

**TUESDAY 19 MAY 2026 – Trainee Day**



Tues 19 May 2026  
Wed 20 May 2026



Birmingham  
Conference & Events  
Centre



[EVENT WEBSITE](#)



[events@fitwise.co.uk](mailto:events@fitwise.co.uk)  
+44 (0) 1506 292 042

**08:15 DELEGATE REGISTRATION AND EXHIBITION VIEWING**

**Chair: Dr Nishchay Kakkar**

**09:00 Welcome and opening address**

Dr Nishchay Kakkar, ST5 ID/MM Infection services, BIA Trainee Meetings Secretary

**09:15 Neonatal infections**

Dr Mitul Patel

**10:00 Challenges of leading and managing a laboratory as a clinician**

Dr Abid Hussain, Consultant Medical Microbiologist and Clinical Services Director, UKHSA  
Birmingham Public Health Laboratory, Public Health Microbiology, University Hospitals of  
Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust

**10:45 REFRESHMENTS AND EXHIBITION VIEWING**

**11:15 *Talk title to be confirmed***

*Speaker to be confirmed*

**12:15 Advancements of therapeutics in TB**

Professor Sean Wasserman, Reader and honorary consultant in infectious diseases, City St  
George's, University of London

**12:45 NITCAR Session**

Speaker to be confirmed

**13:30 LUNCH AND EXHIBITION VIEWING**

**14:30 Lyme disease essentials**

Dr Christina Petridou, Consultant in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, Rare and Imported  
Pathogens Laboratory UKHSA

**15:30 Maternal Infections**

Dr Jim Gray

**16:30 Closing remarks**

Dr Nishchay Kakkar, ST5 ID/MM Infection services, BIA Trainee Meetings Secretary

**16:45 POSTER RECEPTION IN EXHIBITION AREA**

**17:45 CLOSE OF TRAINEE DAY**

**WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2026 – Scientific Meeting**



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**08:15 DELEGATE REGISTRATION AND EXHIBITION VIEWING**

**Chair: Fiona McGill**

**09:00 Welcome and opening remarks**  
Fiona McGill, BIA Meetings Secretary

**09:15 J.Infect review of the year**  
Robert Read, Professor of Infectious Diseases, University of Southampton, Editor in Chief,  
*Journal of Infection*

**09:45 UK STATE OF THE ART LECTURE**  
**DecodeME: The genetics of ME/CFS**  
Chris Pointing, Chair of Medical Bioinformatics, University of Edinburgh

**10:30 REFRESHMENTS AND EXHIBITION VIEWING**

**11:00 BIA AGM (members only)**

**11:45 FREE SCIENTIFIC PAPERS**

**12:45 LUNCH AND EXHIBITION VIEWING**

**13:30 COMPANY SYMPOSIUM**

**KEYNOTE LECTURE**  
**13:50 RIPLs response to emerging infections**  
Tommy Rampling

*International keynote lecture*  
**14:35 Talk title to be confirmed**  
*Speaker to be confirmed*

**15:05 COMFORT BREAK**

**Associate Members Symposium**  
*Speaker to be confirmed*

**16:15 Awards and final address**  
Fiona McGill, BIA Meetings Secretary

**16:30 CLOSE OF CONFERENCE**