

# Postgraduate Online Learning Open Days 2025

## Cancer Biology and Precision Oncology PgCert, PgDip, MSc

Prof Lesley Stark Programme director

Dr Alessandra Livigni Teaching fellow



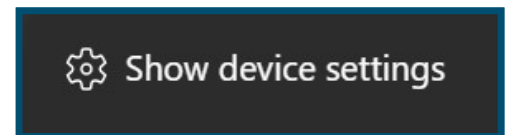
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# Audio check

- Can you hear the presenter speaking?
- Please type “no” in the Chat area if you cannot hear the presenter



- If you can't hear:
  - Check your settings by clicking on the three little dots on the options bar and then 'show device settings'. Here you can check and change your speakers.
  - Try signing out and signing back into the session
  - Don't worry, the session is being recorded

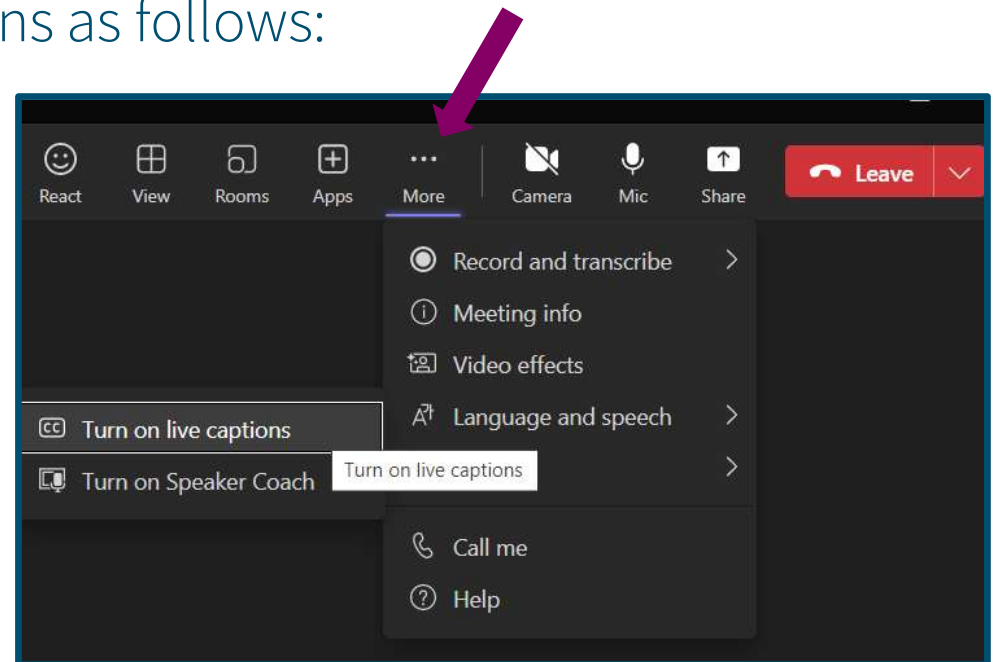


# Live captions

You can turn on automated live captions as follows:

- More > Language and speech > Turn on live captions

These are automated therefore won't be 100% accurate



# Recording



- Today's session is being recorded
- Any information that you provide during a session is optional and in doing so you give us consent to process this information
- If you don't want your question or name read out in public, you can email your question to [futurestudents@ed.ac.uk](mailto:futurestudents@ed.ac.uk)
- Please note - a few attendees' names may be visible in the recording, if it is important that your name not be visible in the recording, please exit the session and re-enter typing in a pseudonym for yourself
- The session will be stored by the University of Edinburgh and published on our website after the event on a non-indexed web page
- ***You will be emailed with a link to watch the session recording by the end of next week***



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# Programme aims



**Provide in depth understanding of the molecular basis of cancer**

**Provide the knowledge required to translate this understanding into new treatment protocols and diagnostic tools.**

# What the programme offers

## 01. Diverse teaching materials

- Podcasts
- Recorded lectures
- Thinglinks

## 02. Engagement and feedback

- Online meetings-course
- Cohort events
- Full access to members of teaching team

## 03. Research Skills

- Data analysis with R
- cBioportal/Protein atlas
- Metascape
- Public engagement
- Grant and report writing

## 04. Expert tutors

Courses taught by:

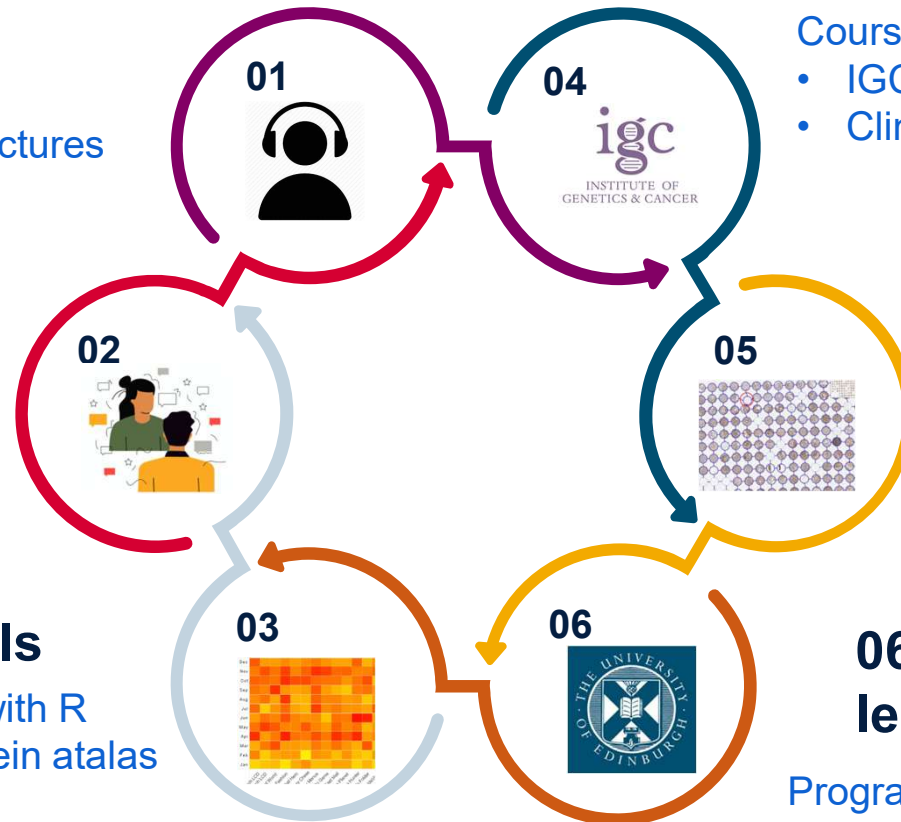
- IGC scientists
- Clinicians

## 05. Original research project

In final year, all students offered an original research project supervised by an IGC scientists

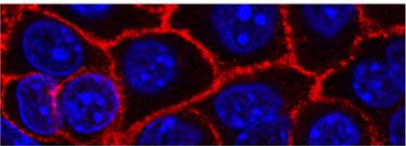
## 06. Become part of a learning community

Programme identity within the Edinburgh University online learning environment



# Programme Structure

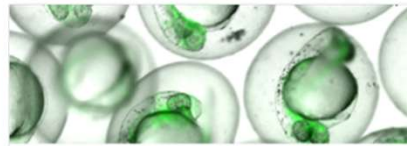
## Year 1: 5 compulsory courses



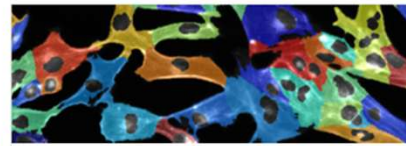
BIME111812024-5SS1SB1  
Molecular Biology of Cancer I: The hallmarks of cancer (2024-2025)[SB1]  
Open



BIME111822024-5SS1SEM1  
Precision Oncology I: Multi-omic approaches in oncology (2024-2025)[SEM1]  
Open



BIME111832024-5SS1SEM2  
Core Data Analysis and Presentation Skills in Cancer Research (2024-2025)[SEM2]  
Open



BIME111842024-5SS1SEM2  
Molecular Biology of Cancer II: Tumour host interactions (2024-2025)[SEM2]  
Open



BIME111852024-5SS1SB5plus  
Precision Oncology II: Cancer Drug Discovery and Clinical Application (2024-2025)[SB5+]  
Open

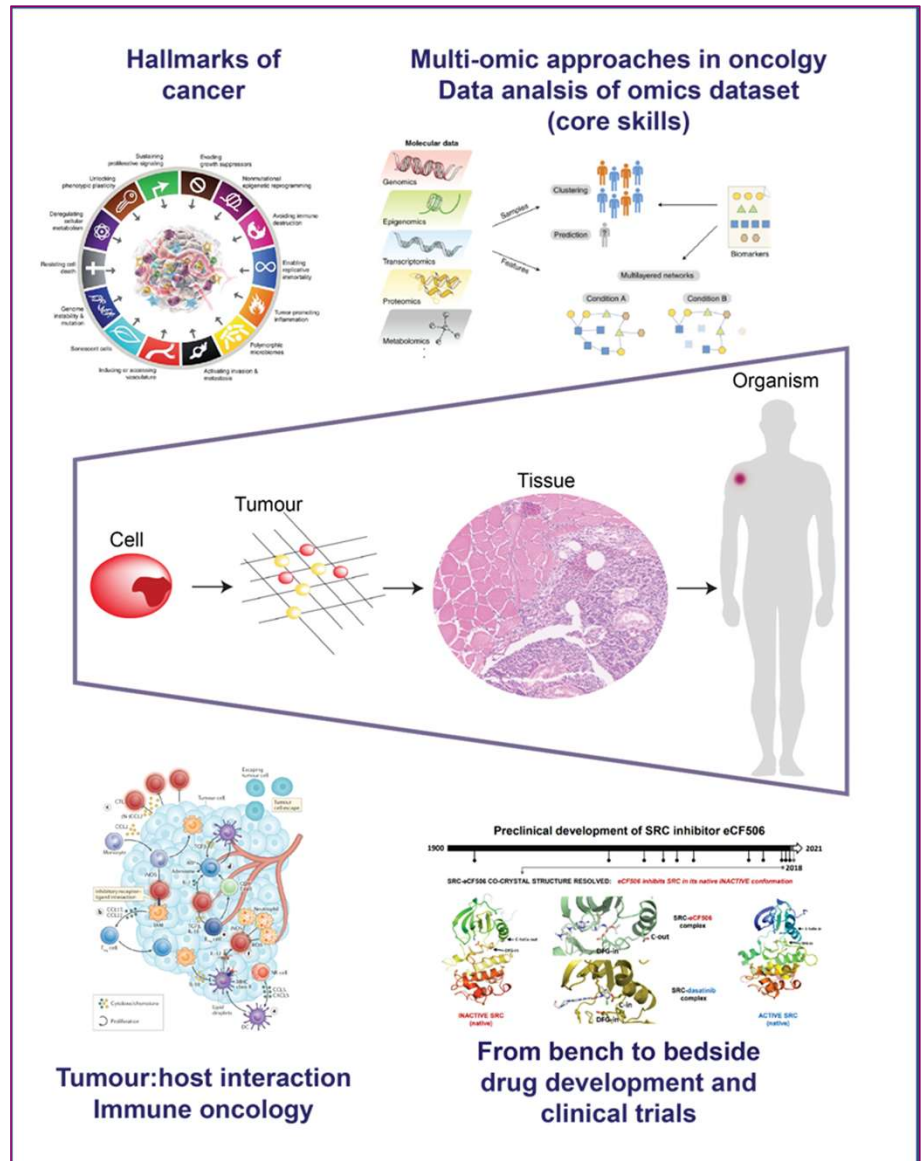
## Year 2: Chose 60 credits of electives from 10 and 20 credit courses

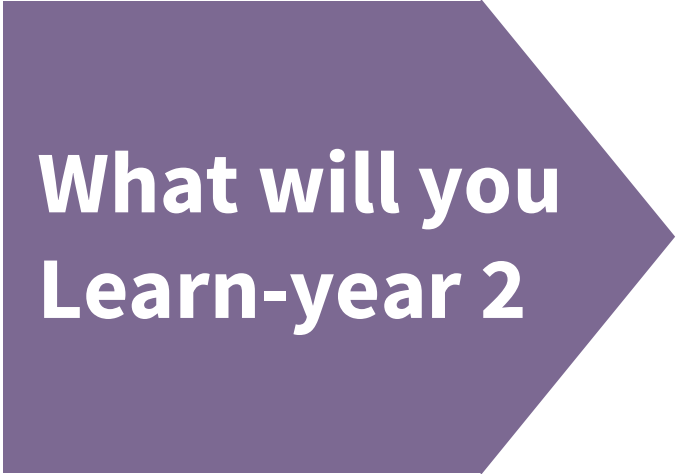
- Anatomy
- Fundamentals of cancer with focus on infectious causes
- Reproductive tract cancers
- Lifestyle Genes and cancer
- Cancer stem cells
- Comparative Oncology
- Radiobiology
- Cancer vaccine science
- Epigenetics and cancer
- Data analysis with R
- Science communication
- Molecular genetics of disease

## Year 3: Original research project and final dissertation



# What will you Learn-year 1





## What will you Learn-year 2

### CHOOSE ELECTIVES (60 credits):

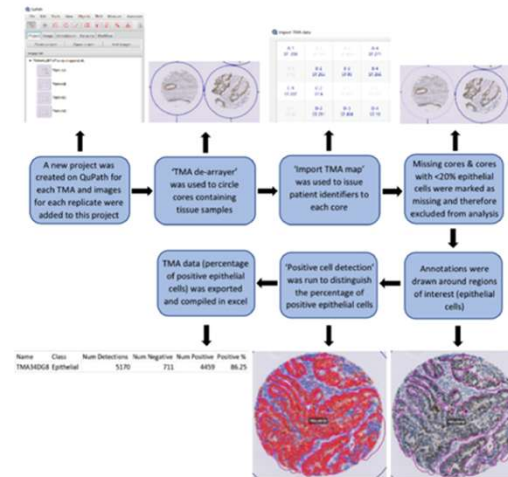
- Infectious causes of cancer
- Cancer vaccine science
- Cancer stem cells
- Reproductive tract cancers
- Epigenetics and cancer
- Lifestyle, genes and cancer
- Data analysis with R
- Comparative oncology
- Science communication
- Human anatomy
- Radiation biology (20 credits)
- Human genetic disease (20 credits)

# What will you Learn-year 3

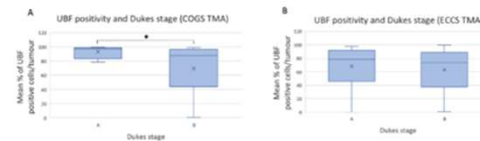
Tissue microarrays of colorectal  
tumours stained for UBF



Analysis using digital  
pathology software QuPath



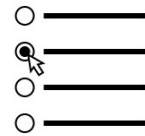
Use of R to analyse data



# Diverse content delivered by experts-scientists and clinicians



Reading material



Quizzes



Video



Interactive discussion boards



Podcasts



Reflective writing



Interactive tools

## **Varied assessment types- based on real world skills required for a cancer researcher**

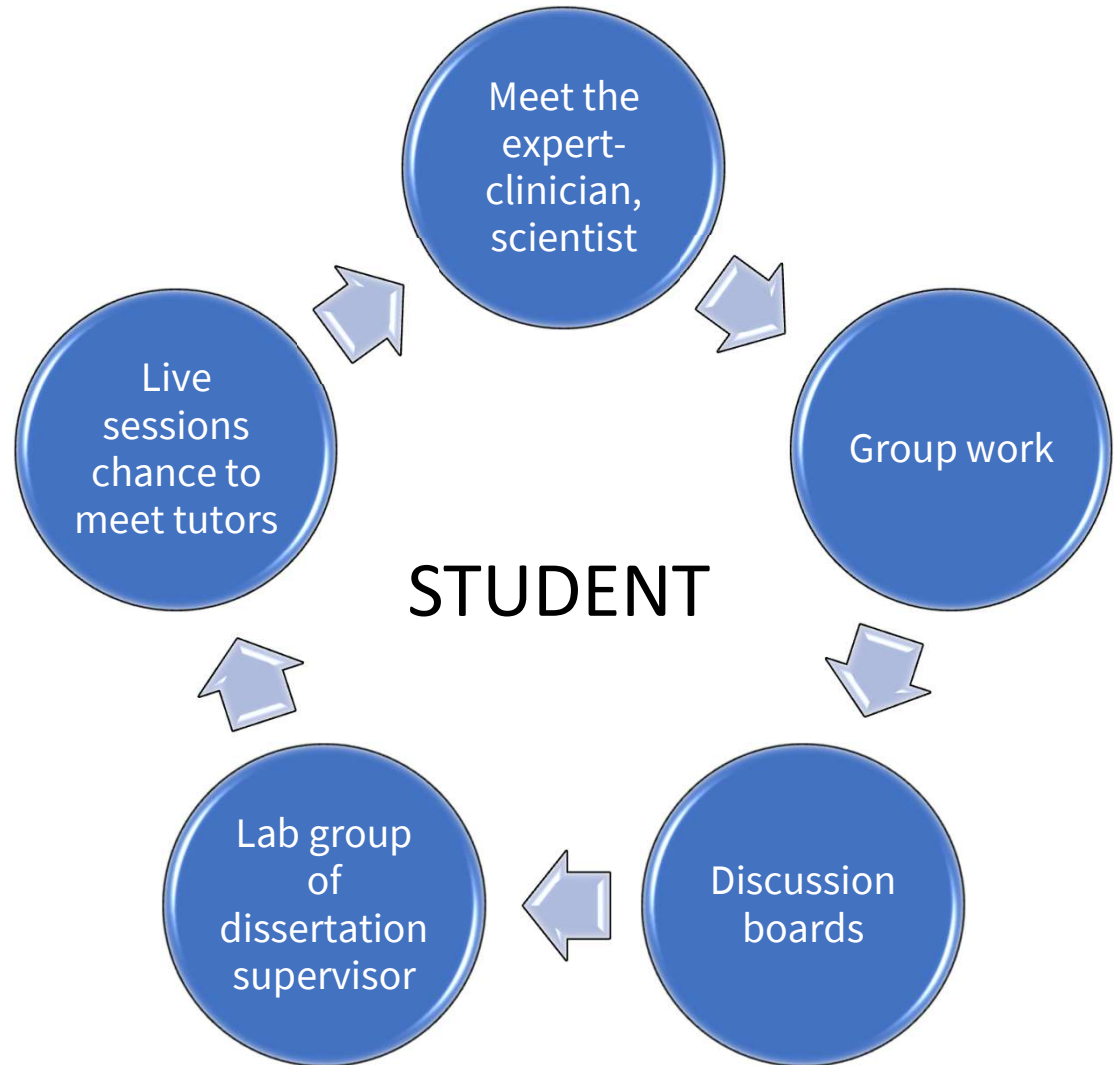
### **Assessments**

40% online  
60% written

- Poster presentation
- Grant proposal
- Patient newsletter
- PowerPoint presentation
- Analysis of data from public databases
- Impact case study
- Blog summarising key developments



# Student experience



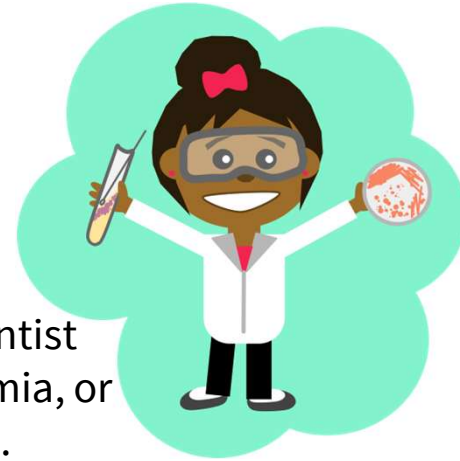
# Our students



Medical professional including  
Oncologist, Nurse, GP, and  
Junior hospital doctor



Medical Science Liaison  
(MSL) and scientists  
working in the  
pharmaceutical and  
biotechnology industries  
wishing to progress  
career.



Biomedical scientist  
working in academia, or  
a clinical lab.  
Steppingstone to PhD



Mathematicians, chemists,  
physicists, financial analysts  
wishing to cross disciplines

# What our students say

“ The Cancer Biology and Precision Oncology course has greatly supplemented my clinical training in enhancing my research skills, which is a valuable skillset for every healthcare professional. It allows learners to process a multidisciplinary skillset and knowledge required to design and conduct precision medicine research. The part-time online course also provides flexibility to full time clinicians like myself to learn at my own pace, and the course fully reflects and supports this. Lastly, the course has provided an enjoyable platform to learn from the experts, and to interact with my colleagues from different parts of the world. ”

– Juin  
Clinical Registrar, UK

“ I found the first year of the programme to be very pleasurable. The courses were very well organized. The professors did an amazing job in keeping the lectures very engaging and interesting from start to finish. I found myself looking forward to studying the next chapter, the next module and the next concept throughout the year. The CBPO podcasts were the best part. It was fascinating to hear research scientists and clinicians discussing how laboratory research is applied to the field of medicine and the treatment of patients.” ”

– Faizan  
Biomedical Scientist, Pakistan



Since day one, they have always been so helpful.

– Rachel  
Histopathologist, Singapore

“ I just finished year 1 and I could not be happier. Initially working full time while studying part time seemed quite daunting to me, but the course work was so well structured and there was such great support available from the course organisers and teaching staff that I felt immediately empowered to dive into the course. I really enjoyed the various learning formats and materials used, including podcasts, and also hearing from other students through group assignments and discussion boards. My favourite part of the course were the assessments – this sounds quite hard to believe, but the assessments were varied and creative, and allowed effective application of learning and I even had fun in the process! ”

– Jelena,  
Pharmaceutical industry training manager, UK



A blog discussing the programme and students' reflections:

<https://tinyurl.com/CBPOblog>

Listen to Rachel on Youtube: <https://tinyurl.com/CBPOTube>

# Why Edinburgh?

Top  
50

Consistently ranked in the top 50 universities in the world. 16th in the 2022 QS World University Rankings.

21<sup>st</sup>

Ranked 21st in the world for clinical, pre-clinical and health subjects (Times Higher World University Rankings 2021)

8,000

8,000 online students since 2005. One of the UK's leading universities for health online teaching

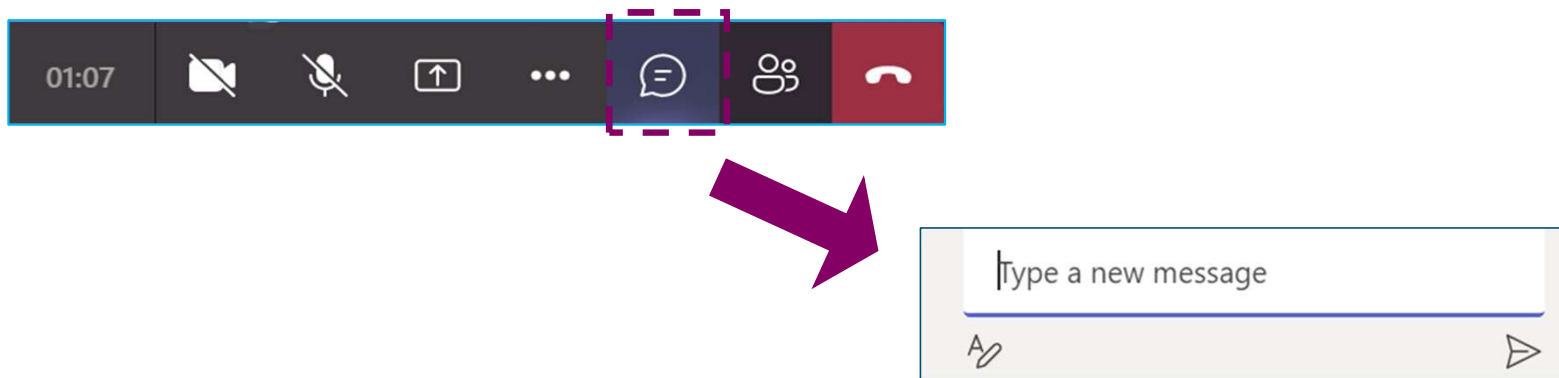


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# Asking questions

- Type your question into the Chat Area



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# Contact details for follow-up questions

If you have any questions in the future, please email:

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Programme deputy director

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Teaching fellow



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# JOIN US in September 2025 for this exciting programme

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Medical  
Research  
Council



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