

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Monday 20 April 2026			
09:00–17:30	EFI Inspectors Workshop (Tinto + Moorfoot)		
	ESHI Diploma Examination		
Tuesday 21 April 2026			
08:30–17:30	EFI Committee Meetings (tbc)		
17:30–19:45	OPENING CEREMONY AND AWARDS (PENTLAND SUITE)		
17:30	Welcome addresses (Chairs: Marco Andreani, David Turner, Ann-Margaret Little, Olivia Shaw)		
17:45	HLA Award (Chair: Steven Marsh)		
18:00	BSHI Honorary Membership Award		
18:10	Julia Bodmer Award (Chair: Luca Vago)		
18:35	Special Ceppellini Award (Chair: Marco Andreani)		
18:45	Ceppellini Lecture (Chair: Marco Andreani)		
19:30	Traditional Scottish Welcome!		
19:45–21:30	WELCOME DRINK (CROMDALE HALL)		
Wednesday 22 April 2026			
08:30–10:00	PLENARY SESSION I – HAEMATOPOIETIC STEM CELL TRANSPLANTATION (PENTLAND SUITE) Chairs: Neema Mayor, Esteban Arrieta-Bolaños		
08:30	Bronwen Shaw, USA: The evolving landscape of donor selection: HLA and beyond		
09:00	Rob Wynn, UK: Cord blood as an HLA-mismatched Stem Cell Source: Past Present and Future		
09:30	Katharina Fleischhauer, Germany: Old dogmas and new opportunities for HLA in Donor selection: Lessons learned from bench to bedside		
	BSHI Award (Festenstein)		
10:00–10:30	REFRESHMENTS, POSTER AND EXHIBITION VIEWING		
10:30–12:00	Pentland TEACHING SESSION 1: Non-HLA antibodies in SOT Chairs: Deborah Pritchard, Raphael Carapito Deborah Pritchard, UK Raphael Carapito, France Clare Collins, UK	Sidlaw ORAL ABSTRACT SESSION 1: Population genetics, infection & disease Chairs: Joannis Mytilineos, Natasja de Groot	Fintry ORAL ABSTRACT SESSION 2: Bioinformatics Chairs: Michaela Agapiou, Martin Maiers
12:00–14:00	LUNCH BREAK, POSTER AND EXHIBITION VIEWING		
12:00–13:00		Sidlaw Industry Symposium 1 Thermo Fisher Scientific	
13:00–14:00		Fintry Industry Symposium 2 Werfen	Ochil 2 EFI EDC session: EFI Educational Drop In Session
14:00–15:00	Pentland TEACHING SESSION 2: HLA and Cancer: From HLA antigen presentation modeling to personalized tumor vaccines Chairs: Timo Olieslagers, Anders Hedin Nicola Ternette, UK Morten Nielsen, Denmark	Sidlaw ORAL ABSTRACT SESSION 3: HSCT Chairs: Antonij Slavčev, Sharon Vivers	Fintry Industry Symposium 3 Hansa Biopharma
15:00–15:30			Kilsyth Industry Symposium 4 Insight Molecular Diagnostics (IMDx)
15:30–16:00	REFRESHMENTS, POSTER AND EXHIBITION VIEWING		
16:00–17:30	PLENARY SESSION II – CELL THERAPIES AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE (PENTLAND SUITE) Chairs: Constanca Figueiredo, Jean Villard		
16:00	Roger Barker, UK: Dopamine cell therapies for Parkinson's Disease- Is it ready for primetime?		
16:30	Wolfram-Hubertus Zimmermann, Germany: Tissue Engineered Heart Repair		
17:00	Sandra Petrus-Reurer, UK: Reducing immunogenicity in bile-duct cellular therapies		
17:30–19:00	SCIENTIFIC POSTER SESSION		

Thursday 23 April 2026

08:30–10:00	PLENARY SESSION III – JOINT WITH ESOT: INCREASING ACCESS TO TRANSPLANTATION (PENTLAND SUITE) <i>Chairs: Lorna Marson, Jean-Luc Taupin</i>		
08:30	Gabriel Oniscu, Sweden: Organ perfusion: local service or centralised national facilities?		
09:00	Eckhard Wolf, Germany: Xenotransplantation, the European approach		
09:30	Shareen Forbes, UK: Optimising islet transplantation for Type 1 diabetes		
10:00–10:30	REFRESHMENTS, POSTER AND EXHIBITION VIEWING		
10:30–12:00	Pentland	Sidlaw	Fintry
	TEACHING SESSION 3: Non-HLA and non-classical HLA genes in the MHC <i>Chairs: Lotte Wieten, Katarzyna Bogunia-Kubik</i> Lotte Wieten, Netherlands Katarzyna Bogunia-Kubik, Poland Michael Eikmans, Netherlands	ORAL ABSTRACT SESSION 4: Solid organ transplantation <i>Chairs: Catherine Hastie, Richard Battle</i>	ORAL ABSTRACT SESSION 5: Antigen processing & NK cells <i>Chairs: Paul Norman, Eric Spierings</i>
12:00–14:00	LUNCH BREAK, POSTER AND EXHIBITION VIEWING		
12:00–13:00		Sidlaw	
		Industry Symposium 5 GenDx	
13:00–14:00			Fintry
			Industry Symposium 6 CareDx
			Kilsyth
			EBTI Assembly
14:00–15:00	Pentland	Sidlaw	Fintry
	TEACHING SESSION 4: New methods for post transplant monitoring in SOT <i>Chairs: Jakob Nilsson, Manuel Muro</i> Manuel Muro, Spain Jakob Nilsson, Switzerland Stefan Schaub, Switzerland	ORAL ABSTRACT SESSION 6: Immunotherapy <i>Chairs: Arthi Anand, Rainer Blasczyk</i>	Industry Symposium 7 Bag Diagnostics
15:00–15:30			
15:30–16:00	REFRESHMENTS, POSTER AND EXHIBITION VIEWING		
16:00–17:30	PLENARY SESSION IV – HLA AND DISEASE (PENTLAND SUITE) <i>Chairs: Olivia Shaw, Jill Hollenbach</i>		
16:00	Lars Fugger, UK: Evolutionary origin of risk to multiple sclerosis		
16:30	Paul Bowness, UK: HLA-B27 and Spondyloarthritis, back to the future?		
17:00	Nicholas McGranahan, UK: Exploring somatic evolution and immune escape in lung cancer		
17:30–19:00	EFI GENERAL ASSEMBLY, EFI MEDAL CEREMONY (PENTLAND SUITE)		
19:30–01:00	NETWORKING EVENT (NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND)		

Friday 24 April 2026

09:00–10:30	BEST ORAL ABSTRACT SESSION (PENTLAND SUITE) <i>Chairs: Marco Andreani, Luca Vago</i>		
10:30–11:00	REFRESHMENTS		
11:00–12:30	PLENARY SESSION V – ANTIGEN PRESENTATION, NEOANTIGENS AND MIHAs (PENTLAND SUITE) <i>Chairs: Sebastiaan Heidt, Pietro Crivello</i>		
11:00	Marieke Griffioen, Netherlands: Minor Histocompatibility Antigens to Monitor, Predict, and Shape Immune Responses After HLA-Matched Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation		
12:00	Carla Baan, Netherlands: The Secret Messengers: Extracellular Vesicles in Transplant Rejection		
12:30	Michal Bassani-Sternberg, Switzerland: From discoveries to therapy: overcoming challenges in neoantigen-driven cancer immunotherapy		
12:30–13:30	CLOSING CEREMONY (PENTLAND SUITE) <i>Chairs: Marco Andreani, Steven Marsh</i>		
12:30	Jon van Rood Award, Best Abstract Awards		
12:45	Closing Lecture Prof John Trowsdale: The cost of a comprehensive immune defence		
13:15	19 th IHIWS Presentation		
13:25	Welcome to Essen and final remarks		