

COVID-19 National Core Studies Symposium

Scientific Insights in a Pandemic

Thursday 24 June 2021
Time: 9am - 1pm BST



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1. About the event

Thank you for joining us for the COVID-19 National Core Studies Symposium

In October 2020, the UK government established six national studies to support and accelerate the UK’s research response to COVID-19. The studies use health data to identify and respond to essential questions to rapidly inform policy, operations and planning and maintain resilience against COVID-19 across the UK.

On 24 June 2021, the COVID-19 National Core Studies Symposium will present the progress on these studies and their impact on the scientific response to the pandemic. UK and international leaders in science will showcase examples of the insights gained, which include virus transmission, epidemiology, discovery of treatments through clinical trials and vaccines effectiveness.

This free, half-day event will bring together the UK and international scientific community with policy makers, patients and the public to share best practice, shape the future landscape post-pandemic and identify opportunities for collaboration.

Event partners

The following partners are delighted to be delivering this event:

	Government Office for Science
	National Institute for Health Research
	Health and Safety Executive
	UK Research and Innovation
	The Office for National Statistics
	Health and Social Care Northern Ireland
	Health and Care Research Wales
	Chief Scientist Office, NHS Scotland
	Health Data Research UK

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2. About the event platform

Joining the Event

Outlined below is a step-by-step guide on how to log in and navigate your way around the National Core Studies Symposium event platform.

Logging in

Click [here](#) to log into the National Core Studies Symposium on the 24th June 2021. The conference programme will commence at 08:55.

Please log in using the email address you registered with. Unfortunately, you won't be able to access the platform with a different email address.

We recommend you connect via a PC or laptop, rather than a tablet (due to screen size and functionality) and please use with a modern browser such as Chrome, Safari or MS Edge.

All plenary sessions are streamed using Vimeo.

If you are having trouble accessing the platform or stream then it is possible your organisation IT security policy has blocked those websites. Please reconnect using a personal device (laptop/iPad) to access the online event.

We recommend you log into the event platform using your credentials no later than 10 minutes before the event start.

I'm logged in, what next?

Once you have logged in, you will see the 'Agenda', please click on a scheduled session and select "View Stream" button to join a live plenary session.

At any time in during the event please click the 'Ask a Question' button to submit questions to any session speakers or panellists.

Navigation tabs, what do they do?

You'll also see a number of navigation tabs at the top of your screen.

Agenda

This is the main Welcome page where you'll see the timings and schedule for the event.

If you accidentally turn off the live stream, come back to the Agenda tab to turn it back on. You'll be able to re-connect to this by pressing the plus (+) sign line and clicking the "View Stream" button.

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Speaker Bios

Click here to find out more about the speakers for the event.

Message Wall

Click here to submit either comments or images that you would like to share with all National Core Studies Symposium attendees. Please note that these comments will be moderated before publication.

Help

If you experience any problems during the symposium, our technical team will be on hand to provide assistance.

3. Agenda

Time	Sessions
09:00	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Professor Andrew Morris, Health Data Research UK</p> <p>Opening keynote: A year of accelerated science and impact</p> <p>Sir Jeremy Farrar, Wellcome Trust</p>
09:10	<p>Plenary keynote: UK Learnings from COVID – and where now?</p> <p>Sir Patrick Vallance, UK Government Chief Scientific Advisor</p>
09:20	<p>Q&A</p> <p>Chair: Professor Dame Anne Johnson, University College London</p> <p>Panellist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sir Patrick Vallance, UK Government Chief Scientific Adviser
09:30	<p>UK COVID Science – the perspective of the public, the media and the NHS</p> <p>Fiona Fox, Science Media Centre, Chris Monk, Patient Representative, Dr Mark Toshner, Royal Papworth NHS Trust</p>
09:50	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Chair: Professor Andrew Morris, Health Data Research UK</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fiona Fox, Science Media Centre Chris Monk, Patient Representative Dr Mark Toshner, Royal Papworth NHS Trust
10:00	 <p>BREAK</p>

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10:10	<p>National Core Studies – Impact and future potential</p> <p>Chair: Professor Dame Anne Johnson, University College London</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transmission and Environment: Professor Andrew Curran, Health and Safety Executive • Longitudinal Health and Wellbeing: Professor Jonathan Sterne, University of Bristol and HDR UK • Immunity: Professor Paul Moss, University of Birmingham • Epidemiology and Surveillance: Professor Sir Ian Diamond, UK National Statistician • Vaccines Trials Infrastructure: Divya Chadha Manek, National Institute for Health Research • Therapeutics Trials Infrastructure: Professor Patrick Chinnery, Medical Research Council • Data and Connectivity: Professor Andrew Morris, Health Data Research UK <p>Q&A</p>
11:05	<div style="text-align: center;">  BREAK </div>
11:20	<p>Lighting talks: Policy and societal impact of UK COVID science</p> <p>Chair: Professor Patrick Chinnery, Medical Research Council</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <p>Group 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISARIC4C CCP-UK – lessons learned from >200k patients: Annemarie Docherty, University of Edinburgh • RECOVERY: The power of large simple trials: Dr Marion Mafham, University of Oxford • Single-cell multi-omics analysis of the immune response in COVID-19: Professor Muzlifah Haniffa, Newcastle University • Investigating ethnicity and COVID-19 using UK Biobank, ISARIC and other linked data sources: Dr Cameron Razieh, University of Leicester <p>Q&A</p> <p>Group 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sequencing to understand SARS-CoV-2 transmission at regional and national scales: Dr Dinesh Aggarwal, COG-UK and Public Health England • Immune responses to SARS-CoV-2 vaccination in the elderly: Dr Helen Parry, University of Birmingham • REACT-1: Symptoms predictive of COVID-19: Joshua Elliott, Imperial College London • Estimating COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness using OpenSAFELY: Dr William Hulme, University of Oxford <p>Q&A</p>
12:10	<p>Preparing for the next pandemic</p> <p>Chair: Caroline Cake, Health Data Research UK</p> <p>Panellists:</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sir Menelas (Mene) Pangalos, AstraZeneca • Professor Gabriel Leung, The University of Hong Kong • Dr Lynda Stuart, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation • Professor Kevin Fenton, Public Health England and NHS London
12:40	<p>By everyone, for everyone: research and innovation for the future</p> <p>Professor Dame Ottoline Leyser, UK Research and Innovation</p>
12:55	<p>Closing remarks</p> <p>Dr Rob Orford, Chief Scientific Adviser for Health Wales</p>
13:00	 CLOSE

4. Inclusivity and conduct

- The Symposium is open to everyone across the health data science community, policy makers, patients and the public, and we are delighted to welcome participants from across the UK and internationally.
- We ask all participants abide by HDR UK’s code of conduct while participating in the event, based on the values of transparency, optimism, respect, courage and humility, which includes treating all speakers and participants with respect, courtesy and professionalism.
- Where possible, we will publish any slides after the event.
- Where possible, the Symposium will be recorded and put on HDR UK’s YouTube channel after the event, where captions will be available.
- For any other accessibility requirements please contact events@hdruk.ac.uk and we will do our best to accommodate these.

5. About the COVID-19 National Core Studies Programme

The National Core Studies consists of six programmes:

- **Epidemiology and Surveillance** – collecting data to inform safe level of restrictions and protection against imminent outbreaks (led by Sir Ian Diamond, UK National Statistician, ONS)
- **Clinical Trials Infrastructure** – building on established NIHR infrastructure (and equivalent in Devolved Administrations) to accelerate delivery of large scale Covid trials for drugs and vaccines. (led by Professor Patrick Chinnery, Clinical Director, MRC and Divya Chadha Manek, Head of Business Development, Vaccines Task Force).



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- **[Transmission and Environment](#)** – understanding and mitigating transmission of the disease in workplace, transport and public places (led by Professor Andrew Curran, Chief Scientific Adviser, Health & Safety Executive)
- **Immunity** – understanding immunity against Covid to inform back-to-work policies (led by Professor Paul Moss, Professor of Haematology, University of Birmingham).
- **Longitudinal Health and Wellbeing** – using data from longitudinal studies to address the impact of COVID-19 and of associated viral suppression measures on health and wealth to inform mitigating strategies (led by Nishi Chaturvedi, Professor of Clinical Epidemiology, University College London and Professor Jonathan Sterne, Professor of Medical Statistics and Epidemiology, University of Bristol)
- **[Data and Connectivity](#)** – making data from all studies available and accessible to inform decision makers and catalyse COVID-19 research (led by Professor Andrew Morris Director, HDR UK)

[Find out more about the National Core Studies Programme here](#)

[Information on the datasets used by the National Cores Studies can be found here on the Health Data Research Innovation Gateway](#)

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