



**CANCER
RESEARCH
UK**

City of
London
Centre

UCL, King's,
Barts &
the Crick

CRUK City of London Centre Annual Symposium 2024 – Future Leaders

Francis Crick Institute – Manby Gallery

Monday 29th January 2024

8.30 – 9.05am

REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

9.05 – 9.20am

Opening remarks
Tariq Enver

9.20 – 10.00am

Opening keynote
**Valerie Weaver, UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive
Cancer Center**
Chair: Erik Sahai

10.00 – 11.00am

Integrated approaches session
Chair: Emma Colliver
Co-Chair: Faraz Mardakheh

Dr Jelmar Quist (KCL), Postdoctoral Fellow

Spatial transcriptomics delineates tumour heterogeneity in patients with triple-negative breast cancer receiving neoadjuvant chemotherapy

Dr Ali Suwaidan (KCL), CRTF PhD student

Targeting replication stress vulnerability to enhance response to immunotherapy in head and neck cancer

Sasha Bailey (Crick), PhD student
Cell migration sculpts evolutionary dynamics favouring therapy resistance in lung cancer

11.00 – 11.30am COFFEE WITH POSTER VIEWING

11.30 – 12.45 **Novel biological therapies session**
Chair: Paul Maciocia
Co-Chair: Lydia Lee

Dr Felipe Galvez-Cancino (UCL), Postdoctoral Fellow
Treg targeting reprograms the innate and adaptive immune microenvironment in glioblastoma

Dr Elly Tyler (QMUL), Postdoctoral Fellow
Lost in translation: targeting the post-translational environment

Dr Meriem Bahri (KCL), Postdoctoral Fellow
Therapeutically targeting perivascular macrophages to improve the immune landscape and response to chemotherapeutic drugs in cancer

Dr Benjamin Draper (UCL), Postdoctoral Fellow
Overcoming tumour heterogeneity with next generation CAR T-cells for the effective treatment of paediatric medulloblastoma

12.45 – 2.00pm LUNCH WITH POSTER VIEWING

2.00 – 3.15pm **Effective combinations session**
Chair: Muhammet Tanc
Co-Chair: Erik Sahai

Dr Matthew Clarke (UCL), Postdoctoral Fellow
Predicting personalised treatment combinations with in silico CRISPR screens

Dr Lucy Brooks (UCL), Postdoctoral Fellow
Neurodevelopmental-like programs impact radiosensitivity in glioblastoma

Ersa Gjelaj (Crick), PhD Student
Investigating the Role of Histidine in Myc-Driven Tumourigenesis

Dr Richard Burt (Crick), Clinical Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Overcoming treatment resistance in precursor b-cell acute lymphoblastic leukaemia with the novel amino acid degrader cyst(e)inase

3.15 – 3.45pm

COFFEE WITH POSTER VIEWING

3.45 – 4.20pm

Radiation Research Network Unit (RadNet) session

Chair: Rhyla Mae Santiago

Co-Chair: Maria Hawkins

Dr Miguel Reis Ferreira (KCL), Clinical Lecturer
The microbiota and head and neck cancer: from oncogenesis to treatment response

Dr Anjali Chander (KCL), PhD student
Fusobacterium radiosensitises head and neck cancers and associates with a better prognosis

4.20 – 5.00pm

Future of cancer research discussion

Chair: Erik Sahai

Panel: Charlie Swanton, Chris Tape, Karen Vousden, Valerie Weaver

Tuesday 30th January 2024

8.30 – 9.10am

REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

9.10 – 10.25am

Cancer evolution session

Chair: Molly Guscott

Co-chair: Nicky McGranahan

Dr Sonya Hessey (UCL), CRTF PhD student
Insights into metastatic dissemination from tumour evolution

Dr Ben Werner (QMUL), Principal Investigator
Evolutionary properties of extra-chromosomal DNA in human cancers

Dr Olivia Lucas (UCL), CRTF PhD student
Linking proliferation rate to the evolution of single-cell primary and metastatic tumour clones

Dr Sam Ogden (QMUL), Postdoctoral Fellow
Phenotypic plasticity mediates colorectal cancer metastasis

10.25 – 10.55am COFFEE WITH POSTER VIEWING

10.55 – 12.10pm **Early detection & prevention session**
Chair: Kane Foster
Co-chair: Sam Janes

Dr Adam Pennycuick (UCL), Clinical Lecturer
Preinvasive lung cancer: from biology to prevention

Dr Oleg Blyuss (QMUL), Principal Investigator
Early detection of cancer using multiple longitudinal biomarkers

Dr Clare Weeden (Crick), Postdoctoral Fellow
The likelihood of lung tumour initiation in never-smokers: how does air pollution flip the switch?

Dr Sandra Gomez Lopez (UCL), Postdoctoral Fellow
From airway basal cells to preinvasive lung squamous cell disease

12.10 – 12.45pm **Patient and public involvement and engagement – Impact, how to be involved and new Centre initiatives.**
Chair: Fran Balkwill

Co-chair: Feng Li

Prof Fran Balkwill, OBE (QMUL)
David Chuter, Patient representative
Prof Jessica Okosun (QMUL)

12.45 – 2.00pm LUNCH WITH POSTER VIEWING

2.00 – 3.15pm

Paediatric session

Chair: Victor Llombart

Co-chair: Karin Straathof

Jane Ganeshalingam (UCL), MBPhD student

Modelling the evolution of paediatric ETV6-RUNX1+ B-cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia in Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells

Dr Theo Accogli (UCL), Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Identification and functional analysis of genes associated with persisting CD19 CAR-T cells in children with leukaemia

Laura Privitera (UCL), CRTF PhD student

Targeted fluorescence-guided surgery: towards more effective surgical management of paediatric solid tumours

Dr Sara Badodi (QMUL), Principal Investigator

Targeting epigenetic dysregulation in paediatric brain tumours

3.15 – 3.45pm COFFEE WITH POSTER VIEWING

3.45 – 4.00pm

CoL Centre Development Fund showcase

Dr Becki Lee (Crick), Postdoctoral Fellow

Site of melanoma metastasis drives heterogenous neutrophil functionality via extra-medullary granulopoiesis

4.00 – 4.15pm

Newest Centre Development Fund awardees – Elevator pitch

Laura Donovan (UCL GOSH), Dimitrios A. Garyfallos (UCL), Christopher Tape (UCL), Elspeth Payne (UCL), Gabriella Ficz (QMUL), Anita Grigoriadis (KCL)

4.15 – 5.15pm

Biological therapies & effective combinations session

Chair: Sarah Duncan

Co-Chair: Kebs Hodiola-Dilke

Dr Tomas Castro-Dopico (Crick), Postdoctoral Fellow

Coupling F-actin sensing to Fcγ receptors augments anti-cancer immunity

Dr Kalum Clayton (QMUL), Postdoctoral Fellow

Immunophenotypes in mismatch proficient colorectal cancer identify a novel biomarker of immunotherapy response

Dr Kevin Rouault-Pierre (QMUL), Principal Investigator

Vitamin B5 and succinyl-CoA improve ineffective erythropoiesis in SF3B1 mutated myelodysplasia

5.15 – 5.20pm

Closing remarks

5.20 – 8.30pm

DRINKS RECEPTION

This event is partly sponsored by Sarstedt and Oxford Nanopore Technologies

