

BTS Annual Congress 2025 Spaces at the Spine, Liverpool

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Day 1 - Wednesday 7th May 09:00 -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: Georgia Reynolds (Unilever) and Claire Pottle (Exponent) Session overview and aims - Georgia Reynolds (Unilever) and Claire Pottle (Exponent) 10:00 - 10:10 10:10-10:35 Introduction to toxico/pharmacokinetics - Lorraine Britton (Sequani) 10:35 - 11:00 Metabolism, characterisation and challenges - Donna Smith (OMass Therapeutics) 11:00 - 11:25 Data application in industry – Laura Penn (Kalvista) 11:25 - 11:50 Physiologically based kinetic (PBK) modelling in Next Generation Risk Assessment of chemicals – Ans Punt 11:50 - 12:00 11:00 - 12:00 BTS Scientific Subcommittee meeting | Wolfson Lecture Theatre, Level 12 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 to David Mason (Unilever) 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 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)	Epi/genomics of e-cigarette use – Rebecca Richmond (University of Bristol)
15:30 – 16:00	Progress in regulatory protection of the marine/aquatic environment - Natalie Burden (NC3Rs)	Direct and indirect risks from vaping - Alan Boobis (Imperial College London)
16:00 – 16:30	Immune dysfunction in the coastal environment: Scoping hazard assessment needs - Emmanuel Awulu (UKHSA)	Detection of synthetic cannabinoids and other drugs in seized e-cigarettes from English schools - Christopher Pudney (University of Bath)
16:30 – 16:45	Symposium reflection and discussion	Symposium reflection and discussion
16:45 – 17:00	Flash poster presentations:	Flash poster presentations:
	P2: Novel Approach Methodologies as promising molecular tools for pharmaceutical pollution – Anne Leung (Dublin City University, Ireland)	P3: Drug use and abuse trends in older adults since 2010: A review – Amelia Vasconcelos (Nottingham Trent University)
	P6: Identifying epigenetic features that influence Cas9- mediated translocations – Eve Stalker (MRC Toxicology Unit)	P11: Investigations into the impact of e-cigarette exposure on respiratory infections highlights issues with e-cigarette heterogeneity – Rachel Bowsher (UKHSA)
	P8: Integration of bioactivity new approach methods (NAMs) in read across. A case study with fatty acids, C12-18 and C18-unsaturated, 2-sulfoethyl esters, sodium salts (DEFI) for sub-acute toxicity – Mesha Williams (Unilever)	P21: Enhancing toxicology education: Implementing a research-based wet lab practical in epithelial physiology undergraduate course – Tarek Abdelghany (University of Aberdeen)
		P23: The development of a delta-9-THC colorimetric breathalyzer using 3D printing manufacture – Emanuele Alves (University of South Wales)
17:00 – 18:00	Poster viewing and judging Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12 Judges will visit posters to talk to presenters eligible for the pre- and post-doctoral prizes about their work	
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 1 & 2, Level 13 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.	

Day 2 - Thursday 8th May

08:00 -	Registration open for Congress delegates Level 13	
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 (LLMs): What's what? – Thierry Hanser (Lhasa Ltd)	Human exposure to PFAS mixtures influences antiviral immune defenses – B. Paige Lawrence (University of Rochester, USA)
09:30 – 10:00	Trustworthy AI: Constraining and validating LLMs in preclinical safety – Sebastian Lobentanzer (Helmholtz Munich/German Centre for Diabetes Research)	Plastic-associated chemicals disrupt metabolic endocrine function in obesity and inflammation – Kristin Schubert (Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Germany)
10:00 – 10:30	The future of artificial intelligence in human safety assessment – Darren Green (DesignPlus Cheminformatics Consultants)	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:
	P7: A future for pharma: Modern management from studies to submissions – Frances Hall (Instem) P9: Evaluation of Secondary IntelligenceTM as a tool	P17: Modulating the safety of antisense oligonucleotides through interrogating secondary structure formation – Alex Fulton (MRC Toxicology Unit)
	for interpreting the human relevance of in vitro pharmacological profiling data in next generation risk assessment – Kathryn Wolton (Unilever)	P34: TREX1 and TREX2 are novel DNA damage sensing proteins in response to genotoxic stress – Hashim Ahmed Nur (MRC Toxicology Unit)
	P15: Protective potential of beta-hydroxybutyrate on Cyclophosphamide-induced reproductive toxicity: An in-silico study – Jeremiah Gbemisolaoluwa (Mountain Top University, Nigeria)	P45: New approach methodologies for safe-by-design of multicomponent nanomaterials – Elisa Moschini (Heriot-Watt University)
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	Barnes Prize lecture Space 1 & 2, Level 13 This award celebrates a distinguished leader in toxicolog	Ŋ
	Mechanistic toxicology to improve human health – Anne	Willis (MRC Toxicology Unit)
	Chair: Tim Gant (UKHSA/Imperial College London)	
12:15 – 13:00	Poster viewing and judging Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12 Judges will visit posters to talk to presenters eligible for the pre- and post-doctoral prizes about their work	

13:00 – 14:00	Lunch The Axis, Level 13; The Atrium, Level 12 Trade exhibition The Atrium, Level 12 Poster viewing Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12	13:15 – 13:45 BTS Ambassadors meeting Space 4 & 5, Level 12 Open to current Ambassadors, those interested in becoming an Ambassador, and those curious about the Ambassadors scheme and its goals. Please collect your lunch from The Axis or The Atrium and bring it with you to the meeting.
14:00 – 15:30	Oral communications 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	Using a machine learning framework to improve the efficiency of mitochondrial toxicity screening by guiding compound selection - Tiago Marques Pedro (MRC Toxicology Unit)	A non-animal toolbox for a next-generation risk assessment approach for inhalation safety: applicability of new approach methodologies informed by adverse outcome pathways associated with pulmonary toxicity – Renato Ivan de Ávila (Unilever)
14:15 – 14:30	TOXBOX: Feeding assays unravel the impact of pollutants on daphnids - Flavia Melati (Dublin City University, Ireland)	Utilising advanced in vitro lung models to determine the potential toxicological impacts of realistic indoor pollutant exposure scenarios – Kirsty Meldrum (Swansea University)
14:30 – 14:45	Unravelling genetic contributions to mitochondrial toxicity in idiosyncratic drug-induced liver injury: Insights from patient-derived cell models – Gruffydd Behnan (MRC Toxicology Unit)	CDK9 inhibition impairs ribosome biogenesis and induces nucleolar stress in primary human hepatocytes – Niall Buckley (AstraZeneca, MRC Toxicology Unit)
14:45 – 15:00	A quantitative systems toxicology approach to enhance in vitro to in vivo translation of the role of NRF2 in drug safety – Olivia Harris (University of Liverpool)	Precision environmental health: A data-driven approach that identifies hazards of complex chemical mixtures in the environment – Xiaojing Li (University of Birmingham)
15:00 – 15:15	Targeting CCL2 to improve efficacy and reduce toxicity of CAR T-cell therapy – Wiktoria Parol (MRC Toxicology Unit)	SARA-ICE: A self-contained model for predicting a human relevant point-of-departure for skin sensitization – Georgia Reynolds (Unilever)
15:15 – 15:30	A complex problem: Investigating the off-target inhibition of mitochondrial complex I in drug-induced liver injury – Jessica Bosak (University of Cambridge)	Enhancing QSAR predictions for acute oral toxicity: A QAF-compliant approach using CaTMOS and the OECD QSAR ToolBox – Elena Fioravanzo (ToxNavigation)
15:30 – 16:00	Refreshments The Axis, Level 13; The Atrium, Level 1 Trade exhibition The Atrium, Level 12 Poster viewing Spaces 7, 8 & 9, Level 12	2
16:00 – 16:30	Malcolm Blackwell award lecture Space 1 & 2, Level 13 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 for 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.

19:00 - 00:00Pre-dinner drinks reception | The Atrium, Level 12; The Axis, Level 13Followed by Congress dinner, prize giving & entertainment | Space 1 & 2, Level 13

Day 3 - Friday 9 May

08:30 -	Registration open for Congress delegates Level 13	
09:30 - 11:15	Symposium 5 – Safety considerations for T-cell therapeutics Space 1 & 2, Level 13 <i>Hosted by Translational Toxicology speciality section</i> Chairs: Giulia Morlino and Mark Singh (Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult)	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. Chairs: Warren Harvey (ICON), Sean O'Halloran (Labcorp)
09:30 – 10:00	Novel anti-LRG5 CAR T-cells for the treatment of liver and colorectal cancer – Marc De La Roche (University of Cambridge)	An in vitro microfluidic model of the human cardiovascular system for use in pharmaceutical screening applications – Daniel Bramham (Labcorp)
10:00 – 10:30	HypoxiCAR: The future of targeting solid tumours – James Arnold (Korecyte Bio)	Formulation and test item challenges in nonclinical studies: Practical problems, effective solutions - Charlotte Mann (Sequani)
10:30 – 11:00	Developing Tecelra: The first approved cancer TCR cellular therapy – Joseph Sanderson (Adaptimmune)	Everything you need to know about the Standard for Exchange of Nonclinical Data (SEND) in under 30 minutes – Marc Ellison (INSTEM)
11:00 – 11:15	Symposium reflection and discussion	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 Clarke (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	