

Hybrid Conference Programme

Start (GMT)	Finish (GMT)	Presenter details
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Wednesday 29 November 2023

12:00	13:00	Registration, lunch and networking
12:45		<i>Briefing for Keynote & Session 1 speakers, microphone runners, chair, moderator & committee - Auditorium</i>
13:00	13:10	Welcome
		<p>Scientific Programme Committee: Niels Eijkelkamp, UMC Utrecht, Netherlands Rohini Kuner, Heidelberg University, Germany Ingo Kurth, RWTH Aachen University, Germany Shafaq Sikandar, Queen Mary University London, UK</p>
13:10	14:10	Keynote Presentation - sponsored by Heidelberg Pain Consortium
		<p><i>Chair: Rohini Kuner, Heidelberg University, Germany</i> <i>Moderator: Ingo Kurth, RWTH Aachen University, Germany</i></p> <p>Long-term imaging of cortical and spinal cord neuronal activity in the awake, behaving animal Allan Basbaum, University of California San Francisco, USA</p>
14:10	14:20	Comfort break
14:20	15:50	Session 1: Genetics of pain
		<p><i>Chair: Shafaq Sikandar, Queen Mary University London, UK</i> <i>Moderator: Niels Eijkelkamp, UMC Utrecht, Netherlands</i></p>
14:20	14:50	Congenital Insensitivity of Pain (CIP): The commonest cause of Charcot's joints in childhood Geoff Woods, University of Cambridge, UK
14:50	15:20	Insights into sensory neuron function through genetic painlessness Ingo Kurth, RWTH Aachen University, Germany
15:20	15:35	SMARCB1 Mutations in Schwann Cells Directly Influence the Transcription of Factors That Induce Pain Sensitivity in Sensory Neurons <i>Lawrence Sherman, Oregon Health & Science University, USA</i>
15:35	15:50	Deep sequencing of Phox2a nuclei reveals five classes of anterolateral system neurons <i>Andrew Bell, University of Glasgow, UK</i>
15:50	16:00	Introduction to Mentoring
		<i>Chair: Shafaq Sikandar, Queen Mary University London, UK</i>
16:00	16:45	Refreshment break and mentor networking

16:30	<i>Briefing for Session 2 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium</i>	
16:45	18:15	Session 2: Technological advances
	<i>Chair: Ingo Kurth, RWTH Aachen University, Germany</i>	
	<i>Moderator: Shafaq Sikandar, Queen Mary University London, UK</i>	
16:45	17:15	Chromatin context-dependent regulation and epigenetic manipulation of prime editing Xiaoyi Li, University of Washington, USA
17:15	17:45	Spatial Analysis of Human Dorsal Root Ganglia and peripheral nerves Diana Tavares-Ferreira, University of Texas at Dallas, USA
17:45	18:00	Investigating the cellular composition of healthy and injured human trigeminal nerves with single nuclei RNA sequencing <i>Martina Morchio, University of Sheffield, UK</i>
18:00	18:15	Chemogenetic silencing of sensory neuron driven pain <i>Jimena Perez-Sanchez, University of Oxford, UK</i>
18:15	18:55	Poster pitch talks for odd number posters
18:55	19:55	Poster session 1 - odd number posters with drinks reception
19:55	Dinner	
19:55	23:00	Bar open (card payments only)

Thursday 30 November 2023

09:15 Briefing for Session 3 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium

09:30 11:15 Session 3: Pain mechanisms I: PNS

Chair: Niels Eijkelkamp, UMC Utrecht, Netherlands

Moderator: Rohini Kuner, Heidelberg University, Germany

09:30 10:00 Genetic pain syndromes: insight from clinical and in vitro phenotyping
[Nurcan Üçeyler, The University Hospital Today, Germany - VIRTUAL](#)

10:00 10:30 The role of silent nociceptors in the development and maintenance of inflammatory pain
[Stefan Lechner, University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, Germany](#)

10:30 10:45 Transcriptomic profiling reveals a pro-nociceptive role for Angiotensin II in colitis
David Bulmer, University of Cambridge, UK

10:45 11:00 Investigating neutrophil-neuron interactions that modulate somatosensory processing and chronic widespread pain
Romy Evans, Queen Mary University of London, UK

11:00 11:15 Metabolic disturbances in sensory neurons predispose to the transition from acute to chronic pain
Hanneke Willemen, UMC Utrecht, Netherlands

11:15 12:00 Refreshment break and networking

11:45 Briefing for Keynote Speaker, chair & moderator - Auditorium

12:00 13:00 Keynote Presentation

Chair: Ingo Kurth, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

Moderator: Rohini Kuner, Heidelberg University, Germany

12:00 13:00 Developing pain vulnerability in early infancy
[Rebecca Slater, University of Oxford, UK](#)

13:00 14:00 Lunch

14:00 14:45 Meet the Mentors over dessert and refreshments

Chair: Shafaq Sikandar, Queen Mary University London, UK

14:30	<i>Briefing for Session 4 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium</i>	
14:45	16:15	Session 4: Therapies for pain
		<i>Chair: Niels Eijkelkamp, UMC Utrecht, Netherlands</i>
		<i>Moderator: Shafaq Sikandar, Queen Mary University London, UK</i>
14:45	15:15	Selective NaV1.8 Inhibitors for the Treatment of Pain <i>Sandra Lechner, Vertex Pharmaceuticals, USA</i>
15:15	15:45	Brain Neuromodulation for Chronic Pain: State of the art and perspectives <i>Nadine Attal, University Versailles Saint Quentin, France - VIRTUAL</i>
15:45	16:00	Chronic Pain Management for Genetic Disorders in West Africa: Role of a Pioneering Behavioural Skills Laboratory <i>Judith Ansa Osa-Larbi, University of Ghana, Ghana</i>
16:00	16:15	A new activator of Slack potassium channels shows robust efficacy in mouse models of histamine-independent and chronic itch <i>Achim Schmidtko, Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany</i>
16:15	17:00	Refreshment break
17:00	17:40	Poster pitch talks for even number posters
17:40	18:40	Poster session 2 - even number posters with drinks reception
18:40		Dinner
18:40	23:00	Bar open (card payments only)

Friday 1 December 2023

09:15 Briefing for Session 5 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium

09:30 11:00 Session 5: Pain mechanisms II: CNS

Chair: Rohini Kuner, Heidelberg University, Germany

Moderator: Niels Eijkelkamp, UMC Utrecht, Netherlands

09:30 10:00 Oxytocin mechanisms of analgesia and emotional coping with pain
[Valery Grinevich, Heidelberg University, Germany - VIRTUAL](#)

10:00 10:30 Stress and Pain: Two Sides Of The Same Coin
[Michelle Roche, University of Galway, Ireland](#)

10:30 10:45 Layer-specific pain relief pathways originating from motor cortex
Zheng Gan, Heidelberg University, Germany

10:45 11:00 Midbrain glycine neurons modulate pain and project to the thalamus
Karin Aubrey, Kolling Institute, University of Sydney, Australia

11:00 11:45 Refreshment break and networking

11:30 Briefing for Session 6 speakers, chair & moderator - Auditorium

11:45 13:15 Session 6: Large-scale genomic resources to improve human pain research

Chair: Shafaq Sikandar, Queen Mary University London, UK

Moderator Ingo Kurth, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

11:45 12:15 Transforming Genomics in Healthcare
[Sir Mark Caulfield, Barts Life Sciences, UK](#)

12:15 12:45 Can we phenotype pain for population-based genetic studies?
[Blair Smith, University of Dundee, UK](#)

12:45 13:00 Evidence of potential causal association between human cytomegalovirus infection and chronic back pain: A one-sample Mendelian randomization study
Frances Williams, King's College London, UK

13:00 13:15 Closing remarks and poster prize presentation

Scientific Programme Committee:

[Niels Eijkelkamp, UMC Utrecht, Netherlands](#)

[Rohini Kuner, Heidelberg University, Germany](#)

[Ingo Kurth, RWTH Aachen University, Germany](#)

[Shafaq Sikandar, Queen Mary University London, UK](#)

13:15 14:15 Lunch

14:15 Coach departures for Stansted and Heathrow airports

14:25 Coach departures for Cambridge train station and city centre