic Fibrosis Conference

12 May 2021, online

Welcome

The aim of the conference is to provide the CF research community with an informal opportunity to share their results, generate new ideas and spark interest in new collaborations. Within our portfolio we fund research along the themes of tackling the underlying cause of cystic fibrosis, understanding and treating symptoms and complications of CF and understanding and treating CF lung infections. These themes form the structure for today’s agenda.

Agenda

9.15 -9.30 Welcome and Introduction

9.30- 11.00am Session 1: Tackling the underlying cause of cystic fibrosis

Within our research portfolio the Cystic Fibrosis Trust is funding research to tackle the underlying cause of cystic fibrosis. This includes research to improve the function of CFTR, investigating the potential of alternative channels as therapeutic targets, development of genetic therapies and understanding more about lung clearance and inflammation to improve treatment. You can read an overview of the research we’re funding to tackle the underlying cause of CF [on our website](#).

Following a plenary talk from Professor Margarida Amaral, Professor of Molecular Biology at the University of Lisbon in Portugal, we will hear research updates from the different SRC programmes of progress made in their respective areas.

9.30 – 9.45	Professor Margarida Amaral	Plenary 1: Tackling the underlying cause of cystic fibrosis
9.45- 9.55	Dr Stella Prins	“Can two wrongs make a right? Studies on F508del-CFTR revertant mutations”

09.55-10.05	Raquel Martins-Centeio	“Modulation of Alternative Cl- Channels as a Therapy in CF”
10.05-10.15	Dr Max Woodall	“Genetic therapies for Cystic Fibrosis”
10.15-10.25	Laëtitia Pinte	“Modeling the impact of genetic variants on cystic fibrosis”
10.25-10.35	Laura Caley	“The impact of gut dysbiosis in cystic fibrosis”
10.35-11.00	Q & A	

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 1pm Session 2: Understanding and treating symptoms and complications of CF

Cystic fibrosis affects a number of different parts of the body, including the lungs, the liver, pancreas, gut and bones. In this session we highlight Trust-funded research investigating improvements in treating symptoms and CF-complications such as CF-related diabetes and better ways to manage them. You can read an overview of the [research we're funding to understand and treat and treat the symptoms and complications of CF](#) on our website.

Following a plenary talk from Dr Joanna Whitehouse, Director of the Adult CF Centre and Consultant Physician at Heartlands Hospital, Birmingham, we will hear research updates from the different SRC programmes of progress made in their respective areas.

11.30-11.45	Dr Joanna Whitehouse,	Plenary 2: Understanding and treating symptoms and complications of CF
11.45- 11.55	Dr Siobahn Carr	“CF-EpiNet: Using Data to Inform Change”
11.55-12.05	Dr Bibi Uhre-Nielsen	“Assessing pancreatic endocrine function in cystic fibrosis”
12.05-12.15	Dr Heledd Jarosz-Griffiths	“Is cystic fibrosis an autoinflammatory disease?”
12.15-12.25	Professor Ursula Seidler	“Restoration of luminal fluidity and alkalinity in the CF gut”
12.25-12.35	Professor Steve Renshaw	“Research to understand and prevent bowel cancer in people with cystic fibrosis”
12.35-13.00	Q & A	

13.00- 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 – 15.30 Session 3: Understanding and treating lung infections

People with cystic fibrosis (CF) are susceptible to a number of different types of lung infection. Some CF infections are becoming resistant to the antimicrobial drugs that are used to treat them. We're funding research into different strategies to overcome antimicrobial resistance and fight lung infections. You can read an overview of the [research we're funding to understand and treat lung infections](#) on our website.

Following a plenary talk from Professor Jane Davies, Professor of Paediatric Respiratory Medicine & Experimental Medicine at Imperial College London, we will hear research updates from the different SRC programmes and from the UK CF Innovation Hub on lung health of progress made in their respective areas.

14.00-14.15	Professor Jane Davies	Plenary 3: Understanding and treating lung infections
14.15-14.25	Tom Williams	"Aspergillus and Cell Death in Cystic Fibrosis"
14.25-14.35	Bjarke Haldrup Pedersen	"Metabolic rewiring of <i>P. aeruginosa</i> during within-patient evolution"
14.35-14.45	Ronan Murphy	"Improving the effectiveness of antibiotics against <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> using a 'resistance-breaker' drug"
14.45-14.55	Dr Juan Belardinelli	"Within host adaptation of <i>Mycobacterium abscessus</i> to lungs of CF patients: Impact on virulence and transmission"
14.55-15.05	Dr Sherine Thomas	"Fragment-based drug discovery to combat cystic fibrosis lung infections: A molecular 'LEGO game' that we can win!"
15.05-15.30	Q & A	
15.30-15.40	Close – Dr Lucy Allen	