Second UCL Queen Square Motor Neuron Disease Centre

International Symposium

Friday 10th September 2021 from 1:00pm to 6:00pm (GMT)

1:00pm – 1:10pm Welcome and an Introduction to the UCL QS MND Centre
   Linda Greensmith, Scientific Lead for MND, UCL Queen Square

1:10pm – 1:40pm Andrea Malaspina, Clinical Academic Lead for MND, UCL Queen Square
   Clinical research at Queen Square in ALS and FTD: Biomarkers – will they work for clinical trials?

Session 1: Chair - Linda Greensmith

1:40pm – 2:10pm Robert Brown, Department of Neurology, University of Massachusetts Medical School (USA)
   Gene Modulation Therapy in ALS - Early Lessons

2:10pm – 2:40pm Pietro Fratta, Professor of Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience, Neurologist, UCL Queen Square (UK)
   Targeting TDP-43 splicing changes: not too late for ALS therapeutics

2:40pm – 2:55pm BREAK

Session 2: Chair - Giampietro Schiavo

2:55pm – 3:25pm Sandrine Da Cruz, VIB-KU Leuven Center for Brain & Disease Research (Belgium)
   Phase transition, aggregation and spreading: from models to disease mechanisms in ALS/FTD

3:25pm – 3:55pm Jim Shorter, Dept of Biochemistry & Biophysics, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania (USA)
   Countering deleterious phase transitions in ALS

3:55pm – 4:10pm BREAK

Session 3: Chair – Elizabeth Fisher

4:10pm – 4:40pm Jan Veldink, UMC Utrecht Brain Center (Netherlands)
   How common and rare genetic variants help us towards a rationale basis for treatment in ALS

Session 4: Chair – Orla Hardiman

DEBATE: Biomarkers are essential for successful clinical trials in ALS!

4:40pm – 5:20pm Speakers Presentations
   Pamela Shaw, Bob Baloh, Michael Benetar, Albert Ludolph

5:20pm – 5:25pm Debate Summary – Orla Hardiman, School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin (Ireland)

5:25pm – 5:55pm Questions and Discussion

5:55pm – 6:00pm Closing Remarks - Michael Hanna, Director, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology and National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery

We are applying for Federation of the Royal College of Physicians CPD credits for this meeting - further details to follow

Register here: https://ucl.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0udeupqTlsH9wRiDXyxXoMtyM6KvVb5kGh