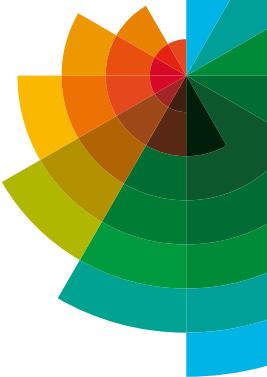
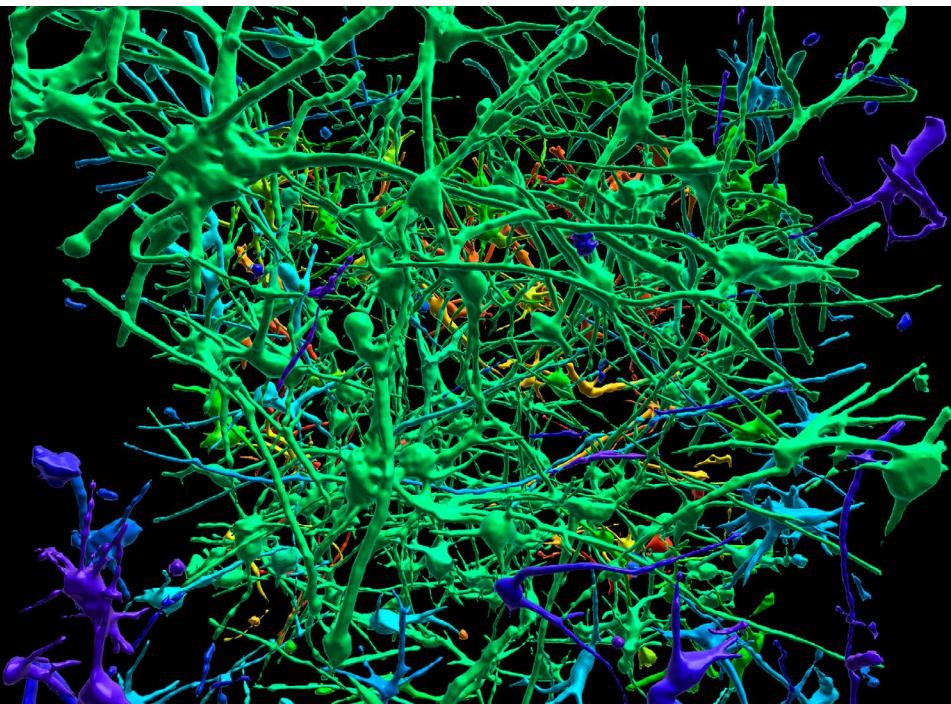


# Programme



# Human Development: Stem Cells, Models, Embryos



University of Warwick, UK, 7 – 9 September 2026



The Company of  
Biologists

Development



Human Developmental  
Biology Initiative

# Human Development: Stem Cells, Models, Embryos

## Programme

### Monday 7 September

12:00      **Registration opens/poster set up**

12:30      **Lunch**

14:00      **Welcome**

#### Session 1

14:15      **Jean-Léon Maître** Institut Curie, France  
Mechanics of blastocyst morphogenesis

14:45      **Short talk 1**

15:00      **Short talk 2**

15:15      **Jenny Nichols** The University of Edinburgh, UK  
Investigating the process of trophectoderm overgrowth as a potential cause of failed implantation or molar pregnancies

15:45      **Afternoon break**

#### Session 2

16:10      **Poster flash talks 1**

16:15      **Hongmei Wang** Chinese Academy of Sciences, China  
*In vitro* models of human implantation and placental development

16:45      **Short talk 3**

17:00      **Naomi Moris** The Francis Crick Institute, UK  
Emergent cell fates in developing gastruloids

17:30 – 19:00      **Pre-dinner drinks and poster session 1**

19:15      **Dinner**

### Tuesday 8 September

#### Session 3

09:00      **Insoo Hyun** Harvard Medical School, USA  
Dynamic models of human development and concepts of the individual

09:30      **Short talk 4**

09:45      **Short talk 5**

**10:00** **Jianping Fu** University of Michigan, USA  
Bioengineering human embryo and organ models

**10:30** **Morning break and exhibition**

#### Session 4

**11:00** **Susana Chuva de Sousa Lopes** Leiden University, The Netherlands  
Organogenesis during early human development

**11:30** **Short talk 6**

**11:45** **Short talk 7**

**12:00** **Jason Spence** University of Michigan, USA  
Using organoids to interrogate human development and cellular heterogeneity

**12:30** **Lunch and exhibition**

#### Session 5

**13:55** **Poster flash talks 2**

**14:00** **Melissa Little** Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Australia  
Changing kidney organoid formats for improved disease modelling, drug development and tissue engineering

**14:30** **Short talk 8**

**14:45** **Short talk 9**

**15:00** **Purushothama Rao Tata** Duke University School of Medicine, USA  
Multi-lineage circuits in development and regeneration

**15:30** **Afternoon break and exhibition**

#### Session 6

**16:00** **Mina Gouti** Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Germany  
The next frontier in neuromuscular organoids: from developmental logic to predictive models of human disease

**16:30** **Short talk 10**

**16:45** **Short talk 11**

**17:00** **Anna Beaudin** University of Utah, USA  
Developmental origins of tissue immunity: modeling the effects of early life inflammation

**17:30 – 19:00** **Pre-dinner drinks, exhibition and poster session 2**

**19:15** **Dinner**

## Wednesday 9 September

### Session 7

**09:00** **Andrea Ditadi** IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele, Italy  
First blood: understanding human hematopoietic development and disease with hPSCs

**09:30** **Short talk 12**

**09:45** **Short talk 13**

**10:00** **Hanna Mikkola** University of California, Los Angeles, USA  
Tracking the developmental origins of human hematopoietic and leukemia stem cells

**10:30** **Morning break and exhibition**

### Session 8

**11:00** **Parthiv Haldipur** Seattle Children's Research Institute, USA  
Human-specific developmental programs illuminate the origins of cerebellar disease

**11:30** **Talk by HDBI Public Engagement Programme**

**11:45** **Short talk 14**

**12:00** **Arnold Kriegstein** University of California, San Francisco, USA  
Genomic insights into early human brain development, evolution and disease

**12:30** **Lunch and exhibition**

### Session 9

**14:00** **Sasha Mendjan** Institute of Molecular Biotechnology, IMBA, Austria  
Dissecting the human cardiac injury response using cardioids

**14:30** **Sigolène Meilhac** Institut Imagine and Institut Pasteur, France  
Congenital structural heart defects

**15:00** **Short talk 15**

**15:15** **Sean Wu** Stanford University, USA  
Stem cells and AI approaches to understanding heart development

**15:45** **Closing remarks**

**16:00** **End of conference**