



Clinical Professionals Conference, Friday 9th October 2026

Morning Agenda

08.00 - 09.00 Registration and breakfast coffee/pastries

09.00 - 09.20 Welcome, housekeeping and objectives

Vicky Burford, CEO

09.20 - 09.30 Icebreaker

Andy Koss, Chair of Trustees

09.30 - 10.00 Patient Stories

An opportunity to hear from members of our community, outlining their experiences of life supporting children, young people and adults with PANS and PANDAS.

Community members

10.00 - 11.00 History, challenges and what we know now

This session will outline the origins of PANDAS and subsequently PANS, reflecting on the challenges faced by doctors early on, and lessons learned. It will outline why professional disagreement has persisted and provide an overview of key advances in understanding and treatment.

Dr Sue Swedo
Dr Tim Ubhi
Professor Jennifer Frankovich
Professor Ming Lim

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 - 12.10 Introduction to the UK Guidelines

This session will provide an overview of the approach taken by the Guideline Development Working Group to standardise and support recognition, assessment and care, through the ongoing development of a treatment guideline, produced in collaboration with the RCPCH, with the support of NHS England and overseen by the National PANS PANDAS Steering Group.

Dr Su Laurent
Professor Ming Lim
Dr Ashley Liew

12.10 - 13.10 Themed Session 1: Assessment and Diagnosis

This session will explore what clinicians may see in the consulting room, from early signs and symptoms to the clues hidden in family history and patient stories, across different stages of the diagnostic journey. It will cover how to build a clearer picture by asking the right questions and undertaking the right investigations, while recognising the complexity of fluctuating symptoms, atypical presentations, and co-morbidities. The session will also consider how PANS and PANDAS relate to neurodivergence, and will conclude with a case study to bring these themes together.

Professor Rajat Gupta
Dr Tim Ubhi
Professor Jennifer Frankovich
Professor Russell Dale (remote)

Clinical Professionals Conference, Friday 9th October 2026

Afternoon Agenda

13.10 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 15.00 Themed Session 2: Management

This session will explore how different professionals can work together to provide effective, joined-up care, including when and how to refer on. It will cover approaches to managing both acute and chronic cases, highlighting key differences in treatment, how to monitor response, and what to do when progress is limited. The discussion will also address when and how to safely withdraw treatments, and how to respond if symptoms return. The session will conclude with a case study.

Dr Ashley Liew
Professor Rajat Gupta
Professor Russell Dale (remote)
Dr Sue Swedo

15.00 - 15.30 Themed Session 3: Monitoring and Review

This session will focus on supporting patients over the longer term, including how to monitor symptoms, plan follow-ups, and determine who should lead ongoing care. It will cover the use of flare protocols to manage relapses and discuss key considerations for a successful transition to adult services. The session will conclude with a case study to illustrate these approaches in practice.

Dr Ashley Liew
Professor Rajat Gupta
Professor Ming Lim

15.30 - 16.00 Coffee break

16.00 - 16.30 Themed Session 4: Information, Education and Support

This session will explore how to support patients both before and after diagnosis, highlighting key considerations at each stage of their journey. It will also focus on the wider impact on families, including the emotional, social, and financial challenges faced by parents, carers, and siblings. The importance of working closely with schools will be addressed, with practical insights into how education settings can play a vital role in supporting recovery and day-to-day functioning.

Dr Vicky Queralt
Lucy McDonald

16.30 - 17.30 Panel Q&A

Open questions from the audience, facilitated by Dr Su Laurent

All speakers