

Trainee Weekend 2018 - Speaker Biographies

Charles Coombes, Charing Cross



Professor Coombes is a world-leading breast cancer expert at Imperial College London and Director of the Cancer Research UK Imperial Centre. He is also Chair of The Imperial Cancer Research (UK) Centre Steering Committee, Theme Leader for Cancer, Imperial College London and Chairman of the International Collaborative Cancer Group. This is a multinational trial centre which is based within Imperial College focusing on phase II and phase III studies in breast cancer.

Along with his team, he's studying how some breast cancers become resistant to hormone therapies by investigating key molecules in the cells. He is engaged in developing novel methods for prediction of response to endocrine therapy in breast cancer and also carrying out research aimed at understanding the mechanisms of resistance to endocrine therapy and development of novel anti-cancer drugs.

He is Founding Editor of Therapeutic Advances in Medical Oncology; he has 5 patents and has authored/co-authored over 481 peer-reviewed and reviewed publications.

Simon Crabb, University of Southampton



Dr Simon Crabb is an Associate Professor in Medical Oncology at the University of Southampton and an Honorary Consultant specialising in genitourinary cancers at University Hospital Southampton. His research interests are focussed on the development of novel therapeutic strategies for prostate and bladder cancers.

Dr Crabb is Associate Clinical Director of the Southampton Clinical Trials Unit, Deputy Director of the Southampton Experimental Cancer Medicine Centre and a lead for phase I cancer clinical trials. He has been a member of NCRI Clinical Studies Groups for prostate cancer, and bladder and renal cancer and the Experimental Medicine Expert Review Panel for Cancer Research UK.

Dr Crabb is an active clinical trialist including as Chief Investigator on the CRUK funded ProCAID and POLERISE trials in prostate cancer.

Faye Gishen, University College London



Faye Gishen is a clinical academic. She is a consultant physician in palliative medicine, and an undergraduate medical educator. Her clinical practice is mainly in the outpatient setting where, as well as seeing 'classical' palliative care patients, she also has a cancer survivorship practice, with an emphasis on rehabilitation and symptom control.

She is the academic lead for Clinical and Professional Practice, which makes up 20% of the UCL Medical School curriculum.

Faye has introduced reflective practice Schwartz Rounds into both her clinical workplace and into the UCL curriculum. She received a UCL Provost Teaching Award in 2016 for this work. She sits on a national working group looking at resilience in medical students and ways to foster this. She is currently undertaking a doctorate in medical education.

David Guttery, Leicester



Dr David Guttery is the Lecturer in Cancer Early Detection and Postgraduate Tutor at the Leicester Cancer Research Centre, University of Leicester. For the last 7 years, his research has focused on the utility of the liquid biopsy – in particular circulating tumour DNA and circulating tumour cells – for early detection and monitoring of breast cancer.

More recently, he has begun applying his expertise to recurrent endometrial cancer and is also developing programmes utilising artificial intelligence towards earlier detection and stratification of both diseases.

Anoop Haridass, The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre



Dr Anoop Haridass M.Sc., MBBS MRCP, FRCR studied medicine at the Stanley Medical College, Chennai and trained in Oncology at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre. After completing his fellowship at The Ottawa Hospital (Ontario, Canada) treating Neural tumours with the Stereotactic Radiotherapy using the Cyberknife radiotherapy system, he worked at The Royal Marsden Hospital as a Consultant Oncologist.

He currently works at The Clatterbridge Cancer Centre as a Clinical Oncologist treating patients in Northwest England with head and neck, thoracic malignancies.

His special research interests are in Stereotactic Radiotherapy and combination of Immunotherapy and Radiotherapy.

Jane Hook, Leeds

To follow.

Adam Januszewski



Adam is a trainee in London and has just completed his PhD in the Thoracic Genomic Medicine Department of Imperial College London.

He has been the London trainee representative for the ACP since 2014.

Zoe Kemp, Royal Marsden Hospital



Dr Zoe Kemp is a Consultant in Oncogenetics and the Clinical Research Lead for the Cancer Genetics Unit at the Royal Marsden.

She completed specialist training in Medical Oncology at University College Hospital and a PhD in the genetics of cancer predisposition at CRUK.

As a consultant in both the Cancer Genetics and the Breast Units she seeks to increase patient access to testing for cancer predisposition genes and to use this knowledge to inform cancer treatment. She has led the Mainstream Cancer Genetics programme pilot within the Breast Unit allowing patients to access BRCA1 and BRCA2 testing within the breast surgical and oncology clinics.

Becki Lee, Manchester



Rebecca graduated from the University of Manchester medical school and undertook foundation training in Manchester. She then went to London and Leeds for core medical training and returned to The Christie for specialist training in medical oncology.

She has spent the last four years studying for a PhD in "Precision medicine in melanoma" in the laboratory of Professor Richard Marais.

Mark Openshaw



Mark has been a member of the ACP trainees committee for 3 years now. He made his way into oncology following a year in New Zealand, after completing med school and CMT in the Midlands.

Having recently finished his PhD in the detection of circulating tumour DNA in breast cancer and gastroesophageal cancer at the University of Leicester, he has just moved to Brighton to continue his Registrar training.

Chris Plummer, Freeman Hospital



Chris Plummer is a consultant cardiologist in the Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. His clinical and research work includes cardio-oncology and cardiac device therapy.

He is CCIO for Newcastle Hospitals and chair of the European Examination in General Cardiology.

Geoff Rollason, Pfizer Ltd



Leading a team dedicated to developing new and innovative ways of improving the experience of cancer patients, Geoff has returned to Pfizer just over two years from Quintiles where he was Pathways Effectiveness Team Lead.

Geoff began the ground-breaking pathway effectiveness work in a previous stint with Pfizer in 2010, working closely with Pfizer Oncology colleagues to lead the development, a service designed to help the NHS deliver service improvements whilst minimising additional expenditure. Since its initial inception the work has been delivered in collaboration with around thirty different NHS sites across a range of tumour sites, focussing on how the experience of patients can be enhanced and improved.

Prior to joining Pfizer in Geoff had a career of almost twenty years in the NHS, predominantly working in Primary Care and Community settings which included service management, contracting and commissioning. Geoff left the NHS in 2007 and spent a year working in South East Asia as a volunteer in a hospital on the island of Flores in Indonesia, before returning to take up a role with Pfizer in 2008.

Over the last two years Geoff's team has developed its work into collaborating with NHS partners to explore the deployment of new technologies to assist the NHS further improve the range and quality of services available to cancer patients. Pfizer Oncology is dedicated to putting patients first and through our work to redefine the lives of people with cancer. The Patient Experience Team is central to these goals.

Assisting the NHS to improve services delivered to patients is an area of work that Geoff believes in passionately, and an opportunity to talk about the work and its impact is never passed up!

Phil Savage, Brighton



Dr Philip Savage trained in Medical Oncology at the Royal Marsden, Hammersmith and Charing Cross Hospitals. He was a Consultant at Charing Cross Hospital in London working as part of the trophoblast tumour team for 10 years.

Following a career break in Vancouver Island, Canada, he recently moved back to the UK and is now combining clinical work in Brighton with ongoing scientific research into chemotherapy sensitivity and experimental therapeutics.

Kai-Keen Shiu, University College London



Dr Kai-Keen Shiu qualified at Guys and St Thomas' Medical School. He trained in medical oncology in London including St George's Hospital, the Royal Free Hospital and University College London Hospital. He completed his PhD in integrative genomic profiling of cancer at the Institute of Cancer Research and the Royal Marsden Hospital. He also attained a research fellowship at the MRC Clinical Trials Unit at UCL as part of the FOCUS4 Trial Management Group. He maintains a strong link with them in order to accelerate the development of novel cancer clinical trial designs.

Dr Shiu is a Consultant in the Gastrointestinal Oncology Unit at UCLH and is the Clinical Lead for the Cancer of Unknown Primary Service, as well as the Acute Oncology Service. He is a Chief Investigator and Principal Investigator for a number of national and international gastrointestinal oncology trials including JavelinGastric100, GS-US-296-2013, FOXTROT, POLEM, KEYNOTE 177, 811 and 859. He is also the UK Chief Investigator for CUPISCO, a 1st line Phase 2 randomised trial for patients with CUP.

Dr Shiu is a collaborator in the PEACE (Posthumous tissuE donAtion in CancEr) study, and a member of the Gastrointestinal Oncology and Cancer of Unknown Primary subgroups at UCLH/the UCL Cancer Institute/Francis Crick Institute. He is Deputy Lead of the NCRI Cancer of Unknown Primary working group. He is the Principal Investigator of the UCL/UCLH Gastrointestinal Cancer Translational Research Biobank.

Sam Turnbull, St James's Hospital



Sam is a specialist registrar in medical oncology at St James's Hospital in Leeds, after having a 'non-traditional career path' via London and New Zealand. She is currently writing up her PhD on 'Immunomodulation in patients receiving systemic anti-cancer therapy'.