

Speaker Biographies

Dr Emma Culver, Hepatology – Oxford

Emma Culver is a Consultant Hepatologist and Senior Lecturer at the Translational Gastroenterology Unit, John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, with an interest in immune mediated liver diseases including IgG4-related disease, autoimmune hepatitis, primary sclerosing cholangitis and primary biliary cholangitis.

She set up and co-ordinated the IgG4-RD Study in Oxford during her Academic Clinical Fellowship (2010) and Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Fellowship (DPhil 2011-2015). Her PhD work focussed on the natural history and immunological drivers of IgG4-RD. Her NIHR BRC Oxford Clinical Lectureship (2018-) centred on the fibrotic mechanisms of this disease. She runs the Oxford Autoimmune Liver Disease service with specialist IgG4, PSC and autoimmune liver clinics, and runs a regional autoimmune liver disease MDT, and a national Oxford-London IgG4 MDT.

She is Chair of UK IgG4 and on the Steering Committee for UK PSC, and a member of the International IgG4-RD, PSC and AIH Study Groups.

Professor Ellie Barnes, Hepatology – Oxford

I lead an established research group with a focus on applied immunology relevant to liver disease, including cancer, and I seek to translate laboratory and clinical findings through to human experimental medicine studies.

My group is developing T cell pan-genotypic vaccines for hepatitis C virus (HCV) prevention and hepatitis B virus (HBV) cure using simian adenoviral and other viral vectors. We are also assessing COVID vaccines in disease cohorts. A major challenge for HCV vaccine development is the significant viral diversity both within the same host and between hosts – though parts of the viral genome are conserved, making these excellent T cell targets in the context of a T cell vaccine. Some of the technologies we are developing include integral genetic adjuvants that will have applicability in a broad range of diseases.

More recently, my group has developed national and international programmes in stratified medicine in the UK and S.E. Asia. I led STOP-HCV, a UK-wide MRC-funded stratified medicine consortium (22 partners) that united clinicians, scientists and industry partners in studies of personalised medicine (STOP-HCV.ox.ac.uk/home). The consortium developed high-throughput viral sequencing, integrating these with host genetic analysis, RNA sequencing in blood and liver, immune parameters and blood biomarkers to give new insights into pathogenesis and to use these parameters to identify patients with HCV who will develop hepatocellular liver cancer (HCC) and other negative clinical outcomes. Building on STOP-HCV and my experience in liver disease and immunology, I am now leading the CRUK-

funded DeLIVER programme that will develop and test early detection methodologies for the identification of HCC.

I lead additional programmes of work in immune-mediated liver disease. One of these, IgG4-related disease (of unknown aetiology), affects multiple organs and includes severe biliary and pancreatic pathology, characterised by a lymphocytic infiltrate with IgG4-producing B cells. We have established a large cohort of patients and a national registry (funded through EASL) and are currently performing detailed assessment of T and B cells profiles to further define pathogenesis.

My group is developing liver imaging techniques with the Oxford Centre for Clinical Magnetic Resonance Research for the non-invasive detection of organ fibrosis and inflammation.

As NIHR CLRN lead for hepatology in the Thames Valley I oversee a portfolio of clinical studies relating to gastroenterology and hepatology at the Oxford University NHS Trust, Oxford.

Dr George Webster, PB Medicine, UCL

I have been a consultant at UCH since 2003. I am clinical lead for hepatopancreaticobiliary (HPB) medicine, which is one of the busiest tertiary referral practices in hepatobiliary and pancreatic disease in the UK, performing > 1000 ERCPs and related biliary procedures each year. I am involved in all forms of interventional endoscopy, with a particular focus on ERCP, cholangioscopy, sphincter of Oddi manometry and advanced luminal endoscopy (including colonic stenting). Our group has the largest experience of autoimmune pancreatitis/IgG4-associated cholangitis in the UK.

I am actively involved in endoscopy training locally, nationally (e.g. Director 'London Live Endoscopy' 2007, 2008, 2011) and internationally (expert faculty Gastroenterology and Endotherapy European Workshop (GEEW) Brussels 2010). I undertake regular postgraduate teaching related to gastroenterology and hepatology (including Royal College of Physicians regional masterclasses). I am co-author of the Oxford Handbook of Gastroenterology and Hepatology (2nd edition in press). I was on the organising committee for the first International Conference on IgG4 disease (Boston Oct 2011).

External Committees: North Thames Gastroenterology SpR Training; Autoimmune Pancreatitis International Collaborative Study (APICS) Group. Endoscopy Committee British Society of Gastroenterology.

Dr Helen Bungay, Radiologist – Oxford

Helen Bungay is lead consultant Hepatobiliary Radiologist in Oxford University Hospitals Foundation NHS Trust. Her clinical interests

She is a member of BSGAR, ESGAR and the International PSC Study Group. She was Secretary of BSGAR from 2017-2019, a member of the Royal College of Radiologists PSSB 2016-2019 and

is HPB Advisory Editor for *Clinical Radiology*.include IgG4 related disease, primary sclerosing cholangitis, intraductal papillary neoplasms of the bile ducts, and pancreatic and hepatobiliary diseases generally. She speaks nationally on IgG4RD.

Dr Manuel Rodriguez Justo Histopathology UCL

Prof Rodriguez-Justo is a Consultant in Gastrointestinal pathology & Haematopathology (University College London Hospitals) and Professor of Oncopathology at UCL (Cancer Institute). Manuel is a member of the IgG4-RD inter-regional specialist multidisciplinary team (Oxford & UCL) and he has been involved in the study of IgG4-RD since it was first described in the UK (2006). He is a co-author of several high-impact factor papers in the diagnosis, clinical manifestations and treatment of this entity. Prof Manuel Rodriguez-Justo has also participated in drafting guidelines and in consensus groups (Honolulu Consensus document).

Ross Sadler – Clinical Immunologist Oxford

Ross Sadler is a Consultant Clinical Scientist and Clinical Lead for Laboratory Immunology. Ross and the Immunology laboratory has collaborated with the Gastroenterology department since the beginning of the IgG4-related disease patient cohort study. Primarily, the Immunology laboratory produces the Immunoglobulin measurements (Total IgG, IgG1-IgG4 and IgE) for patient diagnosis and management. We have worked with members of the study team to explore other methods of investigation of patients with suspected IgG4-related disease such as B cell ELI-Spot and flow cytometry. We continue to try and determine what new analytical markers prove useful in diagnosing and managing these patients as well as shed light on the aetiology and pathogenesis.

Joe Geraghty – Consultant Gastroenterologist – Spire Manchester Hospital

Dr Joe Geraghty has been a consultant gastroenterologist at Manchester Royal Infirmary since 2015 and specialises in pancreatobiliary medicine. He is the current BSG pancreas section chair and manages the HPB IgG4 disease service across Greater Manchester, in collaboration with the Rheumatology department. He has contributed to several IgG4 studies already and hopes to do so more!

Professor James Tomlinson, Renal – Imperial London

Dr Tomlinson is a Consultant Nephrologist and Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer at Imperial College Healthcare Trust. He is based at Hammersmith Hospital and provides an outreach service at Charing Cross Hospital for haemodialysis supervision and both nephrology in- and out-patient input. Dr Tomlinson is interested in the management of chronic kidney disease (CKD) and coordinates a multi-disciplinary team approach to rare complex conditions; Retroperitoneal Fibrosis (RPF) and IgG4-related disease.

Professor Stephen Porter, ENT – UCL London

Stephen Porter is director and professor of oral medicine of UCL Eastman Dental Institute.

His clinical interests are the non-surgical management of complex immunologically-mediated and potentially malignant disease of the mouth and salivary glands.

His research interests centre upon the oral aspects of viral infection and the aetiology and detection of potentially malignant oral disease.

Dr Nima Ghadiri – Liverpool

Dr Ghadiri is a Medical Ophthalmologist, specialising in the diagnosis and management of eye disorders relating to systemic diseases, and the medical management of eye disorders. This requires expertise in Ophthalmology and Internal Medicine, and collaborative working with many specialities. The emphasis is on a holistic and integrative approach to patients.

Dr Ghadiri is a member of the WHO technical working group for Uveitis, Secretary for Medical Ophthalmology UK (MOSUK) and an Officer for the Uveitis National Clinical Study group, developing a portfolio of clinical studies in ocular inflammation. In this role, he produced guidance and new media to help patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. His work with WHO has resulted in the first landmark systematic review of Clinical Practice Guidelines for Uveitis. He has an interest in Artificial Intelligence and Big Data and has written an Ophthalmology chapter for the first textbook summarizing AI in clinical medicine.

Dr Ghadiri is organising the Medical Ophthalmology annual meeting on 22nd March 2023.

Professor Raashid Luqmani, Rheumatology – Oxford

I graduated from Nottingham University. I completed my medical rotation in North Staffordshire, and further rheumatology training in Southampton (Research Registrar in Rheumatology) and Birmingham. I have completed my MD on synovial biopsies in patients with rheumatoid and psoriatic arthritis. I was first appointed consultant in Edinburgh 1994. I subsequently moved to Oxford in 2005 and was appointed Professor of Rheumatology in 2011.

I am interested in vasculitis and have several publications and a number of grants to develop my areas of interests which are clinical evaluation of patient with vasculitis. I am increasingly interested in imaging of patients with large vessel vasculitis and exploring the potential for biomarkers in defining subgroups for the purpose of improving disease outcome in vasculitis.

Professor Emmanuel Della Torre, Immunologist, Italy

After receiving his Medical Degree, Board Certification in Allergy and Clinical Immunology, and PhD in Basic and Applied Immunology, Dr. Della Torre worked for 3 years in the United States at the “Ragon Institute of Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and Harvard Medical School” in Boston. Dr. Della Torre returned to Italy in 2018 and established his lab within the Division of Genetic and Cell Biology of San Raffaele Hospital (Milan, Italy). Dr. Della Torre is now Assistant Professor of Rheumatology at Vita-Salute San Raffaele University and Senior Consultant at the Unit of Immunology, Rheumatology, Allergy, and Rare Disease (UnIRAR) of San Raffaele Hospital. Dr. Della Torre authored more

than 100 scientific publications on international peer-reviewed journals and achieved prestigious awards. Dr. Della Torre was among the first contributors to the clinical and pathological characterization of IgG4-related disease and presented his studies in different national and international immune-rheumatologic congresses.

Professor Ulrich Beuers, Hepatology Specialist– Amsterdam, Netherlands

Ulrich Beuers is currently Professor of Gastroenterology and Hepatology and Head of Hepatology at the Amsterdam University Medical Centres, location AMC. After his medical studies in Ghent, Berlin and Freiburg and his dissertation he underwent postdoctoral training in Biochemistry at the University of Göttingen and clinical training as Internist and Gastroenterologist & Hepatologist at the University of Munich including a research period (and later a sabbatical) at the Yale University in New Haven. He became in 2001 a Professor of Internal Medicine in Munich and is since 2007 appointed in Amsterdam.

Professor Beuers serves as Associate Editor for the Journal of Hepatology (3rd term) and is/was Editorial Board Member of various other journals including Gut and Hepatology. He was Chairman of the Netherlands Association for the Study of the Liver (2012-2018), the Netherlands Education Board of Gastroenterology & Hepatology (2013-2017) and the EASL Clinical Practice Guideline Committee for cholestatic liver diseases (2008-2009). His research is focussed on mechanisms of action of UDCA in cholestasis, the 'biliary bicarbonate umbrella' in fibrosing cholangiopathies, pathogenesis of pruritus in cholestasis and the pathogenesis of IgG4-associated cholangitis.

Dr Manu K Nayar, Pancreatobiliary Physician – Newcastle

I am a Consultant Gastroenterologist and Pancreaticobiliary physician at the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle upon Tyne since October 2007. After completing my specialist gastroenterology training in Liverpool, I pursued my sub speciality interest in Pancreaticobiliary (PB) medicine at the Freeman Hospital. I lead and manage one of the largest tertiary referral centres in the U.K. I also work privately at the Nuffield hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne and the Spire hospital in Washington, U.K.

I specialise in the management and treatment of all forms of gastroenterological diseases including indigestion/heartburn, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease and liver disease. I am fully competent in all forms of endoscopy including gastroscopy, flexible sigmoidoscopy and colonoscopy.

In addition I am a handful of pancreaticobiliary physicians (< 10) in the UK who subspecialises in the medical and endoscopic treatment of diseases of the pancreas and bile duct. These include the diagnosis and management of gallstones/bile duct stones, pancreatitis(i.e. inflammation of the pancreas), pancreatic/bile duct cancer and other rare diseases of the bile duct. I also perform advanced endoscopy of the pancreas i.e. endoscopic ultrasound & ERCP (i.e. endoscopic retrograde cholanigopancreatography).

I have been the Director of Endoscopy of the Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals and have ensured high quality of standards and service provision to all patients. This has been facilitated by the annual accreditation by the national regulatory body - JAG - Joint Advisory Group.

Freeman Hospital is one of the few nationally accredited training centres for advanced endoscopy including endoscopic ultrasound.

Dr Maria Leandro, Rheum, University College - London

Maria Leandro is consultant rheumatologist at UCL Hospitals and is an honorary senior lecturer at University College London.

Maria studied medicine at Universidade Nova de Lisboa and trained as a rheumatologist at Hospital de Santa Maria in Lisbon, Portugal. She was previously a research fellow at University College London and awarded a PhD for her work on the mechanisms of disease relapse in rheumatoid arthritis following B cell depletion therapy.

Maria's key interests are in inflammatory arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, B cell directed therapies in autoimmune diseases and role of B cells in the pathogenesis of autoimmune diseases.

Professor David DCruz, Rheum – Guys St Thomas

Professor David D’Cruz is a Consultant Rheumatologist in the Louise Coote Lupus Unit at St Thomas’ Hospital. His major clinical and research interests are systemic lupus erythematosus, the antiphospholipid syndrome and systemic vasculitis.

He trained at St Mary’s Hospital Medical School in London. Senior House Officer and Registrar rotations at University College and the Royal London Hospital were followed by a clinical registrar post and then an ARC Clinical Research Fellowship at St Thomas’ Hospital leading to an MD degree.

He was appointed Senior Lecturer in Rheumatology at St Bartholomew’s and The Royal London Hospitals, following a Senior Registrar post there. Professor D’Cruz has published ext-

ensively on lupus and the associated conditions. He is one of the Managing Editors of the journal *Lupus* and is Editor in Chief of the *Journal of Autoimmune Diseases*.

Adam Bailey

Dr Adam Bailey MB ChB FRCP is a Consultant Gastroenterologist appointed at the John Radcliffe Hospital and Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in 2009. He graduated from Otago University, New Zealand in 1999. He completed his physicians training as a Gastroenterologist in Sydney, Australia in 2005 and he subsequently completed a Fellowship in advanced therapeutic endoscopy in 2006 at Westmead Hospital, Sydney as well as a Clinical Fellowship in Gastroenterology at the John Radcliffe Hospital in 2008-2009.

Dr Bailey has a sub-specialist interest in pancreatic and biliary disease with a focus on biliary endoscopy (ERCP) and endoscopic resection of early GI neoplasia, including Barrett's dysplasia and difficult colonic polyps. Other specialist interests include benign upper GI disorders including eosinophilic oesophagitis and gastrointestinal bleeding. He has a passionate interest in the delivery of high-quality healthcare in Gastroenterology supported by high-quality training in endoscopy and best governance practices.

He has published on a range of areas in Gastroenterology within various fields of interest. His focus of research interest includes new techniques in biliary imaging and the improvement of endoscopic detection of neoplasia in the GI tract through the advancement of computer aided detection and artificial intelligence techniques.

Adrian Bateman

Dr Adrian Bateman has been a consultant histopathologist in Southampton since 1997. He specialises in gastrointestinal, hepatobiliary-pancreatic and breast pathology. His interest in IgG4-RD started in around 2003, when the utility of IgG4 immunohistochemistry in the diagnosis of autoimmune pancreatitis started to be recognised. He has an association with the Oxford Ig4-RD group and is a member of the local IgG4-RD team in Southampton. He also has a referral practice for cellular pathology samples related to IgG4-RD. Away from work, he is a keen sailor and cyclist and a longstanding (? long-suffering) Southampton FC fan.

Simon Phillpotts

Simon is a final year registrar and previous pancreatobiliary fellow at University College London Hospital. He has been a regular contributor to the Oxford-UCLH MDT over the past three years. His research interests are emerging applications of cholangiopancreatography and the role of Multidisciplinary team meetings in benign diseases.