

TUESDAY 19 MAY 2026 – Trainee DayTues 19 May 2026
Wed 20 May 2026Birmingham
Conference & Events
Centre[EVENT WEBSITE](#)events@fitwise.co.uk
+44 (0) 1506 292 042

Endorsed by:

**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

Neonatal infections**09:15** Dr Mitul Patel, Consultant Microbiologist, Birmingham Women' and Children's NHS Foundation Trust**Challenges of leading and managing a laboratory as a clinician****10:00** 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 The Viral Load of Laboratory Error: Tales from the NHS Bench**

Dr Malur Sudhanva, O.B.E., MBBS, MD (Microbiology), FRCPath (Virology)

Advancements of therapeutics in TB**12:15** 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**Lyme disease essentials****14:30** Dr Christina Petridou, Consultant in Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, Rare and Imported Pathogens Laboratory UKHSA**Microbiology & Infection in Maternity Services****15:30** Dr Jim Gray, Consultant Microbiologist, Birmingham Women's & Children's NHS Foundation Trust**Closing remarks****16:30** 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 Ponting, 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

Dr Tommy Rampling, Consultant in Infectious Diseases and Virology, Rare and Imported
Pathogens Laboratory, UKHSA

14:35 *Talk title to be confirmed*

Prof Chris Whitty, Cmo, Dhsc

15:05 COMFORT BREAK

15:15 Associate Members Symposium

Speaker to be confirmed

16:15 Awards and final address

Fiona McGill, BIA Meetings Secretary

16:30 CLOSE OF CONFERENCE