

ENCEPHALITIS CONFERENCE



2ND – 3RD DECEMBER 2024
ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS, LONDON
AND VIRTUALLY

This annual event is the go-to conference on encephalitis. It is dedicated exclusively to encephalitis (infectious and autoimmune aetiologies) and covers epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation in both children and adults. It is an excellent forum for physicians, scientists, researchers, and healthcare professionals to exchange ideas, knowledge and clinical experience relating to encephalitis.

This event is supported by: UCB, Aialys Therapeutics, Roche, Argenx, Research for Ronan, Valneva, Svar Wieslab, Euroimmun, The EXTINGUISH NMDAR Encephalitis Trial, University of Liverpool Institute of Infection, Veterinary and Ecological Sciences, Delve Bio, bioMérieux, James Tudor Foundation, Thriplow Charitable Trust, The Lancet Neurology, ACNR

PROGRAMME

Monday, 2nd December

8:30 Registration

9:00 Welcome address

**Dr Ava Easton, CEO Encephalitis International
& University of Liverpool, UK**

**Assoc Prof Kiran Thakur, Columbia University
Irving Medical Center, USA**

SESSION 1 CHAIRS:

**Dr Nicholas Davies, Chair Advisory Scientific Panel,
Encephalitis International;
Chelsea and Westminster, Charing Cross, and the Royal
Marsden Hospitals, London, UK**

**09:05 Basic clinical overview to infectious encephalitis
Prof Benedict Michael, University of Liverpool & The Walton
Center, Liverpool, UK**

**09:35 Basic clinical overview to autoimmune encephalitis
Prof Sarosh Irani, Mayo Clinic Florida & University of Oxford**

10:05 BREAK

SESSION 2 CHAIR:

**Assoc Prof Kiran Thakur, Columbia University Irving Medical
Center, USA**

10:25 Clinical Case Panel

11.25 LUNCH



**Encephalitis
International**
The brain inflammation non-profit

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SESSION 3:

- 13:15 How to get your grant/fellowship
Assoc Prof Deanna Saylor, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, USA & University Teaching Hospital and the University of Zambia School of Medicine, Lusaka, Zambia
Dr Mashina Chomba, University Teaching Hospital – Adult Hospital, Lusaka, Zambia
Dr Saif Huda
Walton Centre Foundation Trust & University of Liverpool, UK
- 14:00 BREAK

SESSION 4 CHAIRS:

Prof Michael Wilson, UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences, USA

Dr Sophie Binks
University of Oxford, UK

Dr Thomas Pollak
King's College London, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, UK

- 14:20 **DATABLITZ SESSION**
 Brian biopsy has a high clinical impact in a selected population of suspected autoimmune encephalitis, while being relatively safe
Dr R.W. van Steenhoven, Erasmus MC University Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 14:30 Human CASPR2 autoantibodies disrupt neuronal network excitability through binding to the CASPR2 shed ectodomain
Ms Débora Serrenho, Centre for Neuroscience and Cell Biology, Coimbra, Portugal
- 14:40 Pulmonary SARS-CoV-2 infection leads to viral-independent para-infectious immune activation in the brain
Dr Cordelia Dunai, University of Liverpool, UK

- 14:50 Autoantigen-specific CD4 T cells acquire an exhausted phenotype and persist in patients with antigen-specific autoimmune diseases
Dr Daniella Esser, University Hospital Schleswig-Holstein
- 15:00 Clinical, prognostic, and longitudinal functional and neuropsychological features of West Nile virus neuroinvasive disease in the United States: a systematic review and meta-analysis
Dr Jackson Roberts, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, USA
- 15:10 ExTINGUISH clinical trial in anti-NMDAR encephalitis
Dr Stacey Clardy & Dr Ka-Ho Wong, University of Utah, USA
- 15:25 BREAK
- 15:40 Acute symptomatic seizures secondary to autoimmune encephalitis: time to electro-clinical seizure freedom
Assist Prof Julien Hébert, University of Toronto & Toronto Western Hospital, Canada
- 15:50 Prognostic factors for morbidity and mortality outcomes following infectious encephalitis: systematic review and meta-analysis
Dr Thomas Johnson, University Of Oxford, UK
- 16:00 Microbial triggering of myelin-specific immune cells in the gut drives central nervous system inflammation
Dr Lena Siewert, University Hospital of Basel, Switzerland
- 16:10 Extracellular vesicles as a way to prevent neuronal damage in bacterial meningoencephalitis
Dr Miguel Tofiño-Vian, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden
- 16:20 Diagnostic value of metagenomic next-generation sequencing techniques in CNS infections
Dr N.S. Groeneveld & Ms Sabine Olie, Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 16:35 DRINKS RECEPTION & POSTER VIEWING