

Friday 31st May to Sunday 2nd June 2013
Sheffield City Hall Ballroom and North & South Halls

Programme

Friday 31st May 2013

12:30 to 13:45 Registration at Sheffield City Hall – Arches Bar

Opening Session:

14:00 to 14:05 Welcome by Professor Leonard van den Berg (Utrecht, The Netherlands)

ORAL SESSION 1: DISEASE MECHANISMS

Chairs: Professors Leonard van den Berg and Pamela Shaw

14:05 to 14:35 Plenary Speaker: Professor Pamela Shaw (Sheffield, U.K.)
“C9ORF72 - related Motor Neurone Disease; what have we learned so far?”

14:35 to 14:50 OS1a: Johnathan Cooper-Knock (Sheffield, U.K.)
“Somatic heterogeneity in C9ORF72 expansions and the effect of repeat length on C9ORF72 transcription.”

14:50 to 15:05 OS1b: Steven Boeynaems (Leuven, Belgium)
“Generation and characterization of a C9ORF72 ALS fish model.”

15:05 to 15:20 OS1c: Philip Van Damme (Leuven, Belgium)
“Impact of the C9ORF72 expansion on brain glucose metabolism in ALS patients.”

15:20 to 15:35 OS1d: Hannah Robinson (Cardiff, U.K.)
“Nuclear FUS and ALS.”

15:35 to 16:00 Refreshment Break

16:00 to 16:15 OS1e: Scott Allen (Sheffield, U.K.)
“SOD1 mutation leads to altered metabolic pathways for energy generation in ALS patient fibroblasts.”

16:15 to 16:30 OS1f: Owen Peters (Massachusetts, USA)
“Impeding axon degeneration in the SOD1G93A mouse by ablation of Sarm1.”

16:30 to 16:45 OS1g: Johannes Brettschneider (Ulm, Germany)
“Stages of pTDP-43 pathology in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.”

16:45 to 17:00 OS1h: Sharon Abrahams (Edinburgh, U.K.)
“The Edinburgh Cognitive and Behaviour ALS Screen.”

17:00 to 19:00 Wine and Canapés & Poster Viewing in North and South Halls

19:00 to 20:15 2CELLOS Concert in the Ballroom (Social Activity)

20:30 onwards *Delegates free to have dinner in the city centre/or at hotel.*
Professor Pamela Shaw to host a dinner at “Artisan Restaurant” for the Plenary Speakers, Programme Committee and invited guests.

Saturday 1st June 2013

08:00 to 09:00 **Edinburgh Cognitive and Behaviour ALS Screen (ECAS) Workshop**
Led by Dr Sharon Abrahams - Ball Room

09:00 to 10:00 Thierry Latran Speaker – Professor Clive Svendsen (California, USA)
“Treating ALS with stem cells and growth factors: From bench to bedside.”

ORAL SESSION 2: A: STEM CELL BIOLOGY AND ALS
B: GENETICS

Chairs: Professor Kevin Talbot and Dr Janine Kirby

2A: STEM CELL BIOLOGY AND ALS:

10:00 to 10:15 OS2Aa: Stefania Corti (Milan, Italy)
“iPSCs-derived neural stem cells as a therapeutic approach for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.”

10:15 to 10:30 OS2Ab: Carole Shum (London, U.K.)
“Modelling aspects of FUS proteinopathies using induced pluripotent stem cells.”

10:30 to 11:00 **Refreshment Break**

11:00 to 11:15 OS2Ac: Ruxandra Mutihac (Oxford, U.K.)
“Functional effects of TDP-43 mutations in iPS derived motor neurons and genomic expression models.”

11:15 to 11:30 OS2Ad: Delphine Bohl (Paris, France)
“Isolation of pure iPS-derived human motor neurons by using a novel p75/HB9 double selection FACS.”

2B: GENETICS:

11:30 to 11:45 OS2Ba: Frank Diekstra (Utrecht, The Netherlands)
“C9ORF72 and UNC13A are shared risk loci for ALS and FTD: a genome-wide meta-analysis.”

11:45 to 12:00 OS2Bb: Bradley Smith (London, U.K.)
“Investigating novel Profilin1 mutations identified in UK ALS patients.”

12:00 to 12:15 OS2Bc: Kevin Kenna (Dublin, Ireland)
“The frequencies of ALS gene variants: Evidence of oligogenic aetiology and heterogeneity across Europe.”

12:15 to 12:30 OS2Bd: Andre Bento-Abreu (Leuven, Belgium)
“Role of Elp3 in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.”

12:30 to 14:00 **Lunch and Posters – North and South Halls**

12:45 to 13:45 **EU SOPHIA Programme – Investigators Meeting – Ball Room**

ORAL SESSION 3: A: INFLAMMATION/NON-NEURONAL MECHANISMS IN MOTOR NEURONE INJURY

B: microRNAs AND ALS

Chairs: Professors Albert Ludolph and Severine Boilee

14:00 to 14:30 Plenary Speaker – Professor Stanley Appel (Houston, USA)
“Neuroinflammation fans the flames of Neurodegeneration.”

3A: INFLAMMATION/NON-NEURONAL MECHANISMS IN MOTOR NEURONE INJURY:

14:30 to 14:45 OS3Aa: Giovanni Nardo (Milan, Italy)
“Whole genome transcriptome analysis identifies indices of fast and slow progression in two mouse models of ALS.”

14:45 to 15:00 OS3Ab: Lies Schoonaert (Leuven, Belgium)
“Deleting ephrin-b2 from reactive astrocytes is beneficial in ALS.”

3B: microRNAs AND ALS:

15:00 to 15:15 OS3Ba: Emily Goodall (Sheffield, U.K.)
“Screening microRNAs as blood-based biomarkers for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.”

15:15 to 15:30 OS3Bb: Jochen Weishaupt (Ulm, Germany)
“Systemic dysregulation of TDP-43 binding microRNAs in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.”

15:30 to 16:00 Refreshment Break

ORAL SESSION 4: DEBATE SESSION - OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE

16:00 to 17:00 *“All sporadic ALS/MND patients should have genetic screening.”*

For the motion: Professor Wim Robberecht

Against the motion: Professor Ammar al Chalabi

17:00 to 19:00 Delegates free time to get ready for Dinner

17:00 to 18:00 ENCALS Executive Board Business Meeting – Arches Bar or South Hall

19:00 to 19:30 Wine Reception and Posters South Hall

19:30 to 00:00 Dinner in the Ballroom

Sunday 2nd June 2013

08:30 to 09:00 **Young Investigator Award Presentation & Talk**

ORAL SESSION 5: Clinical Session: New Prognostic, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Approaches.

Chairs: Professors Orla Hardiman and Adriano Chio

09:00 to 09:30 Plenary Speaker – Dr Christopher McDermott (Sheffield, U.K.)
“While We Wait.”

09:30 to 09:45 OS5a: Neta Zach (Tel Aviv, Israel and Massachusetts, USA)
“Being PRO ACTIVE – What can a clinical trials database reveal about ALS?”

09:45 to 10:00 OS5b: Marwa Elamin (Dublin, Ireland)
“Predicting prognosis in ALS patients: A data-led approach.”

10:00 to 10:15 OS5c: Muhammad Rafiq (Sheffield, U.K.)
“Effect of lipid profile on prognosis in ALS: a defence mechanism or metabolic dysregulation?”

10:15 to 10:30 OS5d: Rubika Balendra (London, U.K.)
“Disease progression in two phase III clinical trials measured using an ALS staging system.”

10:30 to 11:00 **Refreshment Break**

11:00 to 11:15 OS5e: Mark Huisman (Utrecht, The Netherlands)
“Dietary patterns modify the risk of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.”

11:15 to 11:30 OS5f: Ching-Hua Lu (London, U.K.)
“Tracking disease progression using plasma neurofilament in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.”

11:30 to 12:00 Closing Remarks and Meeting Summary

12:00 noon **Meeting Closes**