THE HUMAN CELL FORUM 2025



WELCOME

8.30 Registration

9.00 Introduction

Przemek Obloj CEO, bit.bio

THE DEBATING CHAMBER

9.05 Keynote

Mark Kotter, MD, PhD

Founder, bit.bio

THE DEBATING CHAMBER

9.50 Panel discussion

Breaking barriers to adoption: What will it take to make human cells accessible and fit-for-purpose?

David Fischer, PhD

Chief Technology Officer (Discovery), Charles River Laboratories

Davide Gianni, PhD

Senior Director, Functional Genomics, Discovery Sciences, BioPharmaceuticals R&D, AstraZeneca

Camin Dean, PhD

Heisenberg Group Leader, DZNE / Charité University of Medicine

Moderator Emma Pepperell, PhD VP Commercial, bit.bio

THE DEBATING CHAMBER

BREAK

THE FAIRFAX RHODES ROOM

10.50

Refreshments

Support clinic

Bricks of biology competition

Race the clock: Be the fastest to correctly build the brick-style neuron model. The quickest brain at the end of the day gets to keep the kit!

SESSION 1

TRACK 1

THE LIBRARY

Modelling neurodegeneration in vitro with human iPSC-derived cells

Moderated by Zoe Nilsson, PhD

Senior Content Strategy Manager, bit.bio

disease-relevant
signatures in
iPSC-derived motor
neurons to test the
therapeutic potential
of homeoprotein EN1

Elizabeth Di Lullo, PhD

Associate Scientific Director, BrainEver

 In vitro approaches to neurodegeneration: Characterisation of ioGlutamatergic
 Neurons as PD models

> Irantzu Pérez Ruiz, PhD Study Director, Scantox Neuro

11.55 Ameliorating cellular stress in neurodegeneration

Emmanouil Metzakopian, PhD former CSO, bit.bio

TRACK 2

THE OLD SNOOKER ROOM

From cells to systems: Building human iPSC-derived models of pain, neuromuscular junctions, and glial dynamics

Moderated by Tom Harris-Brown Senior Product Manager, bit.bio

Using ioSensory
Neurons to model pain
in osteoarthritis

Ryan Jones, PhD

Research Associate, Biomechanics and Bioengineering Research Centre Versus Arthritis, Cardiff University

11.35 Astrocytic calcium imaging – from mouse to human systems

> **Jeremy Krohn, MSc** PhD Candidate, DZNE

1.55 Using human
iPSC-derived
ioSkeletal Myocytes
and ioMotor Neurons
to model complex
neuromuscular
systems in vitro

Grace Cooper, PhDSenior Scientist, bit.bio

LUNCH

THE FAIRFAX RHODES ROOM

12.15 Lunch

Support clinic

Bricks of biology competition
Race the clock

SESSION 2

THE LIBRARY

bit.bio insider: Tools, tips, and what's coming next

Moderated by Sebastian Fiedler, PhD

Applications Marketing Manager, bit, bio

13.15 Unlocking success with ioCells: Overcoming challenges and maximising outcomes

Luke Foulser

Field Application Scientist, bit.bio

13.30 Introducing digiCells: Enabling on-demand access to ioCells transcriptomics data

> **Inês Ferreira, MSc** Senior Product Manager, bit.bio

13.45 Comparing human iPSC-derived ioMicroglia to immortalised HMC3 cell line: A case study

Euan Yates Scientist, bit.bio opti-ox[™] – Harnessing
CRISPR-Ready ioCells
for drug discovery in
neurodegenerative
diseases

Sejla Salic-Hainzl, PhD VP R&D, bit.bio discovery

14.25 Development of human iPSC-derived hepatocytes for drug discovery, translational research and toxicity testing

Gianmarco Mastrogiovanni, PhD,

Principal Scientist, Cell Type Development, bit.bio

14.45 Live Q&A with bit.bio

BREAK

THE FAIRFAX RHODES ROOM

15.15 Refreshments

Support clinic

Bricks of biology competitionRace the clock

SESSION 3

THE LIBRARY

Making complex human biology compatible with modern drug discovery workflows

Moderated by Connie O'Donnell
Director Marketing, bit.bio

15.45 Advancing
neurodegenerative
disease drug discovery
through innovative
human iPSC-derived
cell-based assays

Malika Bsibsi, PhD
Research Leader Neuroscience,
Charles River Laboratories

16.05 Talk title TBC

Martina Esposito Soccoio, PhD Senior Research Associate, AviadoBio

in a dish: harnessing iPSC models in drug discovery

> **Sara Martin, PhD** Scientist, Axxam

16.45 Closing remarks

DRINKS RECEPTION

THE FAIRFAX RHODES ROOM

17.00 - 18.00