



CRISPR DOWN UNDER



@CRISPR_Aus
#CDU2026

Day One: Tuesday 24th of March 2026

8:00 Registration

CRISPR Molecular Mechanism

09:10	Ekaterina Semenova	What Does Cas13 Really Cleave? tRNA Cleavage as a Core Mechanism of CRISPR-Cas13 Immunity
09:45	Brooke Hayes	In defence of Cas13
10:10	Kevin Chen	The Landscape of On-target and Collateral Activity of Various CRISPR-Cas13 enzyme in Human Cells and Zebrafish
10:25	Khoa Nguyen	Harnessing Machine Learning to Design High-Efficacy CRISPR Cas13b Guide RNAs

Morning Tea Break 10:40 - 11:00

CRISPR Tools for Genome Interrogation

Sponsored by IDT

11:00	Lisanne Spenkelink	Single Molecular dCas9 and nCas9 studies on DNA replication
11:25	Ali Motazedian	Characterising the functional landscape of the human PRC2 complex by base editing at single cell resolution
11:40	IDT (Mollie Schubert)	End-to-end genotoxicity assessment services for rapid development of CRISPR base therapeutics

Lunch 12:00 - 13:00

IDT 1 on1

Functional Genomics

Sponsored by Maxcyte/TrendBio

13:30	Lu Wang	Identification of Breast Cancer-Associated lncRNAs Using 3d and In-vivo CRISPR-Cas13d Screen
13:55	Ebithal Mustafa	CRISPR-Cas9 Functional Screens and Single-Cell Transcriptomics Define Molecular Drivers and Therapeutics Vulnerabilities in Esophageal Adenocarcinoma
14:10	Conor Kearney	CRISPR screening and immune evasion
14:35	Yexuan Deng	A novel, high-density CRISPR activation platform for mapping cancer dependencies and resistance pathways ex-vivo and in-vivo
14:50	Liam Neil	Using genome-wide CRISPR-Cas9 K/O screens to sensitise breast cancer to NK cell mediated killing
14:55	Antonin Serrano	Investigating chemotherapy resistance using whole genome CRISPR-Cas9 screening in pancreatic cancer organoids
15:00	MaxCyte/Trend Bio (Leo He)	A variant aware framework for reducing off-target risks in therapeutic guide RNA selection





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15:05 - 15:30 Afternoon Tea

Genome & Epigenome Engineering

Sponsored by Synthego/Decode

15:30	Synthego/Decode (Tal Shamia)	AccuBase™: A GMP-grade protein-format Cytosine Base Editor (CBE) enabling safer, high-performance gene editing
16:00	Sarah Williams	Investigating how CRISPR-defined chromatin regulators maintain epithelial integrity to prevent neoplastic tumours
16:05	Kevin Sec	Targeting the epigenome for precision CAR-T cell therapy
16:20	Fatimah Jalud	Hidden Drivers in Non-Coding Regions: UTR Alterations Promote Immune Checkpoint Dysregulation and Oncogenic Activity

16:30 - 17:30 Poster Session 1

Welcome reception 16:30 - 18:30





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Day Two: Wednesday 25th of March 2026

8:00 Registration

CRISPR Evolution and Diversity

09:10	Peter Fineran	CRISPR-Cas Systems in phage-bacterial interaction: biology and exploitation
09:45	Gaetan Burgio	Voyage into the mechanism of CRISPR-Cas12a cleavage activities
10:10	Marjan Hadian-Jazi	Discovery and design of novel CRISPR-Cas13 effectors

Morning Tea Break 10:40 - 11:00

Immune Engineering and Therapeutics

Sponsored by Revvity

11:00	Revvity (Michelle Fraser)	Advancing Genome Editing Precision: Comparative Insights into CRISPR-Cas9, Base Editing and AI Engineered Enzymes
11:15	Daniel Layton	From Screens to Solutions: CRISPR Knockouts for Next-Gen Infectious Disease Countermeasures
11:40	Yu-Kuan Huang	Antigen-heterogeneous solid tumour targeting with tumour-localised T cell engager-expressing T cells
11:55	Felix O'Hgan	CRISPR-based modulation of lymph node homing improves CAR T-cell function in solid tumours
12:00	Yi Tian Ting	Why Equal TCR Engineering is Not Equal: CRISPR-Engineered TCR-Tregs Outperform Lentiviral Approaches
12:05	Xiao Jing Ong	Overcoming CAR-T manufacturing barriers for T-cell lymphoma using CRISPR-HDR
12:10	Jacinta Macdonald	CRISPR-mediated gene editing to validate targets of malaria parasite drug leads
12:15	Vector Builder	VectorBuilder: Your Trusted Lab Partner for All Things Gene Delivery

Poster Session 2

Lunch

1 on 1 with IDT

Responsible Innovation and Ethics

13:30	Christopher Gyngell	The Ethics of Polygenic Genome Editing
13:55	Christopher Gyngell, Peter Fineran, Ekaterina Semenova, Con Panousis	To Edit or not to edit - Realities of translating gene editing technologies to the clinic





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15:05 - 15:30 Afternoon Tea

Genome & Epigenome Engineering

Sponsored by VectorBuilder

15:30	Fei Deng	Advancement in CRISPR-based Diagnostics
15:50	Wei Deng	LNP CRISPR-mediated VEGFA gene editing for in vitro retinal disease treatment
16:15	Alexandra Farcas	Computational enhancement of non-viral CRISPR/Cas9 gold nanoparticle delivery platform design
16:30	Michael Keating	Packaged CRISPR LNP as research tool and treatment modality for cardiovascular disease

Closing ceremony

