

WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE 2026

08:30	Registration	Foyer
09:00-09:15	Photos	Grand Hall
09:15-09:30	Opening remarks Professor Leo Poon and Professor Kei Sato Co-Chairpersons of NIDO2026 Professor Hui-Ling Yen Interim Director and Professor School of Public Health, The University of Hong Kong	Grand Hall

09:30-11:05	Scientific Session 1.1 Topic: Genetic Diversity and Evolution Chairs: Leo Poon, University of Hong Kong (CN) Zhengli Shi, Guangzhou National Laboratory (CN)	Grand Hall
09:30-09:55	Invited speaker talk Phenotypic evolution of circulating MERS-CoV in the Arabian Peninsula Christian Drosten, Charité-Universitätsmedizin Berlin (DE)	
09:55-10:10	The spread of RNA exonuclease domain within Nidovirales hints an evolution mechanism bridging RNA and DNA worlds François Ferron, Laboratoire AFMB, CNRS-Aix Marseille University (FR)	
10:10-10:25	Genetic diversity in horseshoe bat ACE2 and sarbecovirus Spike proteins mutually shape one another Wenye Li, The University of Tokyo (JP)	
10:25-10:35	DeepCoV: a DMS-informed protein language model predicts SARS-CoV-2 evolution dynamics with spatiotemporal resolution Fanchong Jian, Peking University (CN)	
10:35-10:45	High-throughput antibody DMS enables comprehensive epitope modeling and evolution prediction of SARS-CoV-2 and other fast-evolving viruses Fanchong Jian, Peking University (CN)	
10:45-10:55	Direct Measurement of Inter-Virus Recombination Using Landmarked Genomes David LV Bauer, The Francis Crick Institute (GB)	
10:55-11:05	Deciphering and forecasting viral evolution via AI-augmented molecular evolution Jian Lu, Peking University (CN)	

WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE 2026

11:05-11:25

Coffee Break

Poster Hall

11:25-13:00

Scientific Session 1.2 Topic: Epidemiology and Surveillance

Chairs: Zhengli Shi, Guangzhou National Laboratory (CN)

Kei Sato, The University of Tokyo (JP)

Ying Fang, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (US) — Apology Sent

Grand Hall

11:25-11:50

Invited speaker talk

Coronaviruses: Past and present cross-species, zoonotic and “Oh Deer” Reverse zoonotic transmission

Linda Saif, The Ohio State University (US)

11:50-12:05

Co-circulation and Preferential Infection of Children by the Emerging Saltation Variant BA.3.2 Suggest a Transition Towards Endemicity

Stefan Pöhlmann, German Primate Center - Leibniz Institute for Primate Research (DE)

12:05-12:20

Neutralizing antibody profiles in different age cohorts reveal evidence of antigenic drift in human coronavirus 229E that is not seen with OC43 and NL63

Kanta Subbarao, Université Laval (CA)

12:20-12:35

Optimizing Global Genomic Surveillance for Early Detection of Emerging SARS-CoV-2 Variants

Wanying Sun, Centre for Immunology & Infection (CN)

12:35-12:50

PhyloRt: scalable deep-learning-based inference of time-varying transmission dynamics from outbreak phylogenies

Ruopeng Xie, University of Oxford (GB)

12:50-13:00

Surveillance, Characterisation and Organ Tropism of Coronaviruses in UK Wildlife

Ternenge Apaa, Animal & Plant Health Agency (GB)

WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE 2026

13:00-14:00

Lunch Time

Poster Hall

14:00-15:35

Scientific Session 1.3 Topic: Viral Replication

Chairs: Bruno Canard, CNRS - Aix Marseille University (FR)
Volker Thiel, Institute for Virology and Immunology (CH)

Grand Hall

14:00-14:25

Invited speaker talk

Machinery of RNA virus replication and transcription – New Target, New Mechanism, Leading New Inhibitor

Zihe Rao, Tsinghua University (CN)

14:25-14:40

Structural basis of mismatch recognition by a SARS-CoV-2 proofreading enzyme

Chang Liu, The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine (US)

14:40-14:55

Capturing the first translation and replication events: single-molecule imaging of early coronavirus infection

Martin Gonzalez Burgos, Institute of Virology and Immunology (CH)

14:55-15:10

The first foothold: the initiating steps in coronavirus replication visualized in real time and by 4i/smFISH analysis

Sypke van Terwisga, Utrecht University (NL)

15:10-15:25

A new model of coronavirus replication and transcription

Nuno Santos, The Francis Crick Institute (GB)

15:25-15:35

Perturbing MHV:nsp5 to unveil the role of proteolytic processing on viral RNA synthesis

Maximilian Erdmann, University of Liverpool (GB)

WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE 2026

15:35-15:55 Coffee Break

Poster Hall

15:55-17:55 Scientific Session 1.4 Topic: Virus Entry

Chairs: Yunlong Cao, Peking University (CN)
Kei Sato, The University of Tokyo (JP)

Grand Hall

15:55-16:20	Invited speaker talk Receptor diversification in merbecovirus evolution Huan Yan, Wuhan University (CN)
16:20-16:35	Intermediate hosts prime merbecovirus spike for human compatibility Michael Letko, Washington State University (US)
16:35-16:50	CEACAM6 is a newly discovered receptor for different alphacoronaviruses Giulia Gallo, The Pirbright Institute (GB)
16:50-17:05	Sialoglycan Binding in HKU1 Cell Entry: Not Such an Open-and-Shut Case Daniel Hurdiss, Utrecht University (NL)
17:05-17:15	The Omicron tropic shift from SARS-CoV-2 Arises from Variant Specific Exploitation of Distinct ACE2 Compositions Timothy Ison, Kirby Institute, UNSW (AU)
17:15-17:25	The SLC39A9-C1GALT1 Axis Promotes Coronavirus Infection by Coupling Viral Entry with Innate Immune Suppression Wentao Li, Huazhong Agricultural University (CN)
17:25-17:35	Dynamic binding to proteoglycans in airway epithelium drives SARS-CoV-2 evolution Bo Meng, University of Cambridge (GB)
17:35-17:45	A pH-driven receptor switch from ACE2 to NPC1 enables endosomal entry of SARS-CoV-2 Yonghui Zheng, University of Illinois Chicago (US)
17:45-17:55	Structural basis and regulation of sialic acid receptor recognition by infectious bronchitis virus Harry Libbey, Utrecht University (NL)

18:00-20:00 Cocktail Reception

Foyer