

Speaker biographies for Friday 26th June 2026

First morning session



Professor Chris Price

Professor in Stroke and Applied Health Research
Newcastle University

Chris Price is Professor in Stroke and Applied Health Research at Newcastle University and honorary NHS Stroke Physician at a busy acute service. He has been the NIHR National Specialty Lead for Stroke since 2023 and was Deputy Director of the NIHR Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) for North East North Cumbria from 2019 - 2024.

He collaborates with many other research groups, ambulance services, stroke units and industry partners to seek improvements in emergency care pathways for patients with suspected stroke and contributes towards national clinical guidelines for the organisation of services. He holds funding awards from the National Institute for Health Research, Stroke Association, Innovate UK and Medical Research Council to examine the clinical and cost-effectiveness of new ways to enhance emergency care including clinical assessment processes and portable diagnostic technology which enable early identification of large vessel occlusion and mimic conditions.

Parallel Session 3: Rehabilitation



Gary Morris

Advanced Physiotherapy Practitioner in Neurological Rehabilitation for the Hywel Dda University Health Board and Senior Lecturer at Cardiff University School of Healthcare Sciences

Gary is an Advanced Physiotherapy Practitioner in Neurological Rehabilitation for the Hywel Dda University Health Board and a Senior Lecturer at Cardiff University School of Healthcare Sciences.

Gary is passionate about delivery of evidenced based care to people with neurological conditions, in the NHS he leads a physiotherapy-led spasticity service, at the university has developed key competencies and guidance and regarding specialist practice with professional bodies including the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

In collaboration with the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Neurology (ACPIN) and the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Sport Medicine (ACPSM) he has developed practical workshops to develop therapists' knowledge and skills in delivering resistance training programme's which adhere to current best practice principles. These workshops have been delivered across the UK to a range of national and international audiences.

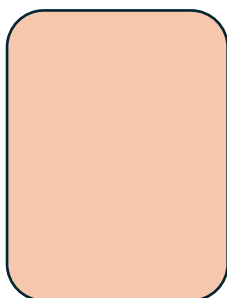
Parallel Session 4: Stroke Trials



Dr Alan C Cameron
Senior Clinical Lecturer in Stroke Medicine
University of Glasgow

Dr Alan Cameron is a Senior Clinical Lecturer in Stroke Medicine with a strong interest in cardiovascular medicine and heart-brain interactions. He leads a research programme that aims to deliver innovative ways to optimise primary and secondary prevention of ischemic stroke, with a focus on preventing cardio-embolic strokes through personalised approaches for the detection and management of atrial fibrillation (AF).

Alan chairs the European Stroke Organisation (ESO) Brain and Heart Council, is a Fellow of the ESO and a Member of the AF-Screen International Collaboration. He was awarded a PhD in Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Glasgow British Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence and a Senior Clinical Lectureship from the Stroke Association.



Dr Jonathan Hewitt
Clinical Senior Lecturer in Cardiff University and Honorary
Consultant Geriatric and General Physician in Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

I graduated in Medicine from UCL, followed by basic training across the UK and New Zealand, following my PhD at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in Diabetes in the Older Person, I completed my specialist training in Cambridge and have undertaken a sabbatical at Glasgow University, in the department of Stroke Medicine. I have been a Consultant Physician since 2007.

I am an Associate Professor of Stroke and Geriatric Medicine at Cardiff University and an Honorary Consultant Stroke, Geriatric and general Physician for the Aneurin Bevan Health Board. I work half time in the NHS and half in academia. I have authored over 120 academic papers and books, and I present regularly at national and international conferences. I have secured approximately £6M of grant income, with £1M as the Chief Investigator. This includes, the UK Stroke Association and the Health and Social Care Research Wales funded, Evaluation of Risk Factor management, frailty and Outcomes post-Stroke study, which will form the basis of today's presentation.



Professor Philip E. James
Professor of Cardiovascular Metabolism
Cardiff Metropolitan University

Photo: Stroke Association

Professor Philip E. James is Professor of Cardiovascular Metabolism at Cardiff School of Sport and Health Sciences. He trained at Dartmouth Medical School, USA, and spent 24 years at the Wales Heart Research Institute, Cardiff University, where he established a sustained and internationally recognised cardiovascular research programme. He joined Cardiff Metropolitan University in 2015 as Associate Dean for Research and has since led projects funded by UK research councils, the Welsh Government, charities, and industry, securing over £5 million in research income as PI or Co-PI.

Professor James has authored more than 180 research publications and has supervised 23 PhD and 6 MD students to completion. His research focuses on vascular biology, oxygen signalling, and thrombotic risk, with current clinical programmes developing biomarkers to predict stroke risk following TIA. He is a founding member of Stroke Hub Wales, former President of the International Nitric Oxide Society, and currently serves in advisory and leadership roles across academia, the NHS, and the biotechnology and pharmaceutical sectors. He holds adjunct professorships at Dartmouth and Adelaide Medical Schools.

Parallel Session 5: Nursing a patient following a stroke



Holly Brislen and Nicola Vickers

Community Stroke Prevention Practitioners
Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

My name is Holly Brislen. This is my first role within BCUHB. My experiences vary across the Stroke pathway including hyper-acute and neurorehabilitation services within England. I then took this role to develop my passions of prevention and research. Over the last 12 months I was the current chair of the Welsh Stroke Nurse Forum, and I am currently undertaking my MRes at Cardiff Metropolitan University. I am very proud to be a part of this innovative service.

My name is Nicola Vickers. I qualified in 2005. After spending my preceptorship in the Emergency Department I moved to the respiratory ward where I worked for the next 9 years. I was lucky enough to secure my first senior Ward Sisters post on the Acute Stroke Unit in Wrexham. This was where my interest in Stroke care started. Over the next 6 years I worked as a Senior Sister and Matron within the Community Hospitals, and I was able to develop a leadership course for the senior nurses. This role has brought me back to my passion in stroke and focusing on prevention, education and service development.



Dr Victoria Suter-Jones MBBCh MRCP MSc
Consultant Geriatrician
Cardiff and Vale University Health Board

Dr Victoria Suter-Jones is a consultant Geriatrician in University Hospital of Wales since 2020 with special interests in front door frailty and continence in older people. Co-lead of Cardiff and Vale UHB Gerontology Continence Service and the CAVUHB Anti-Microbial Management Group. I am a Clinical Senior Lecturer in Medical Education at Cardiff University where I am Deputy Year Lead for Year 3 MBBCh course and I also lead the Continence module within MSc Clinical Geriatrics.

Parallel Session 6: Any Other Business



Dr Idris Baker

Consultant in Palliative Medicine
Tŷ Olwen, Swansea

Idris Baker is a Consultant in Palliative Medicine at Tŷ Olwen in Swansea, working mainly in community palliative care. Before moving to Swansea, he trained in Cambridge and London, completed higher training in Leicester, and was a Visiting Scholar at the Hastings Centre in New York looking at the use of substituted judgments in decision making in end of life care. He chairs the Clinical Ethics Committee in Swansea Bay University Health Board, helps lead the South Wales MND Care Network and is a former clinical director of the South West Wales Cancer Centre.

He is National Clinical Lead for Palliative & End of Life Care in Wales, working as part of the National Clinical Programme. This Programme aims to deploy the principles of value based health & care to support equitable provision of palliative care for people of all ages and across statutory & voluntary sectors throughout Wales, and oversees Wales's strategic work on Future Care Planning.

He also enjoys a bit of debate and was denounced to the press by one opponent as 'genuinely wicked'.



Dr. Hesham E. Masoud, MD, MSc, FSVIN

Vascular and interventional neurologist and Associate Professor of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Radiology
SUNY Upstate Medical University
Syracuse, New York

Dr. Hesham E. Masoud, MD, MSc, FSVIN is a board-certified vascular and interventional neurologist and Associate Professor of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Radiology at SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York. He serves as Executive Director of the Upstate Simulation Center and Program Director of the Vascular Neurology Fellowship. His clinical and academic work focuses on hyperacute stroke care, endovascular therapy, and systems-level optimization of stroke treatment pathways. Dr. Masoud has contributed to the evolving evidence base for late-window thrombectomy and imaging-based patient selection, with numerous publications in leading stroke journals. In addition to his clinical work, he is actively involved in global initiatives to expand access to mechanical thrombectomy and improve stroke systems of care. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Society of Vascular and Interventional Neurology and contributes to international guideline development and education.