WORD+ 2026
Speakers & Chairs
4th & 5th February. Cambridge, U.K

	**Assistant Professor** **Lena Smirnova**	New methodologies for developmental neurotoxicity testing and understanding gene environmental interactions in autism. **Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA.**
	**Professor** **Luc van der Laan**	Macrophage-augmented organoids recapitulate the complex pathophysiology of viral diseases and enable development of multitarget therapeutics. **ERASMUS. Netherlands.**
	**Professor** **Kerensa Broersen**	Microphysiological systems for enhanced tissue function and potential for disease modelling including intestinal microbiome and brain interaction **University of Twente. Netherlands.**
	**Dr** **Benjamin P. Sharpe**	New methodologies for developmental neurotoxicity testing and understanding gene environmental interactions in autism. **University of Southampton. U.K.**
	**Professor** **Rick Livesey**	Novel human stem cell models of Alzheimer's disease provide a transformative platform for rapid and more therapeutically relevant compound identification. **CEO, Talisman Therapeutics, U. K**

	**Dr** **Magdalena Kasendra**	Autologous Organoid-T Cell Co-Culture Platform for Modelling of Immune-Mediated Drug-Induced Liver Injury. **Center for Stem Cell and Organoid Medicine, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. USA**
	**Dr** **Nicole Prior**	Liver development and regeneration using 3D organoid systems. **University of Southampton. U. K**
	**Jun Professor** **Hannes Beyer**	Programmable synthetic 3-D tissue culture models with intrinsic sense- and response-behaviour, and optogenetic (light-responsive) control. **University of Düsseldorf. Germany.**
	**Dr** **Julia Hesse**	The development and application of human pathological Vasculature 3D models. **University of Düsseldorf. Germany**
	**Professor** **Elzbieta Jastrzebska**	Development of advanced vascularised (Multi-)Organ-on-a-chip systems including a Lab-on-a-chip system integrated with nanofiber mats used as a potential tool to study cardiovascular diseases. **University of Warsaw. Poland**
	**Professor** **Giovanni Tonon.**	3D organoids drug screening advances for Functional Genomics in Oncology. **San Raffaele Scientific Institute in Milan, Italy**

	**Professor** **Hanne Scholz**	Tools for cell-based therapies to treat diabetes in a pre-clinical and clinical setting including a pump-Less, Recirculating Organ-on-Chip (rOoC) Platform to Model the Metabolic Crosstalk between Islets and Liver **University Of Oslo. Norway**
	**Dr** **Petra de Graaf**	Organoids and organ on a chip studies of the urogenital tract including a novel vascularized urethra-on-a-chip model a platform to study the pathogenesis of urethral diseases and verify the effectiveness of drug treatment. **UMC Utrecht. Netherlands**
	**Professor** **Ozlem Yesil Celiktas**	Multidisciplinary approaches to design and develop organ-on-chip platforms including ICU patient-on-a-chip emulating orchestration of mast cells and cerebral organoids in neuroinflammation. **Ege University. Turkey**
	**Dr** **Pablo F. Céspedes**	Lymphoid organoid and explant hub, CAMS. Discovery framework technologies including synthetic antigen-presenting cells (sAPC) and lymphoid organoids supporting the dissection of T cell communication. **University of Oxford. U. K**
	**Dr** **Mhairi Morris**	One year on 'TAMEing the Breast' 3D in vitro model of obesity-related breast cancer. **Loughborough University. U. K**
	**Professor** **Lyle Armstrong**	Developing organoid and other complex models of human tissues for advancing pre-clinical science in both drug discovery and toxicology. **Stem Cell Sciences, Newcastle University and CSO NewCells Biotech. U. K**

	**Dr** **Adriana Buskin**	Modelling Prostate Cancer and Therapy Resistance Using iPSC-Derived Organoids **Newcastle University. U. K**
	**Professor** **Johanna Bolander**	Compartmentalized models, including Pain on a chip, Osteoarthritis on a chip & Neurovasculature on a chip. **Julius Wolff Institut (JWI) - Center for Musculoskeletal Biomechanics and Regeneration. Germany**
	**Dr** **Liisa Vilén**	Organ-on-chip technology to study cardiovascular, renal and metabolic diseases and to advance the development of future treatments. **Director | Microphysiological Systems. AstraZeneca. Sweden**
	**Dr** **Sara Sofia Deville**	**Speaker & Session Chair** Complex models & Assembloids **Community Reviewer Frontiers. Germany.**
	**Dr** **Cathy Vickers**	**Speaker & Session Chair** U.K Showcase **Head of Innovation NC3Rs. U. K**
	**Dr** **Pelin Candarlioglu Deacon**	**Speaker & Session Chair** Eastern Europe Showcase **3D and 3Rs. Advancing 3Rs with complex in vitro models**

	**Dr** **Bas van Balkom**	**Speaker & Session Chair** Netherlands Showcase **UMC Utrecht, Dept. of Nephrology and Hypertension Regenerative Medicine Center Utrecht, Netherlands.**
	**Dr** **Elvira Weber**	**Speaker & Session Chair** Germany Showcase **Head of laboratory at CURE 3D #organoids. Germany.**
	**Dr** **Stefan Krauss Deiml**	**Speaker & Session Chair** Scandinavian Showcase **Director.** **University of Oslo**
	**Dr** **Steven Ray Wilson**	**Speaker & Session Chair** Scandinavian Showcase **Deputy Head.** **University of Oslo**
	**Dr** **Rhiannon David**	**Speaker & Session Chair** Discussion Chair **Senior Director, Head of Advanced Cell Models, Safety Sciences. AstraZeneca. U. K**
	**Professor** **Giovanni Blandino**	**Speaker & Session Chair** Italy Showcase **Director Translational Oncology IRCSS Regina Elena National Cancer Institute. Italy.**

	**Dr** **Frauke Christ**	**Speaker & Session Chair** Belgium-France, Showcase **Innovation Manager** **KU LEUVEN, Belgium.**
	**'I can truly say this event is a highlight in the calendar for anyone working in organoids, organ-on-a-chip models, and the broader NAMs community. The energy, the science, the collaborations, it's all exceptional'.** **Prof Marianna Kruithof-de Julio** **Director Organoid Core at University of Bern.** **Head of The Urological Research laboratory. CSO OnconiX.**	

4th & 5th February 2026, Hinxton, Cambridge, U.K.

Join 400 appx attendees. >30 Talks from academia, pharmaceutical & industry.
>30 Organoid & organ-on-a-chip technology exhibition.
>100 Research Posters.

Come together and be inspired by the latest discoveries & advancements.
Showcase your work with a poster. Tickets available now.

#Better together

WORD+ ®

World Organoid & Organ-on-a-chip Research Day+2026

'Connecting Global NAM Research'

Hinxton, U.K 4th & 5th February

Followed by 'Frontiers in Stem cell innovation' 4:30pm, 5th Feb, Hinxton & 6th Feb, Babraham

CONFERENCE PARTNERS

Babraham Institute

ELRIG The Drug Discovery Community

STEMCELL™ SCIENCE NEWS

ORGANOID NEWS

WORD+ 2026