

BTS Annual Congress 2025

Spaces at the Spine, Liverpool

This Congress is supported by donations or purchase of exhibition space by the companies listed in the Congress App.

This support is limited to meeting the cost of the Congress, with no input into the scientific programme.

Whilst the overall programme has been designed based on the principles of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, depending on the symposia that delegates select to attend, some imbalance from an EDI perspective may be apparent.

Working draft programme

Day 1 - Wednes	Day 1 - Wednesday 7th May		
08:30 –	Registration open for Continuing Education Programme and Congress delegates Level 13 Light breakfast items available		
10:00 – 12:00	Continuing Education Programme – Pharmaco/toxicokinetics: The application, challenges and solutions for modelling Space 1 & 2, Level 13		
	Chair: Georgina Reynolds (Unilever) and Claire Pottle (Exponent)		
10:00 – 10:10	Session overview and aims – Georgia Reynolds (Unilever) and Claire Pottle (Exponent)		
10:10 – 10:35	Introduction to toxico/pharmacokinetics – Lorraine Britton (Sequani)		
10:35 – 11:00	Data application in industry – Laura Penn		
11:00 – 11:25	Metabolism, characterisation and challenges – Donna Smith (OMass Therapeutics)		
11:25 – 11:50	Advancements and potential future methods – Ans Punt (Unilever)		
11:50 – 12:00	CEP reflection and discussion		
11:00 – 12:00	BTS Scientific Subcommittee meeting Wolfson Lecture Theatre Open to SSC members only		
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch The Axis, Level 13; The Atrium, Level 12 Trade exhibition The Atrium, Level 12 Poster viewing Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12		
13:00 – 13:20	Congress opening Space 1 & 2, Level 13 Including presentation of the President's Award		
	Phil Botham (Syngenta)		
13:20 – 14:00	Plenary lecture Space 1 & 2, Level 13		
	Safety considerations of gene editing therapies – Roberto Nitsch, AstraZeneca		
	Chair: Phil Botham (Syngenta)		

14:00 – 14:30	4:30 Frank Sullivan Award lecture Space 1 & 2, Level 13 This award recognises an outstanding contribution to toxicology by an early-career member of the Society A silent threat? Unveiling a class of 'forever chemicals' and their potential link to autoimmune liver disorders – Tarek Abdelghany (University of Aberdeen)		
	Chair: Ian Copple (University of Liverpool)		
14:30 – 15:00	Refreshments The Axis, Level 13; The Atrium, Level 12 Trade exhibition The Atrium, Level 12 Poster viewing Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12		
15:00 – 17:00	Symposium 1 – Progress in regulatory protection of the marine/aquatic environment Space 1 & 2, Level 13	Symposium 2 – Knowledge gaps in e-cigarette toxicology Space 4 & 5, Level 12	
	Co-hosted by Regulatory Toxicology & Ecotoxicology speciality sections	Hosted by Clinical & Human Toxicology speciality section in collaboration with Royal Society of Chemistry Toxicology Group	
	Chairs: Natalie Burden (NC3Rs), Miriam Jacobs (UK Health Security Agency)	Chairs: Mathew Van de Pette (UKHSA), Shirley Price (University of Surrey/RSC Toxicology Group)	
15:00 – 15:30	Understanding longer term degradation potential of chemicals: The regulatory need for the Marine Biodegradation Screening Test for Chemical Persistence Assessment - Russell Davenport (Newcastle University) and Amelie Ott (International Collaboration on Cosmetics Safety)	Epi/genomics of e-cigarette use – Rebecca Richmond (University of Bristol)	
15:30 – 16:00	The need to harmonise vitellogenin measurements in OECD Test Guidelines - Natalie Burden (NC3Rs)	Composition of illegal vapes – Speaker TBC	
16:00 – 16:30	Immune dysfunction in the coastal environment: Scoping hazard assessment needs - Emmanuel Awulu (UKHSA)	Paediatric e-cigarette use – Anthony Laverty (Imperial College London)	
16:30 – 16:45	Symposium reflection and discussion	Symposium reflection and discussion	
16:45 – 17:00	Flash poster presentations	Flash poster presentations	
17:00 – 18:00	Poster viewing and judging Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12		
18:00 – 21:00	Drinks reception The Atrium, Level 12 Chat with old friends and make new ones. BTS Executive Committee members will be identified by their congress badges and approachable by all members to ask questions and make suggestions – it's your Society!		
19:00 – 21:00	Networking session – Toxicology escape room challenge! Space 4 & 5, Level 12 Hosted by the BTS Network for Early Stage Toxicologists (NEST). Open to all delegates. Solve a series of toxicology themed puzzles – the quickest team to crack the code wins! This is a great opportunity to connect, collaborate, and showcase your toxicology skills in a unique and engaging way. Food and drinks will be provided		

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Day 2 - Thursday 8th May				
08:00 –	Registration open for Congress delegates Level 13 Light breakfast items available			
09:00 – 11:00	Symposium 3 – Large language models in risk assessment Space 1 & 2, Level 13	Symposium 4 – Toxic effects of environmental chemicals on the immune system Space 4 & 5, Level 12		
	Co-hosted by Computational Toxicology & Risk Assessment speciality sections	Hosted by Mechanistic & Discovery Toxicology speciality section		
	Chairs: Susy Brescia (Health & Safety Executive), Ciarán Fisher (GSK)	Chairs: Francisco de Asis Iñesta Vaquera (Universidad de Extremadura, Spain), Nic Coltman (Apconix)		
09:00 – 09:30	Artificial intelligence, machine learning and large language models: What's what? – Speaker TBC	Human exposure to PFAS mixtures influences antiviral immune defenses – B. Paige Lawrence (University of Rochester, USA)		
09:30 – 10:00	Large language models for regulatory science – Speaker TBC	Title TBC – Kristin Schubert (Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Germany)		
10:00 – 10:30	Artificial intelligence in human safety assessment – Speaker TBC	From pollution to protection: immunotoxicology and respiratory human health in a changing environment – Marjut Roponen (University of Eastern Finland)		
10:30 – 10:45	Symposium reflection and discussion	Symposium reflection and discussion		
10:45 – 11:00	Flash poster presentations	Flash poster presentations		
11:00 – 11:30 Refreshments The Axis, Level 13; The Atrium, Level 12 Trade exhibition The Atrium, Level 12 Poster viewing Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12				
11:30 – 12:15	11:30 – 12:15 Barnes Prize lecture Space 1 & 2, Level 13 This award celebrates a distinguished leader in toxicology			
	Mechanistic toxicology to improve human health – Anne Willis (MRC Toxicology Unit)			
	Chair: Tim Gant (UKHSA/Imperial College London)			
12:15 – 13:00	2:15 – 13:00 Poster viewing and judging Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12			
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch The Axis, Level 13; The Atrium, Level 12	BTS Ambassadors meeting Space 4 & 5, Level 12		

14:00 – 15:30	Hosted by the BTS Network for Early Stage Toxicologists (NEST). These sessions support early career and other members to showcase their research on a variety of topics, selected from accepted abstracts. All welcome!		
	Oral communications 1 Space 1 & 2, Level 13	Oral communications 2 Space 4 & 5, Level 12	
	Chairs: TBC	Chairs: TBC	
14:00 – 14:15	Selected from submitted abstracts	Selected from submitted abstracts	
14:15 – 14:30	Selected from submitted abstracts	Selected from submitted abstracts	

Open to current Ambassadors, those interested in

the Ambassadors scheme and its goals.

becoming an Ambassador, and those curious about

Trade exhibition | The Atrium, Level 12

Poster viewing | Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12

14:30 – 14:45	Selected from submitted abstracts	Selected from submitted abstracts	
14:45 – 15:00	Selected from submitted abstracts	Selected from submitted abstracts	
15:00 – 15:15	Selected from submitted abstracts	Selected from submitted abstracts	
15:15 – 15:30	Selected from submitted abstracts	Selected from submitted abstracts	
15:30 – 16:00	Refreshments The Axis, Level 13; The Atrium, Level 12 Trade exhibition The Atrium, Level 12 Poster viewing Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12		
16:00 – 16:30	Malcolm Blackwell award lecture Space 4 & 5, Level 12 This award recognises a member deemed inspirational, impactful and a role model to early career toxicologists		
	Advancing skin protection: Comparative insights on new decontamination solutions and application methods the nerve agent VX – Nevine Amer (University of Hertfordshire)		
	Chair: Barbara Kubickova (Syngenta)		
16:30 – 17:30	BTS Annual General Meeting Space 4 & 5, Level 12 Open to all BTS members, the AGM is your opportunity to learn about the Society's activities and strategy, ask questions of the Society's leadership and help shape the future of the Society.		
	Pre-dinner drinks reception The Atrium, Level 12; The Axis, Level 13		

Followed by Congress dinner & entertainment | Space 1 & 2, Level 13 $\,$

Day 3 - Friday 9 May

08:30 – Registration open for Congress delegates | Level 13
Light breakfast items available

09:30 – 11:15 Symposium 5 – Safety considerations for T-cell therapeutics | Space 1 & 2, Level 13

Hosted by Translational Toxicology speciality section

Chairs: Giulia Morlino and Mark Singh (Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult)

09:30 – 10:00 Novel anti-LRG5 CAR T-cells for the treatment of liver and colorectal cancer – Mike De La Roche (University of Cambridge)

10:00 – 10:30 HypoxiCAR: The future of targeting solid tumours – James Arnold (Korecyte Bio)

10:30 – 11:00 Developing Tecelra: The first approved cancer TCR cellular therapy – Joseph Sanderson (Adaptimmune)

11:00 – 11:15 Symposium reflection and discussion

Study Director Workshop | Space 4 & 5, Level 12

Focusing on practical approaches to real-life challenges faced by Study Directors and Study Monitors during nonclinical study conduct. An excellent introduction for new Study Directors and a great refresher for experienced toxicologists.

Chairs: Warren Harvey (ICON), James Sawyers (Labcorp)

Title TBC – Darren Kidd (Labcorp)

Title TBC – Lorraine Britton (Sequani)

Title TBC – Marc Ellison (ISTEM)

Workshop reflection and discussion

11:15 – 11:45 Refreshments | The Axis, Level 13; The Atrium, Level 12

Trade exhibition | The Atrium, Level 12 Poster viewing | Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12

Please remove posters by the end of this break. All posters remaining at the end of the meeting will be discarded.

11:45 – 12:45 **BTS Speciality Section discussions**

Open to all delegates – discussion of future activities and meeting topics, led by speciality section coordinators. Join one of the discussions if you are affiliated with a speciality section, interested in affiliation, or just curious!

Clinical and Human Toxicology section | Space 6, Level 12 Computational and In Silico Toxicology section | Space 4, Level 12 Mechanistic and Discovery Toxicology section | Space 5, Level 12 Regulatory Toxicology section | Wolfson Lecture Theatre, Level 12 Risk Assessment section | Space 1, Level 13 Translational Toxicology section | Space 2, Level 13

Ecotoxicology section – no discussion at the Congress, separate meetings to be arranged in 2025

12:45 – 13:15 **ASPET invitation lecture | Space 1 & 2, Level 13**

This lecture is given by a member of the American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics, selected by their Toxicology Division to network in the UK as part of the BTS-ASPET exchange scheme

Similarities and differences in microcystin hepatotoxicity between healthy and metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease in preclinical models - John Clark (Washington State University, USA)

Chair: Neill Liptrott (University of Liverpool)

13:15 – 13:30 **Congress closing | Space 1 & 2, Level 13**

Phil Botham (Syngenta)

13:30 - Lunch (to eat in or take away) | The Axis, Level 13; The Atrium, Level 12