

PRIME

1st PRIME Symposium: 28th-29th September, 2026

John McIntyre Conference Centre, Edinburgh & Online

Preliminary Programme

DAY 1: Genetics/Genomics

9.00-9.10	Welcome (Prof. Chris Ponting, University of Edinburgh)
9.10-9.20	PRIME – The story so far: Daphne Lamirel (AfME) & Ed Hutchinson (Univ. Edinburgh)
9.20-9.45	The Future of ME/CFS Genetics: Official launch of the Genetic Epidemiology of ME/CFS (GEM) International Consortium – Dr. Hanna Ollila
9.45-10.30	GEM-led Workshop: how genetics can generate testable hypotheses – 3 x breakout groups – Dr. Hanna Ollila; Dr. Cindy Boer; Prof. Nasa Sinnott-Armstrong
10.30-10.40	Rapid feedback (Chair – HO)
BREAK	
11.10-11.40	Pitching Pathomechanisms – 4 x 7min presentations Prof. Chris Ponting; Prof. Doug Kell (online); + tbc
11.40-12.25	8 x Flash talks – ECRs (Sirine Saafi; Krishani Perera; Maria Delgado-Ortet; Inga Williams; Audrey Ryback; Katherine Seton; Hannah Maude; Aleya Lumsden)
12.25-12.45	Open feedback: ME/CFS research: What works, what doesn't and what to do differently? Chair – Sonya Chowdhury

LUNCH & e-Poster Review

2.00-2.30	Panel discussion – The top 5 Questions we need to answer Chair – Audrey Ryback; Panel - Rob Wust, Karl Morten, Caroline Dalton, Matthias Wielscher
2.30-2.45	Summary of priority questions
2.45-3.30	'Open Mic' sessions: 'If I had a £1million.....' Dr. Matthias Wielscher + tbc
BREAK	
4.00-4.40	Industry session – 4 x industry perspectives (4 x 10mins) Panel: Rowan Gardner; Jonathan Knowles; Nigel McCracken; + tbc
4.40-5.15	Chaired Industry Panel discussion - questions from online/in-person audience
5.15-5.20	Summary of the day/wrap-up

Informal Breakout Discussions & e-Poster Review (optional)

END OF DAY 1



PRIME

DAY 2: Current Research: Objectives, Impact & Patient Involvement

9.00-9.10am	Welcome (AfME)
9.10-9.30	PRIME PPI Research Involvement Hub – Sian Leary (AfME)
9.30-9.45	AfME Big Survey – Intro and Preliminary Findings – Katharine Cheston
9.45-10.25	AfME/PPI-led Workshop – 3 x breakout groups
10.25-10.40	Feedback from breakout sessions
BREAK	
11.15-11.35	Talk – Prof. Rob Wust
11.35-11.55	Rosetta Stone – Prof. Danny Altmann
11.55-12.15	DISCOVERME – Prof. David Price
12.15-12.35	Sequence ME & Long Covid – Prof. Chris Ponting
12.35-12.45	Closing Remarks, Poster Prizes, Feedback Forms, Plans for Symposium 2

LUNCH 12.45-2pm

END OF DAY 2/SYMPOSIUM

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