



# ITS Annual Scientific Meeting 2024 - Derry



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**THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> TO SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup>  
NOVEMBER 2024  
MILLENNIUM FORUM**

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Please see our website: <https://irishthoracicsociety.com/>

# WELCOME

Dear Colleagues

We are delighted to present to you our programme for the 2024 ITS Annual Scientific Meeting, which will be held onsite at the Millennium Forum in Derry.

## CONFERENCE ORGANISATION AND GENERAL ENQUIRIES

The Annual Scientific Meeting is organised by the Irish Thoracic Society. Please direct all general conference enquiries via email to: [info@irishthoracicsociety.com](mailto:info@irishthoracicsociety.com)

## FULL PROGRAMME

The complete Final Programme, including abstracts will be available to all participants in advance of the Meeting on the conference App and the ITS website:  
<https://irishthoracicsociety.com/>

## THE VENUE

Millennium Forum, 3 Newmarket Street, BT48 6EB.

For directions, please visit: <https://www.millenniumforum.co.uk/how-to-find-us/directions/>

We encourage the use of car sharing and public transport where possible.

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

For discounted accommodation options, please visit our website.

## CPD APPROVAL

We will automatically register all eligible delegates for CPD when they pre-register for the Meeting. Confirmation will issue to all attendees within 1 week of the event date.

## ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES

Attendance certificates will be sent to all registered delegates after the event.

# 14-16 NOVEMBER – MILLENNIUM FORUM DERRY

## THURSDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2024

13.30 - 16.30

**Specialist Registrar Training - Studio Room**

18.00 - 21.15

**ITS Case Study Forum - Studio Room**

18.00 - 19.45

**ITS Case Poster Review - Centra Room**  
**Supper served in Farquhar Room**

19.45 - 21.15

**ITS Case Study Oral Presentations & Prize-Giving - Studio Room**

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## FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2024

08.00 – 08.30

**Registration, Refreshments, Meet the Industry**

08.30 – 09.15

**Poster Review I – Centra Room**

09.15 - 10.40

**Parallel Poster Discussions**

10.40 – 11.00

**Refreshments & Meet the Industry**

11.00 - 11.45

**Main Auditorium**

Dr Alexander Mathioudakis  
**Altering the Trajectory of COPD exacerbations**

11.45 - 13.00

**Oral Session I - Auditorium**

13.00 – 14.30

**ITS AGM & Lunch – Studio Room**

14.30 – 15.15

**ITS Poster Review II – Centra Room**

## FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2024

15.15 – 16.40

**ITS Parallel Poster Discussions**

16.40 - 17.00

**Refreshments & Meet the Industry**

17.00-17.45

**Main Auditorium – Guest Lecture**

Professor Gisli Jenkins

**Biomarkers in Interstitial Lung disease**

17.45 – 19.00

**Oral Session II – Main Auditorium**

20.00 – 20.30

**Drinks Reception & Prize-giving**

20.30 – late

**Gala Dinner & Presentation of Award for Outstanding Contribution to Respiratory Medicine - Ebrington Hotel**

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## Affiliate Forums and Parallel Meetings

10.00 – 17.00

**ITS Paediatric Forum – Guild Hall**

11.00 – 12.30

**ANAIL Forum - Studio Room**

11.00 – 12.30

**IICMP Respiratory Faculty Forum – Diamond Room**

11.00 – 12.30

**CPRC Forum – Millennium Room**

## **SATURDAY 16TH NOVEMBER 2024**

09.30 – 10.15

### **Main Auditorium – Guest Lecture**

Dr John Garvey

**Diagnosis & Treatment of Sleep Apnoea**

10.15 – 11.00

### **Main Auditorium – Guest Lecture**

Professor Jacky Smith

**Tackling chronic cough – pathogenic mechanisms and novel therapeutics.**

11.00 – 11.30

### **Refreshments & Meet the Industry**

11.30 – 12.15

### **Main Auditorium – Guest Lecture**

Dr Kerri Johannson

**Update in Hypersensitivity Pneumonitis**

12.15 – 13.00

### **Main Auditorium – Guest Lecture**

Professor Cecilia O’Kane

**Non-TB Mycobacteria**

13.00 – 14.00

### **Lunch & Networking**

### **Affiliate Forums and Parallel Meetings**

11.00 – 12.00

**National Bronchoscopy QI Programme Information Session**

## GUEST SPEAKERS

### FRIDAY 15TH OF NOVEMBER

11:11:45 Dr Alexander G. Mathioudakis



Dr Mathioudakis is an NIHR Clinical Lecturer in Respiratory Medicine at the University of Manchester and

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust. His research focuses on Airway Diseases phenotypes and personalised medicine, as well as clinical research methodology and evidence-based medicine. He is the incoming Chair of the European Respiratory Society Airways Pharmacology and Treatment Group (5.1).

### Friday 15th of November

17:00 – 17:45 Professor Gisti Jenkins



Professor Jenkins is a leading expert in interstitial lung disease, with a particular focus on pulmonary fibrosis.

His research encompasses three major themes: understanding the functional consequences of genetic risk factors, using pre-clinical models to manipulate molecular pathways for fibrosis prevention, and assessing patient cohorts to identify risk factors and biomarkers for disease development and progression. He holds a PhD in Biochemistry from University College London and conducted post-doctoral research at the University of California, San Francisco. In 2005, he established the Academic Interstitial Lung Disease Unit at the University of Nottingham and held several key roles there before moving to Imperial College London in 2021 to lead the Margaret Turner Warwick Centre for Fibrosing Lung Diseases.

Professor Jenkins is the Familial Pulmonary Fibrosis lead for the Genomics England Clinical Interpretation Partnership and leads the UK Interstitial Lung Disease consortium. He also spearheads the Post Hospitalisation (PHOSP)-COVID study Fibrosis Working Group. As joint Editor-in-Chief of the British Thoracic Society's official journal since 2015 and a founding Trustee of Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis, he plays a vital role in both clinical research and patient advocacy.

### SATURDAY 16TH OF NOVEMBER

9:30 – 10:15 Dr John Garvey



Dr. John Garvey is a distinguished Consultant Respiratory and Sleep Physician renowned for his extensive expertise in

both respiratory and sleep medicine. Dr Garvey is Clinical Director of the Sleep Laboratory, at St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin.

10:15 – 11:00 Professor Jacky Smith



Professor Jacky Smith is a leading expert in respiratory medicine, focusing on the mechanisms underlying pathological cough. She

directs a multidisciplinary research team and established a regional clinical service for patients with refractory chronic cough. She serves as Director of the NIHR Manchester Clinical Research Facility, Respiratory Theme Lead in the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre, and an NIHR Senior Investigator. After graduating from Manchester University in 1992, Professor Smith completed her training in General and Respiratory Medicine and earned a PhD in 'Measurement of Cough' in 2004.

Her innovative work includes developing a semi-automated cough detection method, now commercialized by Vitalograph Ltd, which has set new standards in evaluating cough therapies in clinical trials. Her research, funded by a Wellcome Investigator in Science Award and the NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre, focuses on the mechanisms of cough in respiratory diseases and testing novel anti-tussive therapies. She collaborates extensively with the pharmaceutical industry to advance this field. For more information on her work, visit [www.combatmycough.com](http://www.combatmycough.com).

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**11:30 – 12:15 Dr Kerri A. Johansson**



Dr. Kerri A. Johansson MD MPH FRCPC ATSF is as Associate Professor in the Departments of Medicine & Community Health Sciences, and

member of the Snyder Institute for Chronic Diseases at the University of Calgary, Calgary AB, Canada. She is Research Director for the Interstitial Lung Disease program and Director of the ILD post-graduate training program at the University of Calgary. Dr. Johansson is an Associate Editor for *Annals of the American Thoracic Society*, and on the Editorial Boards of the *European Respiratory Journal* and the *American Journal of Respiratory, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine*. Dr. Johansson's research program is focused on understanding the relationships between inhalational exposures and ILDs, and how the environment and social determinants of health impact patient-related outcomes.

**12:15 – 13:00 Professor Cecilia O’Kane**



Professor O’Kane's research focuses on the mechanisms of alveolar inflammation and injury in acute respiratory distress

syndrome (ARDS) and explores therapeutic interventions from human models to clinical trials. Her group uses in vitro primary human cells, ex vivo lung tissue culture, whole lung perfusion (EVLP) models, and alveolar inflammation modelling in healthy volunteers to study inflammation, injury, and repair in human lung tissue. Additionally, Professor O’Kane works on mycobacterial lung infections, particularly non-tuberculous mycobacteria (NTM), which cause significant lung damage. Current antibiotic treatments for NTM are inadequate, prompting her team to develop models to understand virulence mechanisms and host responses and to test new antimicrobial strategies.