



WINTER MEETING 2026



**British
Thoracic
Society**

Symposia Programme and Conference Information

**WEDNESDAY 25 TO FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER
QEII CENTRE, LONDON**

Abstract submission deadline: 11:59pm on 9 June 2026
Early bird discount deadline: 2:00pm on 30 September 2026

Please see our website: brit-thoracic.org.uk

Better lung health **for all**

WELCOME

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to introduce the preliminary programme of major symposia and lectures for the 2026 BTS Winter Scientific Meeting, to be held this November 25-27th at the QEII Centre in London.

The Winter Scientific Meeting remains a highlight of the respiratory calendar, bringing together the very best of UK and international expertise. This year's programme, developed by the BTS Science and Research Committee, reflects both the breadth of our specialty and the pace at which respiratory science is advancing.

Across the three days, the symposia showcase a dynamic and evolving field — from fundamental discovery science through to clinical application and health systems delivery. Key themes include the growing impact of big data, AI and multi-omics in understanding lung disease, new approaches to targeting inflammation and infection, and the increasing importance of environmental and occupational exposures across the life course.

The programme also highlights cross-disease mechanisms and translational pathways, linking early immune and epithelial responses with disease progression and therapeutic innovation. Sessions span the full spectrum of respiratory medicine, including asthma, COPD, bronchiectasis, interstitial lung disease, lung cancer and pleural disease, alongside emerging areas such as digital health, personalised care and novel models of service delivery.

A further programme update will be released at the end of August, when the abstract sessions are confirmed. These sessions remain a cornerstone of the meeting, providing an important platform for sharing the latest advances in respiratory science and showcasing emerging talent from across the community.

I strongly encourage eligible colleagues to submit abstracts for the **BTS/BALR/A+LUK Early Career Investigator Awards**, a major highlight of the meeting celebrating outstanding early-career researchers. Medical students are also warmly invited to submit abstracts and be considered for the **BTS Medical Student Awards**, recognising innovation from the next generation of respiratory researchers. Abstract submission opens in April, with a deadline of **23:59 on Tuesday 9 June 2026**. Keep an eye out for the **Clinical Trials abstract call**, which will be open from Thursday 11 June to midday on Monday 13 July, where the most recent clinical trial data can be heard.

We will again be offering the **BTS/A+LUK/BALR Lecture Awards**, providing an opportunity to present at the Winter Scientific Meeting. I particularly encourage mid-career researchers to apply for these prestigious awards, which recognise exceptional research achievement. The submission deadline is 23:59 on 3 June 2026.

We are also pleased to collaborate with The Lancet Respiratory Medicine and Thorax to co-host a session highlighting high-quality research published in the field. Please note that submissions to this session are separate from the Winter Meeting abstract process, with details [information here](#).

Beyond the scientific programme, the Winter Scientific Meeting continues to provide an invaluable opportunity to connect with colleagues across disciplines and career stages. It offers a space for discussion, collaboration and the exchange of ideas that will shape the future of respiratory medicine.

I very much look forward to welcoming you in November.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Bafadhel'.

Professor Mona Bafadhel
Chair, BTS Science and Research Committee

 British Thoracic Society



BTS SCIENCE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEMBERS – THE 2025 WINTER MEETING PLANNING COMMITTEE

Professor Mona Bafadhel (Chair)	Dr Imran Howell	Dr Hitasha Rupani
Ms Gemma Barton	Dr Wadah Ibrahim	Dr Nicola Smallcombe
Dr Chloë Bloom	Dr Nikolaos Kanellakis	Dr Elaine Soon
Professor Matthew Callister	Dr Rahul Mahida	Professor Joerg Steier
Dr Enya Daynes	Dr Vicky Moore	Dr Karl Sylvester
Dr Cara Flynn	Dr Prasad Nagakumar	Dr Amanda Tatler
Professor Robert Gray	Professor Najib Rahman	Dr Jee Whang Kim

The British Thoracic Society gratefully acknowledges sponsorship from the companies listed below who have purchased an exhibition stand at the Winter Meeting. Sponsorship fees are used directly to support the delivery of the event including the cost of venue hire, audio-visual, catering, and general conference administration. No sponsorship fees are used towards prizes or social events. No sponsors have any input into the programme content or the planning of the conference. Furthermore, the Society does not allow any sponsored symposia at this event, within the programme, or associated in any way with it.

Aerogen	Erbe	NIOX
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Broncus	HealthNet Homecare	Sanofi
Celltron	Insmed	Sterling Anglian
Chiesi	Inspire	Tidal
Creo Medical	It's Interventional	Vitalograph
Diagenics	NeilMed	

(List includes all companies booked prior to 30 April 2026)

GENERAL INFORMATION

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION AND GENERAL ENQUIRIES

The Winter Meeting is organised by the British Thoracic Society. Please direct all general conference enquiries via email to: bookings@brit-thoracic.org.uk

FULL PROGRAMME

The full programme, including all Spoken Sessions and Poster Discussions, will be available on the BTS website from early September, once abstracts have been refereed.

The complete final programme, including abstracts, is published as a supplement to Thorax and will be available to all participants in advance of the Meeting and on [BTS website](#).

THE VENUE

QEII Centre, Broad Sanctuary Westminster, London, SW1P 3EE (opposite Westminster Abbey).
For directions, please visit: qeiicentre.london/about/location

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

The final date for submission of general abstracts for the 2026 Winter Scientific Meeting is **11:59pm on Tuesday 9 June 2026**, but you are encouraged to submit abstracts as early as possible before that date. The easy-to-use online submission system is available on the **BTS website**. You will need to register first to use the system and then follow the instructions to submit your abstract online in a convenient and quick operation.

THE LANCET RESPIRATORY MEDICINE AND THORAX CALL FOR PAPERS

The Lancet Respiratory Medicine and Thorax are collaborating with the BTS to co-host a session at the this year's Winter Meeting. The Lancet Respiratory Medicine and Thorax are issuing a call for high-quality submissions in the field of respiratory medicine and particularly welcome clinical trials and research that will influence patient management. The journals will offer a fast-track process for publication of content to coincide with the Winter Meeting. If you are interested in submitting a paper, further information is available [here](#).

BTS MEDICAL STUDENT AWARDS

These prestigious prizes are highly competitive and are awarded to the very best discovery, translational or clinical research performed in the UK respiratory community by medical students. The prizes are awarded based on the quality and content of the research performed, and the quality of the abstract submitted. We encourage all medical students to enter this competition. Two prizes are available and a number of medical students not selected for the prizes will receive a grant to attend the Meeting on the day of their presentation.

Please visit the **BTS website** for further details and make your submission via the online abstract system. **Closing date: 11:59pm on Tuesday 9 June 2026.**

BTS/BALR/A+LUK EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

BTS, BALR and A+LUK jointly offer awards to help the careers of the most promising early career investigators carrying out original research in respiratory medicine and respiratory science during the past year. To qualify for consideration, you must be a UK based clinical or non-clinical researcher, usually under the age of 35* (but not consultant or senior lecturer grade), and the first named author of the abstract being submitted to the Winter Meeting.

Six abstracts will be shortlisted for presentation at a dedicated symposium on Wednesday 25 November. Three first prizes of £800 and three highly commended prizes of £200 will be awarded.

*Applicants will normally be under 35 years of age, although there will be some researchers who have taken career breaks and the Society encourages them to apply also.

Please visit the **BTS website** for further details and submit via the abstract system.

Closing date: 11:59pm on Tuesday 9 June 2026.

BTS/A+LUK/BALR LECTURE AWARDS

BTS, A+LUK and BALR are pleased to continue with these important awards, which recognise the achievements of established respiratory researchers. Two awards will be presented in 2026, and the winners will be invited to give a prestigious lecture as part of a dedicated symposium at the 2026 Winter Scientific Meeting on Thursday 26 November.

The BTS/A+LUK Award is open to anyone conducting respiratory research in the UK (including all professions, clinical and non-clinical), with the expectation that the applicant should be a BTS member. It is anticipated that the winning applicant will be working within clinical and translational respiratory research.

The BTS/BALR award is open to all professions and is focused on translational/discovery science, with the expectation that the applicant will be a member of BTS or BALR at the time of application.

It is anticipated that applicants will have an excellent track record in an area of respiratory research, with evidence of research impact and achievement including high impact publications and have plans and potential for future outstanding contributions to respiratory science.

The awards are primarily aimed at mid-career researchers and it is therefore expected that applicants will be 50 years old or below at the time of application but it is noted that career breaks and other factors may influence career stage, applications from all applicants will be considered.

Please visit the **BTS website** for further details and to submit your application.

Closing date: 11:59pm on Wednesday 3 June 2026.

BTS CONFERENCE GRANTS

This year funds have been made available to award grants to those whose abstracts receive the highest score. (This grant is not available to medical students – medical students should opt in for the Medical Student Awards.) Please visit the **BTS website** for criteria.

CPD APPROVAL

Application pending for CPD approval from the Federation of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the UK. When approved, we will automatically register all eligible delegates for CPD when they pre-register for the meeting.

ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES

After the event, attendance certificates will be sent via email to all registered delegates.

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

The presentation of awards will take place in the Churchill Auditorium on the ground floor of the venue, at 4.15pm on Wednesday 25 November. These presentations will include the BTS Medal, BTS President's Award, BTS Award for Meritorious Service, BTS Medical Student Prizes, the BTS/BALR/A+LUK Early Career Investigator of the Year Awards, and the BTS/A+LUK/BALR Lecture Awards.

PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

The President's Reception will be held on Thursday 26 November from 5.45pm to 7.00pm in the Britten lounge on the 3rd floor of the QEII Centre. All those attending the Winter Meeting are warmly invited to attend this informal social occasion and enjoy light refreshments in convivial surroundings. Although the reception is free to attend, for catering purposes we do need to know the numbers attending, so please indicate this on the registration form.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

MICE Concierge is providing a premium service to ensure attendees have a seamless and enjoyable hotel experience. As our trusted partner, they offer exclusive accommodation rates at nearby hotels, and we highly recommend booking through this official channel. Staying in an accredited hotel also allows you to connect with fellow attendees, offering greater opportunities to network and socialise, making the most of your event experience.

To view exclusive rates and secure your booking, visit the dedicated accommodation page:

[BTS Winter Meeting 2026](#)

For direct assistance, contact Jo Cooper at MICE Concierge on +44 (0) 1438 908 770 or email hello@miceconcierge.com, and their team will be happy to help.

Please note that BTS is unable to assist with any accommodation bookings or queries.

PROGRAMME OF MAJOR SYMPOSIA, GUEST LECTURES & JOURNAL CLUBS

WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2026

8.00am – 9.00am **REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS**

8.30am – 9.00am **JOURNAL CLUB**

COUGH

Chaired by: Dr Barnaby Hirons (London)

Learning objective

To review the latest publications and evidence in the field of cough.

9.00am – 10.30am **SYMPOSIUM**

THE CHANGING BRONCHIECTASIS LANDSCAPE: INFECTION, BIOLOGICS AND ANTI-INFLAMMATORIES

Chaired by: Professor Melissa McDonnell (Galway) and Dr Phil Mitchelmore (Exeter)

9.00am Microbial Mavericks: Next-Gen science of the bronchiectasis microbiome
Professor Sanjay Chotirmall (Singapore)

9.30am Monoclonal antibodies to target *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*: what have we learnt from the GREAT trials and mechanistic studies?
Dr Merete Long (Oxford)

10.00am Targeting Type 2 inflammation in Bronchiectasis: lessons from MAHALE
Professor Stefano Aliberti (Italy)

Learning objectives

- 1) Understanding of translational science and mycobioome/resistome and microbiome. Novel data on gut-lung axis resistome in bronchiectasis.
- 2) New study data on pseudomonas virulence and targeting in bronchiectasis using non-antibiotics. New data on bacterial clearance and patient quality of life using anti-microbial monoclonal antibodies.
- 3) Understand study design and limitations / strengths and role of biologics to date in bronchiectasis. Data from clinical trials (not presented before) on biologics in bronchiectasis will be discussed.

9.00am – 10.30am **SYMPOSIUM**

ASTHMA GOING VIRAL

Chaired by: Dr Tom Fardon (Dundee) and Dr Ran Wang (Manchester)

9.00am The interplay between viruses and childhood asthma inception
Professor James Gern (USA)

9.30am Asthma exacerbations and viruses: what we have learnt from the bench
Professor Sebastian Johnston (London)

10.00am Asthma exacerbations and viruses: what we have learnt from the bedside
Professor David Jackson (London)

Learning objectives

- 1) To understand the role of respiratory viruses in the inception and pathogenesis of asthma.
- 2) To review the latest mechanistic insights from experimental and translational models exploring the pathophysiology of virus-induced asthma exacerbations.
- 3) To understand current and novel strategies to limit the impact of respiratory viruses in patients at risk of severe asthma exacerbations.

9.00am – 10.30am **SYMPOSIUM**

JOINT BTS/BALR SYMPOSIUM (PART 1) PIONEERING NEW FRONTIERS IN RESPIRATORY RESEARCH: THE BIG DATA REVOLUTION

Chaired by: Dr Manuela Plate (London) and Dr Kirsty McGee (Birmingham)

9.00am The power of data integration to progress medical research: lessons from outside the lung
Professor John Terry (Plymouth)

9.30am Applying AI and deep learning to detect lung disease
Professor Liangxiu Han (Manchester)

10.00am Single cell spatial biology reveals early immune events in lung disease
Professor Ling-Pei Ho (Oxford)

Learning objectives

- 1) Understand the power of data integration across technologies with mathematical modelling to progress translational medical research.
- 2) Recognise the power of AI and deep learning applications in the diagnosis, monitoring and prediction of chronic respiratory diseases.
- 3) Understand how we use new big data techniques in discovering what matters for patients – defining early immune events means possible therapeutic targets.

9.00am – 10.30am **SYMPOSIUM**

THE ENVIRONMENT AND WORKPLACE EXPOSURES: UNCOVERING PATHWAYS FOR CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASES

Chaired by: Dr Huda Badri (Manchester) and Dr Clare Burton (Sheffield)

9.00am Emerging epidemiology of asthma related to work
Dr Orianne Dumas (France)

9.30am From exposure science to case finding in silica-related lung disease
Dr David Fishwick (Sheffield)

10.00am The air we share: short and long-term impacts of air quality on airway diseases
Professor Anna Hansell (Leicester)

Learning objectives

- 1) Understand how genetic susceptibility interacts with airborne occupational and environmental exposures to influence risk and outcomes for respiratory disease, including lung cancer and COPD.
- 2) Examine current epidemiological and mechanistic evidence linking indoor and outdoor air quality with chronic airway disorders.
- 3) Explore how exposure science and real-world surveillance are driving change in how we detect, regulate and prevent silica-related lung disease.

10.45am – 12.15pm **SYMPOSIUM**

TARGETING COPD: FROM MECHANISTICS TO THERAPEUTICS

Chaired by: Dr Neil Greening (Leicester) and
Dr Nicola Smallcombe (London)

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|---------|--|
| 10.45am | From mechanism to medicine: pathways for targeted therapy in COPD
Professor Francesca Polverino (USA) |
| 11.15am | Should we focus on alarmins in COPD treatment?
Professor Chris Brightling (Leicester) |
| 11.45am | Biologics in COPD: what the new BTS clinical statement means for practice
Dr Anthony Martinelli (Cambridge) |

Learning objectives

- 1) To understand how advances in COPD pathophysiology are shaping the development of targeted therapies.
- 2) To assess the potential of alarmins as therapeutic targets in COPD.
- 3) To review how the latest BTS guidance informs the practical use of biologics in COPD care.

10.45am – 12.15pm **SYMPOSIUM**

BTS STRATEGY: UK TRANSFORMATION PLANS

10.45am – 12.15pm **SYMPOSIUM**

WHAT'S NEW IN ACUTE RESPIRATORY FAILURE?

Chaired by: Dr Ben Messer (Newcastle) and
Ema Swingwood (Bristol)

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|---------|--|
| 10.45am | Novel therapeutic agents in ARDS
Professor Daniel McAuley (Belfast) |
| 11.15am | Biomarker-driven stratification and management for sepsis in Critical Care
Professor Manu Shanker-Hari (London) |
| 11.45am | Beyond survival: airway clearance and recovery
Dr Bronwen Connolly (Belfast) |

Learning objectives

- 1) Describe major pathways of lung repair and maladaptive remodelling, and how these can lead to persistent dysfunction or fibrosis after injury.
- 2) Discuss the latest in evidence-based precision medicine in critical care.

- 3) The role of chest physiotherapy, mechanical insufflation: exsufflation and pharmacotherapy.

1.15pm – 2.00pm **GUEST LECTURE**

THE BTS SCIENTIFIC LECTURE MEDIATING BEST IMMUNE RESPONSES: WHICH IS GREATEST THE NOSE OR THE LUNG?

Professor Daniela Ferreira (Oxford)

Introduced by: Speaker TBC

2.15pm – 3.45pm **SYMPOSIUM**

THE MIKE MORGAN LEGACY - PRIORITISING RESPIRATORY CARE & DELIVERING THE NHS LONG TERM PLAN

Chaired by: Professor Michael Steiner (Leicester) and
Professor Richard Russell (London)

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|--------|--|
| 2.15pm | Enabling early and accurate diagnosis of respiratory disease
Professor William Man (London) |
| 2.45pm | Expanding Pulmonary Rehabilitation
Professor Sally Singh (Leicester) |
| 3.15pm | Digital transformation in respiratory medicine
Dr Jonathan Fuld (Cambridge) |

Learning objectives

- 1) To recognise the contribution of Prof Morgan in championing this area, the importance of enabling early and accurate diagnosis of respiratory disease and where we are now in achieving the aims of the Long Term Plan.
- 2) To recognise the contribution of Prof Morgan in championing this area, the importance of expanding pulmonary rehabilitation and where we are in achieving the aims of the Long Term Plan.
- 3) To recognise the contribution of Prof Morgan in championing this area, the importance of digital transformation in respiratory medicine.

2.15pm – 3.45pm **JOINT BTS/BPRS SYMPOSIUM**

BREATHING FROM THE START: THE IMPACT OF AIR POLLUTION ON RESPIRATORY HEALTH FROM BIRTH TO ADOLESCENCE

Chaired by: Dr Sonal Kansra (Sheffield) and
Dr Alexandra Adams (Leeds)

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|--------|---|
| 2.15pm | From womb to childhood: biological mechanisms linking air pollution exposure to lung development and disease
Professor Pia Hardelid (London) |
| 2.45pm | Indoor air pollution and child respiratory health: hidden exposures, mechanisms, and modifiable risks
Dr Shamil Haroon (Birmingham) |
| 3.15pm | From evidence to action: health policy levers to reduce the respiratory impact of air pollution in children
Dr Abigail Whitehouse (London) |

Learning objectives

- 1) Describe how air pollution exposure from pregnancy through childhood affects lung development and later respiratory disease.
- 2) Identify key indoor air pollution exposures and modifiable risks relevant to paediatric respiratory health.
- 3) Understand how air pollution evidence informs policy actions to reduce respiratory health inequalities.

2.15pm – 3.45pm

SYMPOSIUM

JOINT BTS/BALR/A+LUK EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR AWARDS

Judged by: Professor Mona Bafadhel (London),
Professor Philip Molyneaux (London) and
Dr Amanda Tatler (Nottingham)

To be selected from submitted abstracts.

4.15pm – 4.45pm

BTS AWARD PRESENTATIONS

4.45pm – 5.30pm

BTS PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Professor Adam Hill (Edinburgh)

5.30pm – 6.05pm

BRITISH THORACIC SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (BTS members only)

THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2026

8.00am – 9.00am **REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS**

8.30am – 9.00am **JOURNAL CLUB**

PULMONARY EMBOLISM

Chaired by: Dr Elaine Soon (Cambridge)

Learning objectives

To review the latest publications and evidence in the field of PE.

9.00am – 10.30am **SYMPOSIUM**

LUNG CANCER IN NEVER SMOKERS; HOW CAN WE IDENTIFY THOSE AT HIGHEST RISK?

Chaired by: Professor Mat Callister (Leeds) and Dr Tanya Patrick (London)

- 9.00am Integrating epidemiologic, genomic, and experimental data to outline a unifying framework for lung adenocarcinoma in never smokers
Dr Maria Theresa Landi (USA)
- 9.30am Understanding and integrating environmental and inherited risk
Dr Frank McCaughan (Cambridge)
- 10.00am How do we identify high risk people? Biomarkers, risk profiling and screening
Dr Hillary Robbins (Lyon)

Learning objectives

- 1) To understand the key genetic drivers of lung cancer in never-smokers, understand how these differ from smoking-related disease, and recognise the clinical implications for diagnosis and treatment pathways.
- 2) To describe the distinctive features of the tumour micro-environment in lung cancer in never-smokers, including inflammatory pathways and immune cell interactions, and understand their implications for tumour development, progression and treatment.
- 3) To understand current and emerging approaches to risk stratification in never-smokers, including the role of biomarkers and risk prediction models, with reference to the principles of screening, balancing benefit against harm and maximising mortality benefit.

9.00am – 10.30am **SYMPOSIUM**

EVOLVING PRACTICE IN THE DELIVERY OF PULMONARY REHABILITATION: WHERE NEXT?

Chaired by: Dr Samantha Kon (London) and Dr Enya Daynes (Leicester)

- 9.00am Delivering effective PR with minimal equipment
Dr Claire Nolan (London)
- 9.30am Adapting exercise prescription for clinically relevant co-morbidities
Professor Frits Franssen (Netherlands)

- 10.00am New horizons in exercise training in patients with severe dyspnoea
Professor Ioannis Vogiatzis (Northumbria)

Learning objectives

- 1) To understand how pulmonary rehabilitation can be adapted where there is a lack of access to specialised gym equipment and increase accessibility.
- 2) To review the evidence and provide practical recommendations for tailoring exercise interventions in individuals with COPD and relevant co-morbidities.
- 3) Reviewing the latest evidence and practical implications for the prescription of exercise in those with severe dyspnoea.

9.00am – 10.30am **SYMPOSIUM**

JOINT BTS/BALR (PART 2) PIONEERING NEW FRONTIERS IN RESPIRATORY RESEARCH: THE BIG DATA REVOLUTION

Chaired by: Dr Jonathan Baker (London) and Dr Bettina Schock (Belfast)

- 9.00am Multi-omics and data integration in translational respiratory research
Dr Iain Stewart (London)
- 9.30am Integrative -omic analyses to delineate fibrogenesis
Dr Janine Gote-Schnierer (Switzerland)
- 10.00am Multi-layer network analysis for COPD stratification
Professor Rosa Faner (Spain)

Learning objectives

- 1) Discover approaches to integrate multi-omic datasets across respiratory diseases to progress basic, translational, and clinical respiratory research.
- 2) Understand the molecular insights in to fibrosing lung diseases resulting from multi-omic approaches.
- 3) Learn how multilayer network analysis can be applied to disease stratification.

10.45pm – 12.30pm **SYMPOSIUM**

PLENARY SCIENTIFIC

Chaired by: Professor Mona Bafadhel (London) and Professor Nick Maskell (Bristol)

- 10.45am How to SELF-BREATHE
Dr Charles Reilly (London)
- 11.10am Adaptability of the Neutrophil
Dr Emily Watts (Edinburgh)
- 11.35am Repairing the lung: dissecting immune regulation of airway epithelial regeneration
Professor Chris Lucas (Edinburgh)
- 12.00pm Improving cancer outcomes through early diagnosis
Dr Anna Bibby (Bristol)

Learning objectives

- 1) To enhance understanding of non-pharmacological approaches to breathlessness self-management, and to introduce SELF-BREATHE, a co-designed digital intervention developed to improve patients' confidence and capability in managing breathlessness.
- 2) To learn about neutrophil adaptations in the lung microenvironment
- 3) To highlight the mechanisms that allow the airway epithelium to repair and regenerate following injury
- 4) To learn about new diagnostic approaches and strategies to increase early detection in lung cancer and mesothelioma.

1.30pm – 1.45pm **GUEST LECTURE**

BTS CLINICAL LECTURE TIMING IS EVERYTHING: WHAT HIV HAS TAUGHT US ABOUT WHEN TO TREAT

Professor Marc Lipman (London)

Introduced by: Professor Adam Hill (Edinburgh)

2.15pm – 3.45pm **SYMPOSIUM**

BREATHING DANGER: COPD BEYOND TOBACCO

Chaired by: Professor Sarah Walmsley (Edinburgh) and Dr Marie Fisk (Cambridge)

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 2.15pm | Mechanistic insights into vaping and e-cigarette exposure in COPD
Professor Aaron Scott (Birmingham) |
| 2.45pm | What are the multidimensional effects of cannabis smoking on the lung?
Professor Janice Leung (Canada) |
| 3.15pm | Air pollution as a driver of COPD
Professor John Hurst (London) |

Learning objectives

- 1) To understand the cellular and molecular mechanisms by which vaping and e-cigarette exposure contribute to COPD pathogenesis.
- 2) To evaluate the respiratory effects of cannabis smoking and its role in development and progression of COPD.
- 3) To understand how air pollution contributes to the development, exacerbation and global burden of COPD.

2.15pm – 3.45pm **SYMPOSIUM**

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THORAX/LANCET RESPIRATORY MEDICINE

This session will be jointly hosted by the editors of Thorax and Lancet Respiratory Medicine. Selected articles highlighting the diversity of excellent respiratory research published by the journals will be presented by their authors and followed by a discussion with the editors.

2.15pm – 3.45pm **SYMPOSIUM**

JOINT BTS/A+LUK/BALR MID-CAREER LECTURES

Chaired by: Professor Mona Bafadhel (London), Professor Philip Molyneaux (London) and Dr Amanda Tatler (Nottingham)

To be selected from submitted abstracts. Further info to follow.

4.15pm – 5.45pm **SYMPOSIUM**

MALIGNANT PLEURAL EFFUSION – FROM BIOLOGY TO OUTCOMES

Chaired by: Professor Kevin Blyth (Glasgow) and Dr Eleanor Mishra (Norfolk and Norwich)

- | | |
|--------|---|
| 4.15pm | The biological effects of pleural fluid on malignant progression - translational evidence on mechanism
Dr Dinesh Addala (Oxford) |
| 4.45pm | Changing the paradigm for IPCs and Thoracoscopy - the AMPLE 3 RCT results
Professor Gary Lee (Australia) |
| 5.15pm | Outcomes in randomised trials of malignant effusion - core outcomes and patient priorities
Dr Alexandra Dipper (Bristol) |

Learning objectives

- 1) To understand the current scientific evidence on pleural fluid biological effects on malignant growth.
- 2) To review evidence on optimal treatment of MPE including surgical options on the basis of RCT data.
- 3) To review best outcomes in clinical trials of malignant effusion, and how these should be applied in clinical practice.

4.15pm – 5.45pm **SYMPOSIUM**

JOINT BTS/BPRS SYMPOSIUM SMART LUNGS, SMART CARE: THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF DIGITAL HEALTH IN PAEDIATRIC RESPIRATORY DISEASE

Chaired by: Dr Hazel Evans (Southampton) and Dr Don Urquhart (Edinburgh)

- | | |
|--------|--|
| 4.15pm | Digital monitoring in paediatric sleep and long-term ventilation: transforming assessment, adherence, and outcomes
Dr Hui Leng Tan (London) |
| 4.45pm | Smart monitoring in childhood asthma and bronchiectasis: from early detection to personalised care
Dr Prasad Nagakumar (Birmingham) |
| 5.15pm | From innovation to implementation: challenges in implementing digital respiratory technologies into routine paediatric practice
Professor Heather Elphick (Sheffield) |

Learning objectives

- 1) Understand how digital technologies are used to monitor paediatric respiratory disease, sleep, and long-term ventilation.
- 2) Evaluate the clinical value of remote monitoring for early detection and personalised management.
- 3) Identify key challenges and enablers for implementing digital respiratory technologies in routine paediatric practice.

4.15pm – 5.45pm

SYMPOSIUM

THE PHYSIOLOGY OF DYSPNOEA AND WHY PATIENTS FEEL WHAT THEY FEEL

Chaired by: Dr Karl Sylvester (Cambridge) and
Dr Helen Ward (Wolverhampton)

4.15pm How the brain constructs dyspnoea
Dr Kyle Pattinson (Oxford)

4.45pm Insights from exercise and disease
Paul Burns (Glasgow)

5.15pm From sensation to intervention
Dr Lucy Speakman (Oxford)

Learning objectives

- 1) Understand that disorders of respiratory control are implicated in a wide range of diseases such as COPD, asthma, sleep apnoea and sudden infant death syndrome to name a few.
- 2) Be knowledgeable in the use of exercise in the assessment of diseases associated with dyspnoea.
- 3) Understand how the science behind breathlessness then translates into intervention and improved clinical outcomes including quality of life.

5.45pm – 7.00pm

THE PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION – ALL WELCOME!

FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER 2026

8.00am – 9.00am **REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS**

8.30am – 9.00am **JOURNAL CLUB**

TB

Chaired by: Dr Pranab Haldar (Leicester)

Learning objectives

To review the latest publications and evidence in Tuberculosis.

9.00am – 10.30am **SYMPOSIUM**

FINDING YOUR NICHE: CELLULAR HETEROGENEITY IN ASTHMA

Chaired by: Professor Liam Heaney (Belfast) and Dr Maisha Jabeen (Oxford)

9.00am Overcrowding in the asthmatic airway: the consequences of bronchospasm
Professor Jody Rosenblatt (London)

9.30am Greater than the sum of their parts: Mast cell – eosinophil interactions in asthma
Professor Sven-Erik Dahlén (Sweden)

10.00am Upside down: Epithelial responses to eosinophil targeting
Dr Hitasha Rupani (Southampton)

Learning objectives

- 1) To understand the mechanobiological effects of bronchoconstriction on the airway epithelium, and how these processes may contribute to airways remodelling in asthma.
- 2) To explore the role of mast cells in asthma immunopathology and how bidirectional interactions with eosinophils impact the effector function of both cells.
- 3) To understand how targeting the downstream IL-5/eosinophil pathway may lead to improvements in upstream epithelial function in asthma.

9.00am – 10.30am **SYMPOSIUM**

WHEN AUTOIMMUNITY TARGETS THE LUNG

Chaired by: Dr Katie Ward (London) and Dr Rahul Mahida (Birmingham)

9.00am Mechanisms of autoimmunity in ILD
Professor Joanna Porter (London)

9.30am Navigating the spectrum of vasculitis in ILD
Professor David Jayne (Cambridge)

10.00am Phenotyping the myositis patient and tailoring management to specific subtypes
Dr Harsha Gunawardena (Bristol)

Learning objectives

- 1) Understand range of vasculopathy in systemic sclerosis and novel targets.
- 2) Spectrum of vasculitis of lung and key management principals, including newer treatments on the horizon.
- 3) To understand how clinical phenotypes may alter disease outcomes and enable tailored treatment in myositis-spectrum lung disease.

9.00am – 10.30am **SYMPOSIUM**

CYSTIC FIBROSIS: NEW INSIGHTS FROM INFECTION TO INFLAMMATION

Chaired by: Professor Robert Gray (Glasgow) and Dr Dawn Lau (Cardiff)

9.00am Covering changing microbial ecology and potential new approaches such as phage therapy
Professor Jo Fothergil (Liverpool)

9.30am What can we learn from large animal models of CF and non-CF Bronchiectasis?
Professor David Stoltz (USA)

10.00am Exploring how understanding non-pathogen driven autoinflammation may be the key to treating residual inflammation in the CF lung following CFTR modulator therapy
Professor Daniel Peckham (Leeds)

Learning objectives

- 1) To understand how lung microbiology has changed in CF and how new approaches are needed in anti-microbial therapy.
- 2) To learn how pre-clinical models in CF and non-CF muco-obstructive diseases can lead to the development of new treatments.
- 3) To determine the role of autoinflammatory pathways in CF and how they might be modulated.

10.45am – 12.15pm **SYMPOSIUM**

TRANSLATION IN PLEURAL DISEASE – IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING AND TREATMENTS

Chaired by: Professor Gary Lee (Perth) and Dr Selina Tsim (Glasgow)

10.45am Genetic mechanisms in pneumothorax and cystic lung diseases
Professor Stefan Marciniak (Cambridge)

11.15am Macrophage subtypes and cellular immunity in pleural infection
Professor Laura Gleeson (Dublin)

11.45am Pleural septation detection, formation and biology – insights from early phase studies
Dr Eihab Bedawi (Oxford)

Learning objectives

- 1) To understand the importance and impact of genetic testing in patients with pneumothorax and cystic lung disease.
- 2) To appraise the current state of the art in macrophage and cellular biology in pleural infection.
- 3) To understand the current understanding of the meaning and formation of septations in pleural disease.

10.45am – 12.15pm **SYMPOSIUM**

THE USE OF PHYSIOLOGICAL DATA WITHIN SPECIALIST CLINICS

Chaired by: Dr Vicky Moore (Coventry) and Professor Luke Howard (London)

- 10.45am Specialist Nursing: Physiological data within severe asthma, the path to therapeutics
Katie Borg (Oxford)
- 11.15am Physiotherapy: Physiological data for dysfunctional breathing, a growing evidence base
Chelliah Paramasivan (Cambridge)
- 11.45am Physician Clinics: Physiology data in pulmonary vascular disease, what's new?
Dr Martin Johnson (Scotland)

Learning objectives

- 1) To be able to assess the evidence from various physiological tests that provide the pathway to diagnosis and therapeutics in severe asthma. To understand the specialist nursing role in assessing scientific evidence in this area for decision making in CNS clinics.
- 2) To understand that breathing pattern disorder is becoming a more common and debilitating phenomenon and there is emerging evidence from physiology that can support and aid diagnosis and treatment via physiotherapy.
- 3) To review what is new alongside current evidence for the use of physiological data in Pulmonary vascular disease, and how this is used in clinical practise for accurate diagnosis.

10.45am – 12.15pm **SYMPOSIUM**

BTS AUDIT AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Chaired by: Dr Andy Molyneux, (Mansfield)

- 10.45am New Assessment Pathways for patients attending hospital with exacerbations of COPD or Asthma
Dr James Dodd (Bristol)
- 11.15am Findings from analysis of oxygen safety incidents related to type 2 acute respiratory failure
Dr Hamish Duff (Bristol)
- 11.45am National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcomes and Death (NCEPOD) report on pleural procedures
Dr Mark Juniper (Scotland)

Learning objectives

- 1) To learn more about the recently created assessment pathways for patients arriving to hospital with exacerbations of COPD or Asthma.
- 2) To gain insight on oxygen safety incidents related to type 2 acute respiratory failure.
- 3) To examine the NCEPOD report on pleural procedures.

12.45pm – 1.30pm **GUEST LECTURE**

BTS GRAND CHALLENGE LECTURE WHY THIS BILL MATTERS: TOBACCO, VAPING AND THE FUTURE OF LUNG HEALTH

Professor Sanjay Agrawal (Leicester)

Introduced by: Professor Elizabeth Sapey (Birmingham)

13.45am – 3.15pm **SYMPOSIUM**

OPTIMISING SLEEP: FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR TREATING SLEEP DISORDERED BREATHING

Chaired by: Dr Sonya Craig (Liverpool) and Helen May (Manchester)

- 1.45pm Gender differences in Obstructive Sleep Apnoea
Dr Renata Riha (Scotland)
- 2.15pm MAD plus CPAP: does combining two established treatments for Obstructive Sleep Apnoea give added benefits?
Dr Tim Quinnell (Cambridge)
- 2.45pm Complex Sleep Apnoea and ASV: evidence, controversies, and patient selection
Professor Esther Schwarz (Zurich)

Learning objectives

- 1) To discuss the reasons for delayed diagnoses in women and understand the differences in OSA between men and women and the impact of treatment.
- 2) To understand the treatment efficacy of CPAP and MADs in comparison to each other and in combination.
- 3) To understand the indications for ASV and the current evidence in the context of the ADVENT-HF and SERVE-HF trials, with some case examples.

1.45pm – 3.15pm **SYMPOSIUM**

IS THERE A ROLE FOR STEROIDS IN CAP?

Chaired by: Dr Frances Grudzinska (Nottingham) and Dr Meg Coleman (London)

- 1.45pm Host immune responses and corticosteroid effects in severe CAP
Professor Thomas Wilkinson (Southampton)
- 2.15pm Effect of steroids on mortality in patients with severe community-acquired pneumonia: The REMAP-CAP Corticosteroid Domain Randomized Clinical Trial in context
Professor Anthony Gordon (London)
- 2.45pm NICE guidelines in context – steroids in pneumonia
Dr Tom Bewick (Derby)

Learning objectives

- 1) Understand how digital technologies are used to monitor paediatric respiratory disease, sleep, and long-term ventilation.
- 2) Evaluate the clinical value of remote monitoring for early detection and personalised management.
- 3) Identify key challenges and enablers for implementing digital respiratory technologies in routine paediatric practice.

1.45pm – 3.15pm **SYMPOSIUM**
CROSS-DISEASE APPROACHES TO TREATING THE ONSET, EXACERBATION AND PROGRESSION OF CHRONIC LUNG DISEASES

Chaired by: Professor David Lomas (London) and Dr Samantha Walker (ALUK)

- 1.45pm New and known pathological pathways as novel targets during the early phases of chronic respiratory disease
Dr Renata Jurkowska (Cardiff)
- 2.15pm Preventing acute microbial-driven exacerbations from destabilising lung function and worsening chronic disease
Dr Aurelie Crabbe (Belgium)
- 2.45pm Opportunities for targeting common cross-disease mechanisms to prevent progression of chronic lung diseases
Dr Amanda Tatler (Nottingham)

Learning objectives

- 1) Explore common pathways and targets, with treatment potential across different stages of chronic respiratory disease, where focused research would accelerate drug discovery.
- 2) Understand how increased efforts in developing specific research tools are needed to make significant progress towards the development of new treatments, including increased effort towards biomarker development across respiratory diseases.
- 3) Provide insight into how taking a cross-disease and cross-discipline approach can facilitate collaborations that drive the development of tools (biomarkers) and treatments (drugs) that are truly disease-modifying, and what key elements can drive impactful collaborations.

3.30pm – 5.00pm **SYMPOSIUM**
LUNG CANCER SURVIVORSHIP: RECURRENCE RISK, SECOND PRIMARIES & CHEMOPREVENTION

Chaired by: Dr Liz Fuller (Newcastle) and Dr Alexandra Teagle (Plymouth)

- 3.30pm Expanding roles of liquid biopsies for lung cancer: detection, residual disease, surveillance and beyond
Professor Nitzan Rosenfeld (London)
- 4.00pm Second primary lung cancers – who is at risk and how long should we follow people up?
Professor Robert Rintoul (Cambridge)

- 4.30pm Preventing the next tumour: are vaccines the answer?
Professor Mariam Jamal-Hanjani (London)

Learning objectives

- 1) To recognise the risk of second primary lung cancers in radically treated patients, appreciate potential factors associated with increased risk and be aware of future tools for risk assessment and early detection.
- 2) To understand the concept of minimal residual disease in lung cancer, its relationship with recurrence and biomarkers to aid surveillance and early diagnosis.
- 3) To describe current and emerging chemoprevention strategies with a focus on vaccine therapy to prevent or delay the development of second primary lung cancers and tumour recurrence after radical treatment.

3.30pm – 5.00pm **OPEN SESSION – NRAP**
DRIVING IMPROVEMENTS IN RESPIRATORY OUTCOMES FROM INNOVATIONS IN RESPIRATORY CARE

Chaired by: Professor Alice Turner (Birmingham) and Dr Hannah Burke (Southampton)

- 3.30pm Patient centred innovation – overcoming health inequalities
Professor Ian Sinha (Liverpool)
- 3.50pm Respiratory innovation and improvement in primary care
Dr Katherine Hickman (Leeds)
- 4.10pm Driving impact from new therapies
Dr Irem Patel (London)
- 4.30pm Understanding new models of care
Professor Alice Turner (Birmingham)

Learning objectives

- 1) To involve the respiratory community in the national drive to improve outcomes through understanding innovations in respiratory care. Focus will be given to a review of respiratory care delivered across the whole respiratory pathway and the implementation science to deliver change including the equitable roll out of biologics.
- 2) To understand the emerging data on the intersection of health inequality and respiratory outcomes and how service models need to evolve to address these.
- 3) To explore innovations in improving quality of care in novel settings including virtual wards and emergency departments.

FUTURE BTS MEETINGS

Summer Meeting 2027

24 - 25 June, Newcastle

Winter Meeting 2027

24 - 26 November, London

Summer Meeting 2028

29- 30 June, Newcastle

Winter Meeting 2028

22- 24 November, London



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