

08:00 – 09:20 Registration

Session 1 - Celebrating the Journey and Future of Paediatric Cardiology
Chair: Dr Wilf Kelsall

09:20 - 09:30	Opening and welcome	Dr Wilf Kelsall
09:30 - 09:50	30 Years of PECSIG – What’s been achieved and what might the future hold	Dr David Mabin

Session 2 - Real-World Challenges in Paediatric Cardiac Care – Bridging Gaps and Facing Complexities
Chairs: Dr P Venugopalan & Dr Prakash Dey

09:50 – 10:10	Oral health, real risks – navigating dental care in children with heart disease	Miss Mina Vaidyanathan
10:10 – 10:30	Harnessing artificial intelligence in cardiac care – transforming diagnosis, workflow, and patient outcomes	Dr Shankar Sridharan
10:30 – 10:50	On the move – safely transporting neonatal and paediatric cardiac patients	Dr Sajeev Job & Kate O'Malley
10:50 – 11:00	Panel discussion	

11:00 - 11:20 Refreshment break and networking

Session 3 – Optimising Cardiac Networks and Navigating Complex Cardiac Conditions
Chairs: Dr Vikranth Venugopalan & Dr David Mabin

11:20 - 11:40	Strengthening cardiac networks – The critical role of national and local guidelines	Dr Leila Rittey
11:40 - 12:00	Cardiac care in Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy – Challenges and best practices	Dr Tara Bharucha
12:00 - 12:20	Palliative care in paediatric cardiology – Is there a role for a paediatrician with expertise in cardiology (PEC)?	Dr Carolina Perez
12:20 – 12:40	Managing postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (POTS) in children and adolescents – A practical approach	Dr Nick Gall
12:40 - 12:50	Panel discussion	

12:50 - 13:40 Lunch, networking & simulation village

13:05 – 13:35 Sponsored symposium

13:20 – 13:40	PECSIG AGM update	Dr Bikash Bhojnagarwala & Dr Vikrant Venugopalan
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Session 4 - Patent Ductus Arteriosus – Revisiting an Age-Old Dilemma with New Perspectives
Chairs: Dr Wilf Kelsall & Dr Sajeev Job

13:40 – 14:00	Decoding PDA phenotypes – A contemporary framework for assessment and clinical decision-making	Dr Bikash Bhojnagarwala
14:00 – 14:30	Debate: PDA – Does it really matter? A re-examination of relevance in modern neonatal care - Dzung memorial lecture	Pro Position: Dr. Dr Mahmoud Montasser Con Position: Dr. Anay Kulkarni
14:30 – 14:50	PDA – Time to lay the question to rest? A researcher's evidence-based perspective	Dr Cheryl Battersby
14:50 – 15:00	Panel discussion	

15:00 - 15:25 Refreshment break and networking

Session 5 – Innovation in Cardiac Care – Empowering Teams and Enhancing Outcomes
Chairs: Dr. Bikash Bhojnagarwala & Dr. Mahomoud Monatesur

15:25 - 15:45	Discussion: Performing general anaesthesia safely for non-cardiac procedures in CHD patients at non-cardiac centres?	Dr Johanna Lynch and Dr Aarti Shah
15:45 - 16:10	Interactive segment: ECG quiz “Can you catch the rhythm?” – Arrhythmia & ECG interpretation challenge	Dr Will Regan
16:10 - 16:20	Heart Murmur Referrals to the Local Paediatric Cardiology Clinic at a Children's Hospital: a comparison between 2018 and 2024	Dr Moustafa Eldalal
16:20 - 16:30	PHONOVviewer: The development of open-source software to visualise heart sound recordings	Mr Alexander Darby
16:30 - 16:40	Young People with Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome: is a Paediatric Cardiology Assessment necessary?	Dr Abdullah Nimer
16:40 - 16:50	Evaluation and management of neonatal heart murmurs: Insights from a local DGH	Dr Anju Vijayan
16:50 - 17:00	Closing remarks and award Ceremony: Announcement of best oral and poster presentation winners	Dr Bikash Bhojnagarwala Dr Vikrant Venugopalan

PECSIG Programme

Paediatricians with Expertise in Cardiology Specialist Interest Group

Tuesday 4th November 2025



Dr Cheryl Battersby

Clinical Associate Professor, Imperial College London

Dr Tara Bharucha

Consultant Paediatric Cardiologist, University Hospital Southampton

Dr Bikash Bhojnagarwala

Consultant Neonatologist with Special Interest in Neonatal and Paediatric Cardiology, Medway NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Prakash Dey

Consultant, Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust

Dr Nicholas Gall

Consultant Cardiologist at King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Sajeew Job

Consultant, Cambridge University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Wilf Kelsall

Consultant Paediatrician & Chairperson One Heart CHD, ODN Cambridge University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Anay Kulkarni

Consultant Neonatologist, St. Georges Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Johanna Lynch

Consultant Paediatric Anaesthetist at Cambridge University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Dr David Mabin

Consultant Paediatrician at Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital

Dr Mahmoud Montasser

Consultant Neonatologist & National Chair of NeoFOCUS-UK Group at University Hospital Wishaw & Scotstar

Dr Kate O'Malley

Doctor, Addenbrookes Hospital & PaNDR

Dr Carolina Perez

Consultant In Paediatric Palliative Medicine, Evelina London Children's Hospital

Dr Poothirikovil Venuggopalan

Consultant, University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Vikrant Venugopalan

Consultant Neonatologist With Expertise In Paediatric Cardiology at Midland Metropolitan University Hospitals, Sandwell & West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust

Miss Mina Vaidyanathan

Consultant in Paediatric Dentistry, Guys and St Thomas NHS Foundation Trust

Dr William Regan

Consultant In Paediatric Cardiology And Electrophysiology, Evelina London Children's Hospital

Dr Leila Rittey

Paediatric Cardiology Consultant, Great Ormond Street Hospital

Dr Aarti Shah

Consultant Anaesthetist, NHS Greater Glasgow And Clyde

Dr Shankar Sridharan

Consultant Paediatric Cardiologist & National Clinical Lead Artificial Intelligence, Great Ormond Street & NHS England

This programme is targeted at healthcare professionals with an interest in paediatric cardiology.

At the conclusion of the programme, participants will have an enhanced understanding of the progress and future directions in paediatric cardiology, including the role of PECSIG over the past 30 years. Delegates will explore real-world challenges such as oral health in children with heart disease, safe patient transport, and the use of artificial intelligence to transform diagnosis and outcomes.

They will gain insights into optimising cardiac networks through national and local guidelines, and managing complex conditions, including Duchenne muscular dystrophy, POTS, and the provision of palliative care. Attendees will revisit the long-debated issue of patent ductus arteriosus (PDA), examining new phenotypic frameworks, research evidence, and differing perspectives on its clinical significance.

The conference will also provide opportunities to develop practical skills, including safe anaesthesia for congenital heart disease patients in non-specialist centres and enhanced ECG interpretation through an interactive arrhythmia quiz. Delegates will be introduced to new research through abstract presentations, supporting engagement with the latest evidence and innovation.

The event will include debates, case-based discussions, and interactive sessions, alongside opportunities for networking and collaboration. Attendees will be able to apply these learnings to their own clinical practice, share updates with colleagues, and contribute to the continued advancement of care for children and young people with heart disease.