The Children & Young People's Cancer Association

Developmental Origins of Paediatric Cancer symposium

09:55-18:00, 8th June 2026
Francis Crick Institute, London NW1 1AT

Programme

Time	Topic	Speaker
09:55	Welcome	
Chair: Karen Liu		
10:00-10:30	**Developmental state shapes EWS::FLI1 fusion oncogene effects during human mesenchymal differentiation**	**Florian Halbritter, CCRI, Vienna**
10:30-10:45	Clonal Bottlenecks in Normal and Predisposed Paediatric Liver Development	Natalie Andersson, Lund/Sanger
10:45-11:00	Self-Supervised Learning Uncovers a Shared Mesenchymal Landscape across Development and Cancer (online)	Caleb Reagor, Rockefeller University/Karolinska Institutet
11.00-11.15	Developmental Determinants of Male Bias in Group 3/4 Medulloblastoma	Lena Kutscher, Heidelberg
11.15-11.45	**Targeting Retinoblastoma: Drug Repurposing in Patient-Specific Retinal Models**	**Majlinda Lako, Newcastle University**
11:45-12	Flash talks: A New Human Stem Cell-Derived Sympathoadrenal Lineage Organoid Model to Study Neuroblastoma Initiation Targeting Chromatin Remodelers in MYCN-amplified Neuroblastoma Osteosarcoma Cells Undergo Transient Cell Cycle Arrest and Transcriptional Rewiring which Enable their Survival in Response to Map Chemotherapy in vitro	 Thomas Eckhardt, St. Anna Children's Cancer Research Institute Isabella Scott, ICR Justas Stanislovas, UCL
12:15-13:30	Lunch and posters	

Chair: Anestis Tsakiridis		
13:30-14.00	**Turning cancer against itself: programmable gene therapy for glioblastoma**	**Steve Pollard, University of Edinburgh**
14:00-14.15	UCL/ICR: Mapping the MYCN-driven Oncogenic Transformation of Neuroepithelial Stem Cells to Embryonal Tumour with Multilayered Rosettes (ETMR)	Sumana Shrestha, UCL/ICR
14.15-14.30	On the Developmental Origins of Paediatric Germ Cell Tumours	Harry Leitch, UCL GOS
14:30-15.00	**Modelling paediatric tumour development – in vivo models**	**Katrin Ottersbach, University of Edinburgh**
15:00-15:30	**Coffee break/posters**	
Chair: Deb Tweddle		
15:30-16:00	**Tumour dependencies and implications for therapy (sponsored by Neuroblastoma UK)**	**Ruth Palmer, University of Gothenburg**
16:00-16.15	RNA Modifications Connect Fate Selection in Neural Crest and Prognosis in Neuroblastoma	Irina Poverennaya, Medical University Vienna
16:15-16.30	FOXO3 Suppression Underlies Subtype Diversity in WNT-Medulloblastoma	Jessica Taylor, Cambridge
16:30-17.00	**Lineage, cell state and plasticity defining drug sensitivity and resistance in paediatric-type diffuse high-grade glioma**	**Chris Jones, ICR**
17:00-18.00	Prize announcements/ Drinks reception and posters	