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UCL, King's,
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CRUK City of London Centre Paediatrics Symposium

Wednesday 24 June 2026

Zayed Centre for Research into Rare Disease in Children, London, WC1N 1DZ

10.00 Registration and refreshments

10.30 Introduction and welcome – Dr Karin Straathof

Session 1

Chair: Prof. Juan Pedro Martinez-Barbera, GOSH ICH

10.35 **Targeting clonal evolution in recurrent childhood medulloblastoma: Cancer-selective drug discovery and design**

Prof. Sheila Singh, KCL

11.00 **Modelling chromatin dysregulation in paediatric brain tumours**

Dr Alexandra Hadaway, Postdoctoral Fellow, QMUL (Prof. Silvia Marino group)

11.15 **Liquid biopsy versus tissue biopsy for variant detection in relapsed paediatric cancer: a retrospective pre-planned non-inferiority analysis from the Stratified Medicine Paediatrics programme**

Angela Liu, Biostatistician/Data Scientist, ICR Clinical Trials and Statistics Unit team

11.30 **Developing novel combination treatments for diffuse midline glioma**

Prof. Maya Thanou, KCL

11.55 **Dissecting senescence in paediatric brain tumours: insights from developmental and immunocompetent murine models**

Prof. JP Martinez-Barbera, GOSH ICH, UCL

12.20 Lunch

Session 2

Chair: Prof. Marc Mansour, GOSH ICH and Cancer Institute, UCL

13.40 **Novel immunotherapies for paediatric T-cell acute lymphoblastic**

Prof. Marc Mansour, GOSH ICH and Cancer Institute, UCL

14.05 **CAR T cell therapy for acute leukaemia**

Dr Theo Accogli, Postdoctoral Fellow, GOSH ICH, UCL (Dr Sara Ghorashian group)

14.20 **Mutant IL-12 with ultra-low activity enhances CAR-T cell efficacy in paediatric solid tumours without systemic toxicity**

Dr Alastair Hotblack, Postdoctoral Fellow, Cancer Institute, UCL (Dr Karin Straathof group)

14.35 **Childhood cancer predisposition**

Dr Mette Jorgensen, GOSH

15.00 Refreshments

Session 3

Chair: Dr Karin Straathof and Prof. Darren Hargrave

15.30 **Deciphering chemoresistance in osteosarcoma one cell at a time**

Dr Lucia Cottone, Cancer Institute, UCL

- 15.55 **Novel surgical approaches to neuroblastoma**
Dr Jonathan Neville, Clinical Research Fellow, GOSH ICH, UCL (Dr Stefano Giuliani group)
- 16.10 **Childhood renal tumours in the molecular era**
Dr Jonathan Kennedy, Clinical Research Fellow, GOSH ICH, UCL (Dr Karin Straathof and Dr Tanzina Chowdhury groups)
- 16.25 **CYP research opportunities in the future**
- 17.05 **Closing remarks – Prof. Darren Hargrave**

17.10 Networking reception