The Specialist Research Institute, The Bristol Heart Institute is officially opening!
Date: 30 November 2017
Time: 1.30pm—6pm
Location: Life Sciences Building
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Speaker/Position</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13:30-13:45</td>
<td>Registration/Welcome</td>
<td>Professor Gianni Angelini</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:45-15:00</td>
<td>Bridging basic science and regenerative medicine</td>
<td>Costanza Emmanuell</td>
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<td>What is the missing link between kidney disease and cardiovascular disease</td>
<td>Simon Satchell</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:45-15:00</td>
<td>Tea and poster exhibition</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Drinks and canapé reception and award of poster prizes</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:45-15:00</td>
<td>Closing remarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00-16:00</td>
<td>Improving patients’ risk stratification and outcome with cardiovascular imaging</td>
<td>Chiara Bucciarelli-DiCiro</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00-16:00</td>
<td>Platelets in cardiovascular function and disease</td>
<td>Ingeborg Hers</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00-16:00</td>
<td>Mending the youngest heart: an evidence based approach to congenital heart surgery research</td>
<td>Massimo Caputo</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00-16:00</td>
<td>Translational physiological concepts in hypertension and heart failure</td>
<td>Emma Hart</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00-16:00</td>
<td>Two sample Mendelian Randomisation for determining causes of heart disease</td>
<td>Deborah A Lawlor</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00-16:00</td>
<td>Identification of novel approaches to improve coronary artery vein grafting</td>
<td>Sarah George</td>
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<td>15:00-16:00</td>
<td>Myocardial electrophysiology and excitation-contraction coupling in health and disease</td>
<td>Jules Hancox</td>
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<td>15:00-16:00</td>
<td>TBRC: a pre-clinical facility bridging Basic Science, NHS and Industry to boost cardiovascular translation</td>
<td>Raimondo Ascione</td>
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<td>15:00-16:00</td>
<td>What is the missing link between kidney disease and cardiovascular disease</td>
<td>Simon Satchell</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:15-17:55</td>
<td>Metin Avkiran lecture</td>
<td>Professor Metin Avkiran</td>
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<td>17:55-18:00</td>
<td>Closing remarks</td>
<td>Alastair Poole</td>
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<tr>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>Drinks and canapé reception and award of poster prizes</td>
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Poster submissions are invited and electronic posters for pre-selection should be sent to posters-bhisri-openingevent2017@bristol.ac.uk by 15th November at the latest. Posters should be in A0 portrait format and the 3 best posters will win a prize of £500, £300 and £200, respectively.
BHI SRI Opening Event

Meet Professor Metin Avkiran, BHF Associate Medical Director who will be speaking at the Specialist Research Institute, The Bristol Heart Institute opening event

Professor Metin Avkiran was appointed as Associate Medical Director for Research at the British Heart Foundation, on secondment from King’s College London, from September 2016. At King’s, he is Professor of Molecular Cardiology and Deputy Head of the Cardiovascular Division within the British Heart Foundation Centre of Research Excellence, where his laboratory’s research focuses on investigating the molecular signalling mechanisms that regulate cardiac function in health and disease. He has previously served as Chairman of the British Society for Cardiovascular Research and President of the International Society for Heart Research.
Events

Creating Active Communities Conference Investing in National Health and Wellbeing
Date/Time: 21 September 2017, 9am - 5pm
Location: The RSM, Wimple Street, London

Stroke Imaging min-symposium - 'Guiding Acute Stroke Treatment with CT and MRI'
Date/Time: 21 September 2017, 9am - 5pm
Location: Dorothy Hodgkin Building Marlborough Street Bristol, BS1 3NY

Registration Open: Big Data in Biology and Health 2017
Date/Time: 25 September 2017, 12.30pm - 1pm
Speaker: Sarah Teichmann Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, UKWellcome Genome Campus, Hinxton, Saffron Walden, Cambridge CB10 1SA

Working group on data visualisation: good and bad practices in data vis
Date/Time: 26 September 2017, 1pm - 2pm
Speakers: Bobby Stuijfzand, Oli Chalkley and Harriet Mills
Location: Beacon House seminar room

Enhancing Facilitation Workshop
Date/Time: 27 September 2017, 8.45am - 1.00pm
Location: UWE, Frenchay Campus

The Peers’ Project Showcase
Date/Time 27 September 2017, 5.30pm - 8.30pm
Location: Room 4.10, School of Education
Featured Event

BHF Southwest Supporters Day!

This was held on the 21st of July 2017 in the BHI atrium where 80 BHF fundraisers engaged directly with cardiac research staff.
News

Dr Safa Abdul-Ghani

Dr Safa Abdul-Ghani, a former PhD Student at the University of Bristol is currently an Assistant Professor in Physiology at Al-Quds University in Jerusalem, has been awarded a Daniel Turnberg Travel Fellowship to visit Professor Suleiman’s group this summer. This scheme which is established by the Academy of Medical Sciences, aims to build research links and to develop ongoing collaborations between the UK and the Middle East. For more information see:

https://acmedsci.ac.uk/grants-and-schemes/grant-schemes/daniel-turnberg-travel-fellowship

Winner!

Kim Summers who is a second year PhD student working with Professors Suleiman & Caputo has won a Poster Prize at the International Congress on Analytical Proteomics. The meeting was held in Lisbon, Portugal 2-6 July 2017.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Dr Andrew Mumford who has been promoted to Professor of Haematology!
News

Congratulations to Dr Katrina Hope!

One of our academic clinical fellows in anaesthesia, Dr Katrina Hope, has been awarded a BHF Clinical Fellowship for 3 years. This grant is designed to investigate the role of carotid body dysfunction in heart failure. Katrina will compare 3 groups of people:

1. People with heart failure and reduced ejection fraction
2. People with heart failure and preserved ejection fraction
3. Age and sex matched healthy control group

We hope this will allow us to understand the mechanism of heart failure preserved ejection fraction. If successful we will go on to test interventions to improve carotid body function and see if this improves symptoms and prognosis in heart failure.

Erasmus Students!

Münevver Kökçü and Ayşenur Çetinkaya from Usak University in Turkey have been awarded an Erasmus student mobility programme scholarship to spend 3 months in Professor Suleiman’s Laboratory during the period July-October 2017. During their stay, they were involved in ongoing cardiovascular research on Level 7 of the BRI, working with Dr Igor Khaliulin and Dr Martin Lewis on their studies investigating the cardiovascular effects of cAMP signalling.
Launch of Bristol Medical School marks new era for medical education

The University of Bristol launched the Bristol Medical School on Tuesday 1st August. This marks a new era for medical research and education in the West of England. Comprising around 1,330 students and 900 staff, the Bristol Medical School will provide a home for researchers, teachers and students, who through research and teaching will improve the health of individuals and populations locally, nationally and internationally.


New discovery could reverse tissue damage caused by heart attacks

A new discovery by University of Bristol scientists helps to explain how cells which surround blood vessels, called pericytes, stimulate new blood vessels to grow with the hormone ‘leptin’ playing a key role. Leptin is produced by fat cells which helps to regulate energy balance in the body by inhibiting the appetite. This study, described in Scientific Reports, may have important implications for the treatment of heart attacks and also for cancer, the two main killers in the UK.


We are proud to be part of The 100,000 Genomes Project!

The project will sequence 100,000 genomes from around 70,000 people. Participants are NHS patients with a rare disease, plus their families, and patients with cancer.

The aim is to create a new genomic medicine service for the NHS – transforming the way people are cared for. Patients may be offered a diagnosis where there wasn’t one before. In time, there is the potential of new and more effective treatments.

https://www.genomicsengland.co.uk/the-100000-genomes-project/
The British Heart Foundation

The British Heart Foundation Medical Director was recently in Bristol to discuss future
direction and strategy with the university.

Here is an extract summary:

Notes on BHF future directions, from conversations with Nilesh Samani and Metin Avkiran
(BHF Medical Director and Deputy Medical Director)

The BHF strategy is very broad and supports all cardiovascular research from basic through
to clinical translation. However, some particular areas under consideration for the future that
were mentioned were:

International collaborations. BHF wants to establish relationships/agreements with as
many international funders as possible so that UK researchers can work with collaborators in
other countries and have one single review process for both funders, avoiding double
jeopardy for international collaborative projects. Discussions have progressed furthest with
the German Centre for Cardiovascular Research (DZHK), so cardiovascular researchers
with collaborators in relevant German institutions should be keeping an eye out for potential
upcoming opportunities (a pot of ~£4M was mentioned as a possibility). BHF noted that if
researchers have collaborations that don’t fit with any formal agreements then do talk to BHF
about what might be possible.

Centres for Research Excellence. BHF is looking at what the added value has been for the
current Centres. The scheme will continue but might be altered a little; factors under
consideration are whether to keep them exclusive and only fund a few, or to fund more;
making them theme-based or keeping them responsive/open; keeping them single-institution
or allowing multi-institutional Centres; keeping the focus on bringing those outside
cardiovascular research, or not. BHF are seeking broad input into their thinking for the future
of this scheme, to help them produce a 5-10 year vision for it. BHF noted that the Director’s
discretionary fund, and it’s use for supporting excellent people in their careers (e.g. through
12-18 month fellowships to support them making further fellowship applications), was an
important part of the current model for Centres.
Likely timescales for the next CRE call: announcement around the end of this year/early 2018; outline applications due in spring/Eastertime 2018, and full applications in early summer 2018.

Networks of excellence. These would be for bringing researchers together to do
outstanding clinical research. The incentives for researchers to lead and create the networks
are currently being discussed within BHF.

BRC cardiovascular research partnership. BHF is talking to the NIHR about working
together to do something to bring together all the BRCs which include cardiovascular
research as a focus.

Data linkage. BHF wants to find ways of linking NICOR and routine datasets to allow data
mining for real life evidence outcomes and smarter clinical trials. The Swedish Heart and
Lung Foundation provides an example they are looking to follow. BHF are aware of the need
to ensure that what they do here ties in with the new MRC Health Data Research UK
institute.
**Partnership with Francis Crick Institute.** BHF are looking to co-fund a small number of junior group leader positions at the Crick (perhaps 3). The BHF are keen that they will use that time to establish relationships with HEIs around the country and then move on after their time at the Crick, which is in line with the Crick’s ‘6+6 then move on’ model.

2) **BHF-Turing Cardiovascular Data Science Awards**
The BHF has announced a new joint funding scheme to support collaborative research between cardiovascular investigators and data scientists that could generate data science solutions to key cardiovascular problems. Most applications are expected to be for small scoping or pilot projects, but applications for more extensive work to deliver larger projects will also be considered.
The scheme is now open for applications (**submission deadline: 16 October 2017**). See here for further information: [https://www.bhf.org.uk/research/information-for-researchers/researcher-noticeboard](https://www.bhf.org.uk/research/information-for-researchers/researcher-noticeboard)
A Patient Story

Calum (age 11), my fourth heart operation written for The British Heart Foundation

When I was born Mum wanted to take me home but she couldn’t because I had a heart condition the doctors didn’t see very often.

I had my first operation when I was ten days old.

It took seven hours and Mum and Dad had a shock because I came out with my chest still open because my heart and lungs had swelled up.

I had another operation at four and another at six.

I don’t like it when I have to keep having more operations, but I am dealing with it. I go and see Nell the psychologist at the hospital who helps me to not feel so frightened.

I know I have a ‘special heart’ and I want this operation. I want to be able to play football and to be faster than my younger brother at swimming.

Professor Massimo Caputo will be doing my operation. He has done all my operations. He said that I will be in surgery from 9am until 4pm. Mum says to think of it like a whole school day.

Sometimes I wish I had a normal heart like my brother and sister. But I know other kids like me and I’m not alone.

Me and my family have been filming the days up to my heart operation so that people can see what it’s like to have a ‘special heart’ like me.

https://youtu.be/C3allIPET9AY?
Monitoring the hearts of the sports stars of the future

Paediatric Sports Cardiology Symposium at the World Congress of Paediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery

12 July 2017 – Professionals in the field of children’s cardiology will hold their world congress in FCB’s Camp Nou, Barcelona, Spain from the 16th to the 21st of July 2016. As part of the congress and for the first time, a special symposium will unite leading experts in the field of sports cardiology to discuss the heart health of the sports stars of the future.

Dr Guido Pieles attended the event and gave a presentation!

To read the full article please click here
Publications

Expanded repertoire of RASGRP2 variants responsible for platelet dysfunction and severe bleeding.

Mutations in tropomyosin 4 underlie a rare form of human macrothrombocytopenia.

Rare variants in GP1BB are responsible for autosomal dominant macrothrombocytopenia.

Sub-microscopic analysis of t-tubule geometry in living cardiac ventricular myocytes using a shape-based analysis method.
The Bristol Heart Institute is run by a steering group.

Members currently include:

**Director:**
Gianni Angelini, BHF Professor of Cardiac Surgery and Cardiovascular theme lead at the NIHR Bristol Biomedical Research Centre

**Deputy Director:**
Alastair Poole, Professor of Pharmacology and Cell Biology

**Other Members:**
- Dr Chiara Bucciarelli-Ducci *Imaging*
- Prof Massimo Caputo *Congenital Heart Surgery*
- Prof Costanza Emanueli *Cardiovascular Regeneration*
- Prof Sarah George *Cardiovascular Signalling*
- Dr Emma Hart *Autonomic Regulation & Dysfunction*
- Dr Andrews James *Cardiac Biology*
- Dr Thomas Johnson *Cardiology*
- Dr Stuart Mundell *Vascular Biology & Atherothrombosis*
- Prof Ruth Newbury-Ecob *Clinical Genetics*
- Dr Simon Satchell *Renal, Diabetic & Hypertensive Disease*
- Prof Saadeh Suleiman *Cardiac Biology*
- Dr Nicholas Timpson *Population Health and Epidemiology*
- Prof Robert Tulloh *Consultant Paediatric Cardiologist*
- Collette Sheahan *RED liaison*

If you have anything you wish to feature in the next newsletter please e-mail

Chelsie.Galdies@bristol.ac.uk

Please also send comments, videos, publications, events etc. to Chelsie.Galdies@bristol.ac.uk to populate the website!