Cystic Fibrosis Trust

UK Cystic Fibrosis Conference 2025

1–2 October, Marble Arch Hotel London

Programme

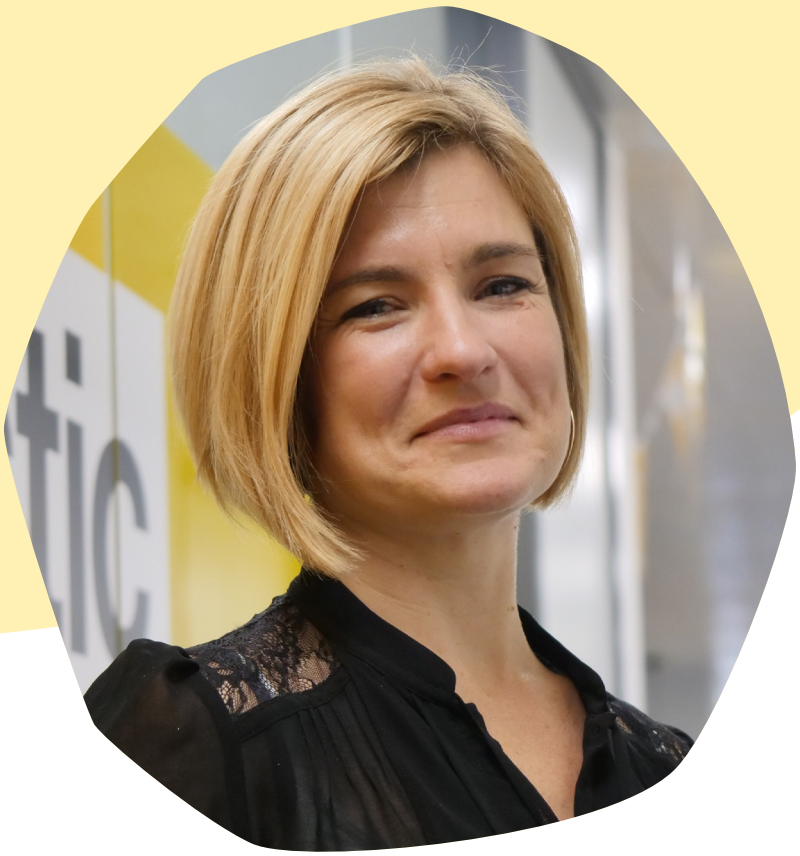
Welcome

I'm excited to welcome you to the UK CF conference 2025, a two-day conference showcasing how the CF research community is uniting around our research goals to achieve a life unlimited for people with CF.

The programme includes new and ongoing research from biomedical research, clinical trials, and studies using healthcare data.

The conference will include early career researcher poster presentations, a diverse selection of workshops and insightful plenary presentations. We hope you'll come away with new ideas, new contacts and renewed inspiration to enable people with CF to live a life unlimited by their condition.

Dr Lucy Allen
Director of Research and Healthcare Data, Cystic Fibrosis Trust



UK Cystic Fibrosis Conference 2025

Contents

About Cystic Fibrosis Trust

Cystic Fibrosis Trust is the charity uniting people to stop cystic fibrosis (CF). We fund vital research, improve care, speak out and race towards effective treatments for all. Cystic Fibrosis Trust is here to make sure everyone with cystic fibrosis can live without limits.

Since 1964, we've supported people with cystic fibrosis to live longer, healthier lives – and we won't stop until everyone can live without limits imposed by CF.

Our research goals

Through **our research goals** we will accelerate progress towards a future where everyone with CF can live a life unlimited. We will develop new and improved treatments for everyone, find better ways to diagnose and treat lung infections, prevent and treat all CF symptoms throughout the body and enable people with CF to live longer, healthier lives. These goals are informed by the research priorities of the CF community. To achieve them we will fund world class research, build effective partnerships, provide internationally recognised infrastructure and harness high quality healthcare data. People with CF will contribute their lived expertise shaping all of these activities every step of the way.

How we fund and support research

The Trust **supports a wide portfolio of research,** through our research funding schemes and our research partnerships.

- **Strategic Research Centres (SRCs)** are virtual groups of inter-disciplinary experts from within and outside the field of CF, who come together to work on projects that are important to people with CF
- **Venture and Innovation Awards (VIAs)** support transformational and innovative research projects by bringing leveraged funding into the field of CF from external sources
- **Development Awards (DAs)** allow researchers to undertake preparatory work prior to developing future applications for further funding
- **Summer Studentships** are placements for promising medical and basic science undergraduates. They provide hands-on experience of research during the academic summer vacation.

Our **Translational Innovation Hub Network for CF Lung Health and Infection** will fast track new research and treatments to improve lung health and quality of life for people with CF. This £15 million programme is funded by Cystic Fibrosis Trust and LifeArc over five years, from 2024 to 2029.

The network is made up of four Innovation Hubs, led by researchers at the Universities of Cambridge, Liverpool, Manchester and Imperial College London, as well as partners across the UK and internationally.

Clinical Trials Accelerator Platform

Cystic Fibrosis Trust established the **Clinical Trials Accelerator Platform (CTAP)** in 2017 to increase access to clinical research for people with cystic fibrosis. The platform also supports clinical trial sponsors in delivering a wide range of studies across the UK, helping to enhance the country's capacity for CF research.

Since its launch, we have supported 74 CF studies, enabled thousands of people to participate, and reduced the time it takes to set up a study at the CF centres conducting the research.

Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE)

Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) can improve the quality of research, ensure it focusses on what matters most to the community, and enable research to be designed in a feasible and accessible way. PPIE can have a big impact on recruitment and retention rates in clinical research studies and trials, particularly when taking place at the earliest possible stages of research during design and planning.

Our involvement service supports researchers and innovators to ensure appropriate and timely PPIE activity is planned and facilitated, within the remit of any relevant codes of conduct and utilising the breadth of expertise that is held by our engaged network of contributors.

UK CF Registry

The **UK Cystic Fibrosis Registry** is a secure centralised database, sponsored and managed by Cystic Fibrosis Trust. It records health data on consenting people with CF in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Over 99% of people with CF in the UK consent to their data being added to the Registry.

Non-identifiable Registry data is used to improve the health of people with CF through research, to guide quality improvement at care centres, and to monitor the safety of new drugs. More information about how researchers and innovators can apply to use Registry data is available on the Trust's website.

Agenda

Conference day 1

9.40–10am **Welcome from conference chair**
Dr Gwyneth Davies, UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health

10–10.30am **Opening Plenary: Delivering effective treatments for people with CF – please mind the gap**
Professor Robert Gray, University of Glasgow

Session 1: Enabling people with CF to live longer, healthier lives

10.30–10.45am **Delivering clinical trials in a new era of CF**
Dr Helen Barr, University of Nottingham

10.45–11am **Using novel MRI techniques to improve lung health – insight from MAGNIFY SRC**
Dr Laurie Smith, University of Sheffield

11–11.15am **Answering questions on pregnancy, maternal and infant health for people with CF**
Dr Imogen Felton, Royal Brompton Hospital

11.15–11.30am **Refreshment break**

11.30–11.40am **Evaluating treatment effects using UK CF Registry data**
Professor Ruth Keogh, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

11.40–11.50am **Optimising cancer screening and surveillance for people with CF: preliminary insights from qualitative interviews**
Professor Laura Ashley, Leeds Beckett University

11.50–12.05pm **Q and A**

12.05–12.45pm **Flash poster session 1**
Click here for a list of the poster presenters

12.45–1.45pm **Lunch**

Read the speaker biographies here

1.45–2.45pm **Workshops**

- Clinical trial design
- An Early Career Researchers guide to publishing
- An introduction to the UK CF Registry
- CTAP Trial Coordinators (closed session)

2.45–3pm **Refreshment break**

Session 2: Treating all of the symptoms of CF throughout the body

3–3.15pm	**What can healthcare data tell us about CF complications and the risk of developing them?** Dr Freddy Frost, University of Liverpool
3.15–3.30pm	**Not my (pheno)type? Understanding phenotypes of gut symptoms in CF** Professor Alan Smyth, Queen's University, Belfast
3.30–3.45pm	**An automated insulin delivery system for people with CF diabetes** Dr Charlotte Boughton, University of Cambridge
3.45–3.55pm	**Diet quality in children with CF and future health outcomes** Laura Schembri, Imperial College London
3.55–4.10pm	**Q and A**

4.10–4.50pm **Flash poster session 2**
Click here for a list of the poster presenters

4.50–5pm **Sum up and close**

5–7pm **Drinks reception and poster viewing**

Read the speaker biographies here

Thank you to Vertex, LifeArc, ReCode Therapeutics, Essential Pharma and Arcturus for sponsoring the conference. None of our sponsors have had any influence on the agenda or speakers.

Agenda

Conference day 2

10–10.15am **Welcome from conference chair**
Professor Deborah Baines, City St George's, University of London

10.15–10.45am **Plenary – What can we learn from looking beyond CF?**
Professor James Chalmers, University of Dundee

10.45–11am **Refreshment break**

Session 3: Improving the diagnosis and treatment of CF lung infections and maintaining lung health

11–11.15am **Overview of Translational Innovation Hub Network for CF Lung Health and Infection and introduction to Flare-CF**
Professor Andres Floto, University of Cambridge

11.15–11.25am **Precision-CF**
Professor Jane Davies, Imperial College London

11.25–11.35am **Pulse-CF**
Professor Alex Horsley, University of Manchester

11.35–11.45am **Trailfinder-CF**
Professor Jo Fothergill, University of Liverpool

11:45–12pm **CF START – a randomised registry trial**
Professor Alan Smyth, on behalf of CF START trial team

12–12.15pm **Q and A**

12.15–1.15pm **Lunch**

1.15–2.15pm **Workshops**
- What outcomes are important for people with CF?
- What's happening in the liver?
- Building professional networks

2.15–2.30pm **Refreshment break**

Read the speaker biographies here

Session 4: Developing effective treatments for all

2.30–2.45pm	**New therapeutic approach for treating CF – potassium channels and CFTR function** Dr Guy Moss, UCL
2.45–3pm	**Increasing diversity in recruitment to trials** Dr Mike Waller, King's College London
3–3.15pm	**Novel suppressor compounds as drugs for CFTR 'stop' mutations** Professor Margarida Amaral, University of Lisbon
3.15–3.30pm	**Children in trials – challenges and opportunities** Professor Rebecca Thursfield, Alder Hey Children's Hospital
3.30–3.45pm	**Q and A**
3.45–4.15pm	**Panel discussion**
4.15–4.45pm	**Closing Plenary: Unlocking the key to CF - understanding the CFTR protein** Professor Ineke Braakman, University of Utrecht
4.45–5pm	**Closing comments** Dr Gwyneth Davies and Professor Deborah Baines

Read the speaker biographies here

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Speakers

Day 1 – Listed by session

Welcome and introduction

Dr Gwyneth Davies
UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health

Gwyneth is a clinical associate professor at the UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health (GOS ICH), London, where she holds a Future Leaders Fellowship awarded by UK Research and Innovation. She has been deputy head of the Population, Policy and Practice Research & Teaching Department at UCL GOS ICH since 2024. Gwyneth also works clinically as a honorary consultant in paediatric respiratory medicine at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust, London. Her research interests include maximising the value of healthcare systems data for patient benefit, and the design and delivery of clinical trials embedded within routine care. She chairs the London Clinical Trials Accelerator Platform (CTAP) regional network, and is a member of the UK Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Registry Steering Committee. Gwyneth is co-Chief Investigator for the UK multi-centre registry randomised controlled trial CF STORM. She is also co-lead for the international CF trial emulation network (CF-TEN), which is using causal methods to investigate treatment effects in CF registry data.

Opening Plenary

Professor Robert Gray
University of Glasgow

Robert Gray is Professor of Respiratory Medicine at the University of Glasgow. He has studied inflammation in CF for almost 20 years ranging from biomarker studies to mechanistic biology. His lab is presently studying how inflammation might be altered to improve lung disease and the lung repair process in CF.

Session 1 (Day 1)

Dr Helen Barr
University of Nottingham

Dr Helen Barr is an associate Professor at the University of Nottingham and honorary consultant at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust. She is the clinical director of the Nottingham Wolfson Adult Cystic Fibrosis Centre. Dr Barr leads the chronic infection stream of the University of Nottingham NIHR Respiratory Biomedical Research Centre. Her main work focuses on chronic respiratory infection, particularly *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, point of care diagnostics and epidemiology.

For the past 2 years, she has been clinical lead for the UK CF Clinical Trials Accelerator Platform Network. She provides strategic oversight for the UK CF clinical trials network and actively contributes to the Research Scientific Oversight Board at the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. She is a member of the NIHR Respiratory Translational Research Collaboration National Research Strategy Group and the European CF Clinical Trials Steering Committee. Dr Barr has extensive clinical trials expertise and is the UK principal investigator for the international trial FORMaT.

Dr Laurie Smith
University of Sheffield

Laurie is a respiratory physiologist working in research at the University of Sheffield. I have a specialist interest in using functional lung MRI alongside advanced pulmonary function tests to better understand lung disease pathophysiology. I completed my PhD in 2020 whilst working in the POLARIS lung imaging group using these methods to assess their relationship to people with CF. I am now one of the co-investigators of Cystic Fibrosis Trust funded Strategic Research Centre MAGNIFY project, which aims to evaluate the utility of lung MRI in CF in the modern era.

Dr Imogen Felton
Royal Brompton Hospital

Dr Imogen Felton qualified at Guy's, King's and St Thomas' School of Medicine in 2005, where she also completed a BSc. in Psychology. She trained in Respiratory medicine in London, including at St. Thomas', King's College and Royal Brompton Hospitals. In 2012, Dr Felton was awarded National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) funding for a PhD in respiratory and genomic medicine at Imperial College London and Royal Brompton Hospital studying the fungal respiratory microbiome in adult cystic fibrosis (CF) and non-CF bronchiectasis.

Dr Felton completed post-graduate specialist training in 2018 with the Cystic Fibrosis Trust Fellowship Award, in adult CF centres in the UK (Royal Brompton Hospital and King's College Hospital) and in the USA at Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CFF), Therapeutics Development Network Centre, Children's Research Institute and University of Washington. In 2021, Dr Felton established a multi-disciplinary CF-Reproductive and Maternal Health Service in partnership with Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London and a broader clinical and academic network with King's Health Partners.

Dr Felton's current research aims focus around CF-Maternal and Reproductive Health, CF diabetes and metabolic disease, as co-PI with Professor Jane Davies in the Cystic Fibrosis Trust Strategic Research Centre 'MATRIARCH_CF'. She has a particular interest in the impact on patient experiences and clinical outcomes following CFTR-mutation specific modulator therapy during pregnancy and parenthood.

Professor Ruth Keogh

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Ruth is Professor of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), where she is co-director of the LSHTM Centre for Data and Statistical Science for Health (DASH). Ruth's research focuses on statistical methods for the analysis of observational health data and applications in a number of areas of health research. She has been involved in research in cystic fibrosis for several years, especially making use of data from the UK CF Registry.

Professor Laura Ashley

Leeds Beckett University

Laura is Professor of Health Psychology at Leeds Beckett University. Laura undertakes applied psychosocial health research, often using qualitative methods. Much of her work focuses on improving health care accessibility and experiences across the cancer trajectory, particularly for people with other pre-existing long-term conditions. She is interested in co-developing interventional strategies to optimise health care information, encounters and environments, to improve and reduce inequalities in patient-centred outcomes.

Dr Freddy Frost

University of Liverpool

Dr Freddy Frost is a Senior Lecturer and Consultant Respiratory Physician at University of Liverpool and the Adult CF Centre in Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital. His clinical work included CF and bronchiectasis his research focusses on short and long-term outcomes of chronic lung infection.

Professor Alan Smyth

Queen's University Belfast

Professor Smyth is Dean and Head of School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, at Queen's University Belfast and Professor of Child Health at Queen's. He holds an honorary appointment as Professor of Child Health at the University of Nottingham and Consultant in Paediatric Respiratory Medicine at Nottingham Children's Hospital. He is co-chair of the NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research and Programme Development Grants sub-committees.

His medical training was at Clare College Cambridge and the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School. Prof Smyth did much of his paediatric and post graduate research training at Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool. In 1996 he moved to Nottingham as a consultant paediatrician and subsequently became Professor of Child Health in Nottingham in 2010. Since 2023, he has been Dean at Queen's University Belfast.

He is the Co-ordinating Editor of "Cochrane Cystic Fibrosis" and was joint editor in chief of the respiratory journal Thorax from 2015 to 2022. Prof Smyth leads GRAMPUS-CF – a research programme in MRI imaging of the lung and gut in cystic fibrosis. When not at work he is a keen cyclist and pilot.

Session 2 (Day 1)

Dr Charlotte Boughton

University of Cambridge

Dr Charlotte Boughton is a Senior Clinical Research Associate at the University of Cambridge and Diabetes Consultant at Cambridge University Hospitals and Royal Papworth Hospital.

Her research focuses on the use of new technologies, in particular automated insulin delivery (closed-loop) systems to improve outcomes for people with diabetes. She undertakes randomised controlled clinical trials to evaluate the efficacy and safety of a fully closed-loop approach for people with type 2 diabetes, both as inpatients in the acute hospital setting and as outpatients. She has also investigated the impact of hybrid closed-loop systems in children and adults with type 1 diabetes, and the role of ultra-rapid insulins to enhance performance of automated insulin delivery. Her Fellowship project investigates the role of automated insulin delivery in achieving remission for adults with recent onset type 2 diabetes.

She is currently Chief Investigator for an NIHR EME funded multicentre trial of closed-loop technology for people with cystic fibrosis related diabetes (CL4P-CF).

Laura Schembri

Imperial College London

Laura is a Specialist Paediatric Respiratory Dietitian at the Royal Brompton Hospital in London, UK, where she has worked for the past five years. She is completing a National Institute of Health Research pre-doctoral fellowship at Imperial College London, investigating diet quality in children with cystic fibrosis. Since qualifying as a dietitian in 2015, Laura has developed specialist expertise in paediatric nutrition. She holds a BSc (Hons) in Nutrition and Dietetics and a Master of Public Health and currently serves as Secretary of the British Dietetic Association Cystic Fibrosis Specialist Group Committee.

Speakers

Day 2 – Listed by session

Welcome

Professor Deborah Baines

City St George's, University of London

Deborah Baines is Professor of Molecular Physiology at the School of Health and Medical Sciences, City St George's, University of London. She has spent her career working in airway epithelial ion and solute transport and was awarded the Hans Ussing Prize in recognition of her work in the field. She has studied the effect of hyperglycaemia (associated with diabetes) in the airway and was a PI on two SRC grants funded by Cystic Fibrosis Trust, developing gene editing therapies for cystic fibrosis. She currently leads a CF Foundation project to deliver novel CFTR mRNA gene therapies to the airway.

Opening Plenary

Professor James Chalmers

University of Dundee

Professor James D Chalmers is Asthma and Lung UK Chair of Respiratory Research at the University of Dundee and a consultant Respiratory Physician at Ninewells Hospital, Dundee. He is Head of the Division of Respiratory Medicine. He is an active clinician with a subspeciality interest in complex respiratory infections and leads a translational research group with active research programmes in bronchiectasis, COPD, NTM and other difficult infections. He has published 500 peer reviewed manuscripts and is chief investigator of multiple multicentre trials. He is current Chief Editor of the European Respiratory Journal.

Session 3 (Day 2)

Professor Andres Floto
University of Cambridge

Andres Floto is Professor of Respiratory Biology at the University of Cambridge, Co-Director of the Cambridge Centre for AI in Medicine (CCAIM), and Director of the Flare-CF Innovation Hub. His basic research is focused on understanding how bacteria interact with the innate immune system and how machine learning methods, including geometric deep learning, can be used to gain systems-level understanding of bacterial pathobiology and develop new antibiotics. His clinical research is centred around using graph-based machine learning to understand and predict pulmonary exacerbations, and applying deep learning methods to provide individualised clinical forecasting for patients with CF.

Professor Jane Davies
Imperial College London

Jane Davies is Professor of Paediatric Respirology and Experimental Medicine at the National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London, in England and is a NIHR Senior Investigator. She is an Honorary Consultant in Paediatric Respiratory Medicine, Royal Brompton Hospital. Her main areas of research interest are CF chronic lung infection and clinical trial design. She is the Director of the Precision-CF Innovation Hub and is a co-director of the Maternal Infant Reproductive & Child Health in CF (MATRIARCH) Strategic Research Centre. Jane has been global lead investigator on a large number of international trials of CFTR modulator drugs, including in children and infants and a member of the Strategy Group of the UK CF Gene Therapy Consortium. She leads the NIHR CF National Research Strategy Group and is President of the European CF Society.

Professor Alex Horsley
University of Manchester

Alex is a Professor of Respiratory Medicine at the University of Manchester, consultant at the Manchester Adult Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Centre, and CF academic lead for the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre. He is director of the PULSE-CF Innovation Hub (**www.pulse-cf.com**), leading a large multi-centre research program into CF exacerbations with two multi-centre clinical studies (CF-Tracker and UNIFIED-CF). Alex is also director of the NIHR Manchester Clinical Research Facility at Wythenshawe Hospital, and has led many CF clinical trials over the last decade and a half.

Professor Jo Fothergill
University of Liverpool

Jo is a Professor of Medical Microbiology at the University of Liverpool, Director of the Microbiome Innovation Centre and Director of the Trailfinder-CF Innovation Hub. Her research interests revolve around understanding how pathogens cause disease, in particular the opportunistic pathogen, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and how it interacts with other species during infection particularly within polymicrobial biofilms. Deciphering these interactions could be key to both understanding the evolution of successful pathogens and the development of appropriate therapeutics. Jo's research combines genomics, molecular microbiology and population studies combined with relevant infection models.

Professor Alan Smyth

Queen's University Belfast

Professor Smyth is Dean and Head of School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, at Queen's University Belfast and Professor of Child Health at Queen's. He holds an honorary appointment as Professor of Child Health at the University of Nottingham and Consultant in Paediatric Respiratory Medicine at Nottingham Children's Hospital. He is co-chair of the NIHR Programme Grants for Applied Research and Programme Development Grants sub-committees.

His medical training was at Clare College Cambridge and the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School. Prof Smyth did much of his paediatric and post graduate research training at Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool. In 1996 he moved to Nottingham as a consultant paediatrician and subsequently became Professor of Child Health in Nottingham in 2010. Since 2023, he has been Dean at Queen's University Belfast.

He is the Co-ordinating Editor of "Cochrane Cystic Fibrosis" and was joint editor in chief of the respiratory journal Thorax from 2015 to 2022. Prof Smyth leads GRAMPUS-CF – a research programme in MRI imaging of the lung and gut in cystic fibrosis. When not at work he is a keen cyclist and pilot.

Session 4 (Day 2)

Dr Guy Moss
UCL

Guy studied physics as an undergraduate before pursuing a PhD in the Biophysics group at Imperial College. He then moved to Yale where he began studying potassium channel pharmacology. He returned to UCL in 1997 to set up his own group applying both experimental and theoretical approaches to study channel physiology and pharmacology. His work includes the development of novel biophysical techniques for near simultaneous, label-free measurements of airway surface liquid (ASL) depth and pH, mucus rheology, transepithelial potential and cilia beat frequency. Most recently he has begun looking at the role of potassium channels in cystic fibrosis (CF).

Dr Mike Waller
King's College London

Dr Michael Waller is a consultant in cystic fibrosis, bronchiectasis, and respiratory medicine at King's College Hospital, London, and an Honorary Senior Lecturer at King's College London. He leads both the adult CF clinical service and CF clinical trials programmes at King's, and serves on the UK CF Medical Association executive committee. His clinical interests includes advanced CF diagnostics; he is part of the Difficult CF Diagnosis service at the Royal Brompton Hospital and is a member of the European CF Society's Diagnostic Network Working Group.

Professor Margarida Amaral
University of Lisbon

Margarida D. Amaral is Full Professor at the University of Lisboa and leads a research group at BioISI, which she founded. Her lab investigates the molecular mechanisms of cystic fibrosis (CF), using transcriptomics, proteomics, and high-throughput screens, with a recent focus on CF-related cancer. Their findings contribute to advances in CF diagnosis, prognosis, and theranostics.

An EMBL and IGC alumna, she is a member of EMBO and of the Lisboa Academy of Sciences and has received prestigious prizes, including the ECFS Annual Award and the Pfizer Award (Portugal). She held a visiting professorship in Brazil and currently in China.

Professor Rebecca Thursfield
Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool

Professor Rebecca Thursfield is a consultant in Paediatric Respiratory medicine at Alder Hey Children's NHS Trust and an honorary clinical associate professor at the University of Liverpool. Having completed medical school in Liverpool in 2002 she undertook general paediatric and specialist respiratory paediatrics training in London, obtaining an MD(Res) from Imperial College, before moving back to Liverpool to take up her consultant post. She specialises in cystic fibrosis, respiratory physiology, and respiratory complications of oesophageal atresia/trachea-oesophageal fistula. Professor Thursfield has a particular interest in clinical research and is currently involved in studies for CF, oesophageal atresia and is providing respiratory input to a trial for pectus excavatum.

Closing Plenary

Professor Ineke Braakman

University of Utrecht

Ineke Braakman PhD (Professor of Cellular Protein Chemistry, Utrecht University) received post-doctoral training in molecular cell-biology at Yale University, CT USA. Her research aims to uncover mechanisms, maintenance, and regulation of protein (mis)folding in cells and its impact on disease, including cystic fibrosis. Her lab (with co-PI Peter van der Sluijs) has provided deep insights into the folding pathway of CFTR, defects in disease-causing mutants, and the primary effects of modulators on the CFTR molecule. Her track record includes >30 graduated PhD students, >200 invited seminars, numerous professorship-appointment committees, (inter)national advisory and evaluation panels, and >100 thesis evaluation committees.

Closing comments

Dr Gwyneth Davies

UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health

Gwyneth is a clinical associate professor at the UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health (GOS ICH), London, where she holds a Future Leaders Fellowship awarded by UK Research and Innovation. She has been deputy head of the Population, Policy and Practice Research & Teaching Department at UCL GOS ICH since 2024. Gwyneth also works clinically as a honorary consultant in paediatric respiratory medicine at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust, London. Her research interests include maximising the value of healthcare systems data for patient benefit, and the design and delivery of clinical trials embedded within routine care. She chairs the London Clinical Trials Accelerator Platform (CTAP) regional network, and is a member of the UK Cystic Fibrosis (CF) Registry Steering Committee. Gwyneth is co-Chief Investigator for the UK multi-centre registry randomised controlled trial CF STORM. She is also co-lead for the international CF trial emulation network (CF-TEN), which is using causal methods to investigate treatment effects in CF registry data.

List of poster presentations

Flash Poster Session 1

1A. Ryan Marsh, Department of Applied Sciences, Northumbria University

2A. Jamie Tricker, Department of Applied Sciences, Northumbria University

3A. Charlotte Johnson, NIHR Nottingham Digestive Diseases Biomedical Research Centre, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust

4A. Darren Sills, Department of Lifespan and Population Health, University of Nottingham

5A. Daniel Beever, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham

6A. Demi J. Jakymelen, POLARIS, Academic Radiology, University of Sheffield

7A. Yves DS Brown, POLARIS, Section of Medical Imaging and Technology, Division of Clinical Medicine, School of Medicine and Population Health, University of Sheffield

8A. Jonathan Brady, Division of Immunology, Immunity to Infection and Respiratory Medicine, University of Manchester

9A. Samantha Humfress, University of Liverpool

10A. Rebecca Calthorpe, School of Medicine & NIHR Nottingham Biomedical Research Centre

11A. Amy Downes, Royal Brompton Hospital Adult CF Unit

12A. Jemila Holaman, University of Nottingham*

13A. M Kamran Afzal Mirza, School of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine and Sciences, King's College London*

***There will be no flash presentations for these posters.**

Flash Poster Session 2

1B. Anaïs Daly-Gourdialsing, National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London

2B. Abigail Hubball, School of Pharmacy, University of Nottingham

3B. Amie Micallef, Imperial College London, National Heart and Lung Institute

4B. Jemima Swain, Department of Biochemistry, University of Cambridge

5B. Mark Leahy, BioISI-Biosystems and Integrative Sciences Institute, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

6B. Jari Bulkens, UMC Utrecht, Pediatric Pulmonology, Utrecht, Netherlands

7B. Saidi Li, Department of Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology, UCL

8B. Omar Hamed, Department of Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology, UCL

9B. Jyosthna N. Lunavath, Department of Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology, UCL

10B. Yashoda Jayal, INSERM U1151, Institut Necker Enfants Malades, Paris, France

11B. Erdene Baigal, Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Erasmus Medical Center (EMC), Rotterdam, The Netherlands

12B. Zhujun Liu, University of Bristol

13B. James N Charlick, Translational Health Sciences, Bristol Medical School, University of Bristol

List of poster presentations

Summer studentship posters

SS1. **Elise Mulvale**, School of Bioscience, Cardiff University

SS2. **Briana M Barrand**, Department of Life Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Bath

SS3. **Olivia EM Cocks**, University of Bristol

SS4. **Miaojia (Vivi) Zhang**, Department of Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology, UCL

Clinical research, Registry and Partnership posters

C1. Cystic fibrosis research services in the West of Scotland, **Annie Husband,** NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHS GGC)

C2. The London CTAP network standard operating procedure for averting medications prohibited during clinical trials in cystic fibrosis, **Melanie Le Sayec**, King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, London

C3. Expanding Access: Leveraging the CTAP Championship Scheme to Broaden Cystic Fibrosis Trial Participation Across Ireland, **Abitha Balakrishnan Nair**, The Wellcome Trust-Wolfson, Northern Ireland Clinical Research Facility (NICRF), Belfast City Hospital

C4. The clinical trials accelerator platform; a UK clinical trials network at the forefront of advancing new treatments for cystic fibrosis, **Rebecca Brendel**, Cystic Fibrosis Trust

C5. Community engagement and involvement in clinical trials and beyond, **Claire Walter**, Cystic Fibrosis Trust

C6. Bridging the Translational Gap in Antimicrobial & Diagnostic Development for CF lung infections and beyond, **Paula Sommer** on behalf of CF AMR Syndicate

C7. LONGITUDE-QoL: An observational study of the long-term impact of elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor on the quality of life in people aged ≥12 years with cystic fibrosis using data from the United Kingdom Cystic Fibrosis Registry

C8. LONGITUDE-Non-F: an observational study evaluating outcomes of ELX/TEZ/IVA in people with cystic fibrosis aged ≥6 years with non-F508del CFTR variants using data from the UK CF Registry

C9. Target trial emulation: optimising methods for estimating treatment effects using data from the UK CF Registry, **Emily Granger**, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Poster presentations

Early Career Researcher posters

Poster number	Title, authors, and correspondence email
1A	**Faecal multi-omics across pwCF in the era of highly effective CFTR modulators: Baseline findings from the GRAMPUS-CF study** **Ryan Marsh**[1], W Cheung[1], D Arends[1], D Sills[2,3], H Saumtally[4], J Holaman[3], DW Rivett[5], ID Stewart[6], L Marciani[3,7], RC Spiller[3,7], T Monaghan[3,7], DG Peckham[4,8], AR Smyth[2,3,9], C van der Gas[1,10] [1]Department of Applied Sciences, Northumbria University, Newcastle, [2]Academic Unit of Lifespan & Population Health, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham, [3]School of Medicine & NIHR Nottingham Biomedical Research Centre, University of Nottingham, [4]Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, Leeds Adult Cystic Fibrosis Unit, Leeds, UK [5]Department of Natural Sciences, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK [6]Margaret Turner Warwick Centre for Fibrosing Lung Disease, National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London, [7]Nottingham Digestive Diseases Centre, Translational Medical Sciences, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham, [8]Leeds Institute of Medical Research, University of Leeds, [9]School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, Queen's University Belfast, UK [10]Department of Respiratory Medicine, Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust, Salford, UK Email address for correspondence: **ryan3.marsh@northumbria.ac.uk**
2A	**Investigating the impact of respiratory antibiotics upon the gut microbiome of children with cystic fibrosis using a high-throughput *in vitro* model.** **Jamie Tricker**[1], R Marsh[1], M Brodlie[2,3], I Haq[2,3], AL Jones[1], C van der Gast[1] [1]Department of Applied Sciences, Northumbria University, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK, [2]Great North Children's Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Children's Cystic Fibrosis, [3]Faculty of Medical Sciences, Newcastle University Email address for correspondence: **james.tricker@northumbria.ac.uk**
3A	**Investigating Intestinal Barrier Dysfunction in Cystic Fibrosis: Mechanisms, Pathogen interaction, and Therapeutic Modulation** **Charlotte Johnson**[1,2], F Floras[3,4], F Qassadi[5,6], M Hatziapostolou[3,4], C Polytarchou[3,4], Z Zhu[5], AR Smyth[1,7,8], K Robinson[1,9], TM Monaghan[1,2] [1]NIHR Nottingham Digestive Diseases Biomedical Research Centre, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, UK, [2]Translational Medical Sciences, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham, [3]Department of Biosciences, Centre for Systems Health and Integrated Metabolic Research (SHIMR), School of Science and Technology, Nottingham Trent University, [4]John van Geest Cancer Research Centre, School of Science and Technology, Nottingham Trent University, [5]School of Pharmacy, University of Nottingham, [6]Department of Pharmacognosy, College of Pharmacy, Prince Sattam Bin Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia, [7]Lifespan and Population Health, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham, [8]School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, Queen's University, Belfast, [9]Biodiscovery Institute, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham Email address for correspondence: **charlotte.johnson@nottingham.ac.uk**

Poster presentations

Early Career Researcher posters

Poster number	Title, authors, and correspondence email
4A	**Exploring diet and dietary patterns in gastrointestinal symptoms in adults with CF** Darren Sills[1,2,3], J Holaman[1], T Monaghan[3,4], D Downey[5], H Saumtally[6], R Spiller[3,4] , L Marciani[3,4,8], D Peckham[6], C van der Gast[9,10], H Barr[3,8,11], I Stewart[12], A Smyth[3,13] [1]University of Nottingham, Lifespan and Population Health, UK, [2]Nutrition and Dietetics, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, Nottingham, UK, [3]NIHR Nottingham Biomedical Research Centre, University of Nottingham, [4]Nottingham Digestive Diseases Centre, Translational Medical Sciences, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK, [5]Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, Queen's University of Belfast, UK, [6]Leeds Institute of Medical Research, School of Medicine, University of Leeds, [7]The Leeds Adult CF Unit, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, [8]Translational Medical Sciences, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK, [9]Department of Applied Sciences, Northumbria University, Newcastle, UK, [10]Department of Respiratory Medicine, Northern Care Alliance NHS Foundation Trust, Salford, UK, [11]Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and the University of Nottingham, UK, [12]National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London, [13]School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, Queen's University Belfast Email address for correspondence: **darren.sills1@nottingham.ac.uk**
5A	**For the community, by the community: the development of an online toolkit to support the communication of lung imaging results in CF** Daniel Beever[1], N Barker[2,3] S Bell[3], R Cassidy[3], L Charman[3], J Davis[3], S Dawson[3,4], B Evans[3], G Graffino[3], J Hall[3], R Harwood[3], L Howells[1], M Jamieson[3], P Leighton[1], J Reizer[3], M Rolfe[3], E Valentine[3] L Wallbridge[2,3], N Wilson-Torch[3], A Prayle[1] [1]School of Medicine, University of Nottingham [2]Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust, [3]MAGNIFY Research Community Member, [4]Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Email address for correspondence: **daniel.beever@nottingham.ac.uk**
6A	**Assessing changes in lung function following modulator therapy in cystic fibrosis using 129Xe MRI and pulmonary function testing** Demi J. Jakymelen[1], LJ Smith[1], AM Biancardi[1], A Horsley[1,3], N West[2], JM Wild[1] [1]POLARIS, Academic Radiology, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK, [2]Sheffield Children's Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Sheffield, UK, [3]Respiratory Research Group, Division of Infection, Immunity and Respiratory Medicine, University of Manchester, UK. Email address for correspondence: **d.jaymelen@sheffield.ac.uk**
7A	**Exploring the dynamic changes of main airway morphometry in CF during tidal breathing using proton MRI** Yves DS Brown, NJ Stewart, LJ Smith, JM Wild POLARIS, Section of Medical Imaging and Technology, Division of Clinical Medicine, School of Medicine and Population Health, University of Sheffield, UK. Email for correspondence: **ybrown1@sheffield.ac.uk**

Poster presentations

Early Career Researcher posters

Poster number	Title, authors, and correspondence email
8A	**Developing a ventilation MRI-based computational model of inhaled drug deposition in the lungs of people with cystic fibrosis** Jonathan Brady[1], A Horsley[1], Y Brown[2], D-J Jakymelen[2], G Collier[2], H Marshall[2], L Smith[2], A Biancardi[2], J Wild[2], C Whitfield[3] [1]Division of Immunology, Immunity to Infection and Respiratory Medicine, University of Manchester, [2]POLARIS, University of Sheffield, [3]Department of Mathematics, University of Manchester Email address for correspondence: **jonathan.brady@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk**
9A	**Towards Cystic Fibrosis Diagnostic Validation in Unlinked Datasets: Leveraging UK Primary Care and Registry Data** Samantha Humfress, F Frost University of Liverpool Email address for correspondence: **s.v.humfress@liverpool.ac.uk**
10A	**COS-CF: Developing a universal core outcome set for cystic fibrosis** Rebecca Calthorpe[1], BC Evans[2], C McLeod[3], SL Gorst[4], L Allen[5], N Goodchild[6], D Thorne[6], J Record[6], D Downey[2], C Hughes[7], G Davies[8], KS Thomas[9], AR Smyth[10, 1] [1]School of Medicine & NIHR Nottingham Biomedical Research Centre, Nottingham, UK, [2]Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine, Queen's University Belfast, UK, [3]The Kids Research Institute Australia, Nedlands, Australia, [4]Department of Health Data Science, University of Liverpool, [5]Cystic Fibrosis Trust, UK, [6]CF community representative, [7]School of Pharmacy, Queen's University Belfast, [8]UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health, [9]Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham, [10]School of Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences, Queen's University Belfast Email address for correspondence: **rebecca.calthorpe@nottingham.ac.uk**
11A	**MATRIARCH_CF – A study of females with CF throughout pregnancy and post-partum, and follow up of their offspring** Amy Downes[1,2], I Bokobza[2,3], R Scott[2,4] J Davies[2,3], I Felton[1,2] [1]Royal Brompton Hospital Adult CF Unit, [2]Imperial College London, [3]Royal Brompton Hospital Paediatric CF Unit, [4]Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. Email address for any correspondence: **a.downes@imperial.ac.uk**
12A	**ADVANCE-CFTR: Advanced Diagnostic Validation and Novel Clinical Evaluation across the CFTR spectrum** M Kamran Afzal Mirza[1], G Bewick[1], N Simmonds[2] [1]School of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Medicine and Sciences, King's College London, London [2]National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London, London Email address for any correspondence: **k20005294@kcl.ac.uk**

Poster presentations

Early Career Researcher posters

Poster number	Title, authors, and correspondence email
1B	**Increasing antibiotic activity against CF-relevant pathogenic bacteria using the repurposed multiple sclerosis drug, glatiramer acetate** **Anaïs Daly-Gourdialsing**[1], RF Rollo[1], ACL Micallef[1], M Zhao[1], S Gilles[1], RA Murphy[2], DA Hughes[1,3], T Vorup-Jensen[4], LP Allsopp[1], JC Davies[1,3] [1]National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London, [2]Freie Universität Berlin, Berlin, Germany, [3]Department of Paediatric Respiratory Medicine, Royal Brompton Hospital, London, UK, [4]Department of Biomedicine, Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark Email address for any correspondence: **ad4724@ic.ac.uk**
2B	**Understanding polymicrobial infection in Cystic Fibrosis via LESA-MS** **Abigail Hubball**[1,2], SN Robertson[3], S Heeb[2], RL Griffiths[1] [1]School of Pharmacy, University of Nottingham, Faculty of Science, University of Nottingham, NG7 2RD, [2]UK National Biofilm Innovation Centre (NBIC), Biodiscovery Institute, School of Life Sciences, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Nottingham, NG7 2RD, [3]MI-DX Email address for any correspondence: **rian.griffiths@nottingham.ac.uk**
3B	**United Kingdom Cystic Fibrosis Infection Biorepository: a key tool in R&D efforts towards novel diagnostics and antimicrobials** **Amie Micallef**[1], C. Takawira[2], D. Armstrong – James[3], A. Floto[4], J. Fothergill[5], B. Isherwood[2], I Jones[6], M Lister[7], E. Mahenthiralingam[8], P Mitchelmore[9], N Ramadan[6], K. Shires[8], P Sommer[10], M Tunney[11], L. Allsopp[1], J Davies[1,6] [1]Imperial College London, National Heart and Lung Institute, UK, [2]Medicines Discovery Catapult, Macclesfield, UK, [3]Imperial College London, [4]University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, [5]University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK, [6]Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK, [7]Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, UK, [8]Cardiff University, UK, [9]Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust, Devon, UK, [10]Cystic Fibrosis Trust, UK, [11]Queen's University Belfast, UK address for any correspondence: **a.micallef@imperial.ac.uk**
4B	**Cystic fibrosis airway-associated pathogens display strong signatures of adaptation in a polymicrobial lung infection model.** **Jemima Swain**, P-M Ho, M Welch Department of Biochemistry, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom. Email address for any correspondence: **js2813@cam.ac.uk**
5B	**Cut the Nonsense: Small Molecule Rescue of CFTR Premature Termination Codons** **Mark Leahy**[1], H Botelho[1], V Cachatra[2], C Moiteiro[2], M Amaral[1], L Clarke[1] [1]BioISI-Biosystems and Integrative Sciences Institute, and [2]Centro de Química Estrutural, Institute of Molecular Sciences; Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisboa, Portugal. Email address for any correspondence: **mdleahy@fc.ul.pt**

Poster presentations

Early Career Researcher posters

Poster number	Title, authors, and correspondence email
6B	**Predicting benchmark efficiency for CF gene therapies using 3D analyses of individual mosaic organoids** **Jari Bulkens**[1,2], A Griffioen[1,2], J Van Leede[4], GN Ithakisiou[1,2], MB Smith[1,2,3], BM Bosch[1,2,3], SFB. van Beuningen[1,2,3], KF Sonnen[4], CK van der Ent[1], JM Beekman[1,2,3], EW Kuijk[1,2] [1]UMC Utrecht, Pediatric Pulmonology, Utrecht, Netherlands, [2]Regenerative Medicine Center, Utrecht, Netherlands, [3]Centre for Living Technologies, Utrecht, Netherlands, [4]Hubrecht Insitute-KNAW (Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences), University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, Netherlands. Email address for any correspondence: **j.bulkens-2@umcutrecht**
7B	**An Investigation of the Importance of pH in Controlling Mucin Rheology** **Saidi Li**, D Benton, G Moss Department of Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology, University College London Email address for any correspondence: **saidi.li.20@ucl.ac.uk**
8B	**The therapeutic effects of K^+ channel modulators on mucus and airway surface liquid in cystic fibrosis** **Omar Hamed**[1,2], Z Chen[1], DCH Benton[1], V Dua[2], GWJ Moss[1] [1]Department of Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology, Medical Sciences Building, UCL, [2]Department of Chemical Engineering, The Sargent Centre for Process Systems Engineering, UCL Email address for any correspondence: **omar.hamed.16@ucl.ac.uk**
9B	**GoSlo, a Potassium Channel Modulator, Enhances CFTR Activity, and likely competes with Elexacaftor for binding** **Jyosthna N. Lunavath**, GWJ Moss, P Vergani Department of Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology, University College London, UK Email address for any correspondence: **jyosthna.lunavath.23@ucl.ac.uk**
10B	**Bicarbonate and Chloride Transport Rescue by Triple CFTR Modulator Combination** **Yashoda Jayal**[1,2,3], A Lepissier[1,2,3], E Dréano[1,2,3], A Hatton[1,2,3], M Zając[1,2,3,4], I Sermet-Gaudelus[1,2,3] [1]INSERM U1151, Institut Necker Enfants Malades, Paris, France, [2]Université de Paris, [3]Centre de Référence Maladie Rare Pour La Mucoviscidose et Maladies de CFTR. Hôpital Necker Enfants Malades. Assistance Publique Hôpitaux de Paris, Paris, France, [4]Department of Physics and Biophysics, Institute of Biology, Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Warsaw, Poland Email address for any correspondence: **yashoda.jayal@inserm.fr**

Poster presentations

Early Career Researcher posters

Poster number	Title, authors, and correspondence email
11B	**Rescue of F508del-CFTR function by elexacaftor-tezacaftor-ivacaftor in human intrahepatic cholangiocyte organoids** **Erdene Baigal**[1], A Leung[1], T Groeneweg[1] L van der Laan[2] M Bijvelds[1] [1]Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Erasmus Medical Center (EMC), Rotterdam, The Netherlands, [2]Department of Surgery, EMC Email address for any correspondence:: **e.baigal@erasmusmc.nl**
12B	**Mechanistic studies of CFTR modulators that restore channel function to CFTR variants.** **Zhujun Liu**, DN. Sheppard, R Corey, University of Bristol Email address for any correspondence: **zhujun.liu@bristol.ac.uk**
13B	**Acute Co-Treatment with Elexacaftor and Ivacaftor Restores Wild-Type-like Activity to Single Elexacaftor-Tezacaftor-Ivacaftor-Rescued F508del-CFTR Channels** **James N Charlick**[1], M Rodrat[1,2], DN Sheppard[1] [1]Translational Health Sciences, Bristol Medical School, University of Bristol, Bristol, UK, [2]Centre for Advanced Therapeutics, Institute of Molecular Biosciences, Mahidol University, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand Email address for any correspondence: **jc15019@bristol.ac.uk**

Poster presentations

Summer studentship posters

Poster number	Title, authors, and correspondence email
SS1	**Using breath to assess inflammation and infection in people with cystic fibrosis** **Elise Mulvale**[1], J Ackah-Cudjoe[2], A Gao[3], M Hashemi[3], E McKone[4], S Carter[4], B Grogan[4], JE Hill[2,3] [1]School of Bioscience, Cardiff University, UK, [2]School of Biomedical Engineering, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, [3]Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, The University of British Columbia, [4]National Referral Centre for Adult Cystic Fibrosis, St. Vincent's University Hospital and University College Dublin School of Medicine, Dublin, Ireland Email address for any correspondence: **mulvalee@cardiff.ac.uk**
SS2	**A novel triple drug combination of approved antibiotics is efficacious in vitro against clinical Ralstonia and Pandoraea isolates** **Briana M Barrand**[1], S Kelly[2], H Green[3], AM Jones[3], DTD Kenna[4], S Pai[5], M Upton[2] [1]Department of Life Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Bath, UK, [2]School of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Health, University of Plymouth, UK, [3]Manchester Adult Cystic Fibrosis Centre, Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester, UK, [4]Public Health Microbiology Division, Specialised Microbiology and Laboratories Directorate, UK Health Security Agency, London, UK, [5]Royal Papworth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Cambridge, UK Email address for any correspondence: **bb834@bath.ac.uk**
SS3	**Using Automated Electrophysiology to Study CFTR** **Olivia EM Cocks**, JN Charlick, Z Liu, H Cheng, DN Sheppard, University of Bristol Email address for any correspondence: **au22110@bristol.ac.uk**
SS4	**Functional Comparison of Chloride vs Bicarbonate Permeation in Patient-Derived CFTR Mutants** **Miaojia (Vivi) Zhang**, J Lunavath, P Vergani Department of Neuroscience, Physiology and Pharmacology, University College London, UK Email address for any correspondence: **vivi.zhang.23@ucl.ac.uk**

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