



**APOC EDINBURGH 2026**  
**14<sup>th</sup> ADVANCED**  
**PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY COURSE**  
**Integrating Precision Medicine into Clinical Care**  
**18-22 MAY 2026**

**CONVENORS**

**Professor Simon Bailey, Newcastle Upon Tyne**  
**Professor Michael Sullivan, Melbourne**  
**Dr Rebecca Hill, Newcastle Upon Tyne**  
**Professor Alan Davidson, Cape Town**  
**Dr Fiona Herd, Aberdeen**

**18-22 May 2026**

**VENUE**

**YOTEL Edinburgh**  
**68-73 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 4NA**

**EARLY REGISTRATION (up to and including 8/12/25): £899**

**LATE REGISTRATION (after 8/12/25): £950**

**Applications via: <https://apoc.org.uk/apply>**

**Audrey McIntyre, APOC Administrator**

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**Email: [apoc.uk@outlook.com](mailto:apoc.uk@outlook.com)**

**Approved by the Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health (RCPCH)**  
**for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Credits**

# Advanced Paediatric Oncology Course (APOC 14) 18-22 MAY 2026

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Advanced Paediatric Oncology Course (APOC) is a 5-day course taught by an international faculty of Paediatric Oncologists and Scientists. Inspired by Dr Jon Pritchard over 25 years ago, APOC has sought to integrate new and emerging knowledge into the advanced care of children and young people with cancer.

In 2026 APOC14 will focus on understanding how the unique biology of childhood cancer informs the development of novel approaches to treatment, especially precision medicine, immunotherapy and targeted therapies. With each APOC course we also introduce the challenges faced by healthcare teams caring for children with cancer resource challenged we settings. This lecture-based program is reinforced by facilitated discussion and clinical case presentations.

### Aims of the course:

- Develop a framework for integrating molecular biology into clinical practice across a range of childhood tumours.
- Improve awareness of pre-clinical research approaches and clinical trial application within the field of paediatric oncology.
- Introduce the application of novel and emerging therapies into the treatment of childhood cancer.
- Develop a greater understanding of the challenges facing childhood cancer survivors including long- term toxicities and approaches to reducing these adverse effects.
- Introduce challenges for child cancer care in resource limited settings

## TARGET AUDIENCE

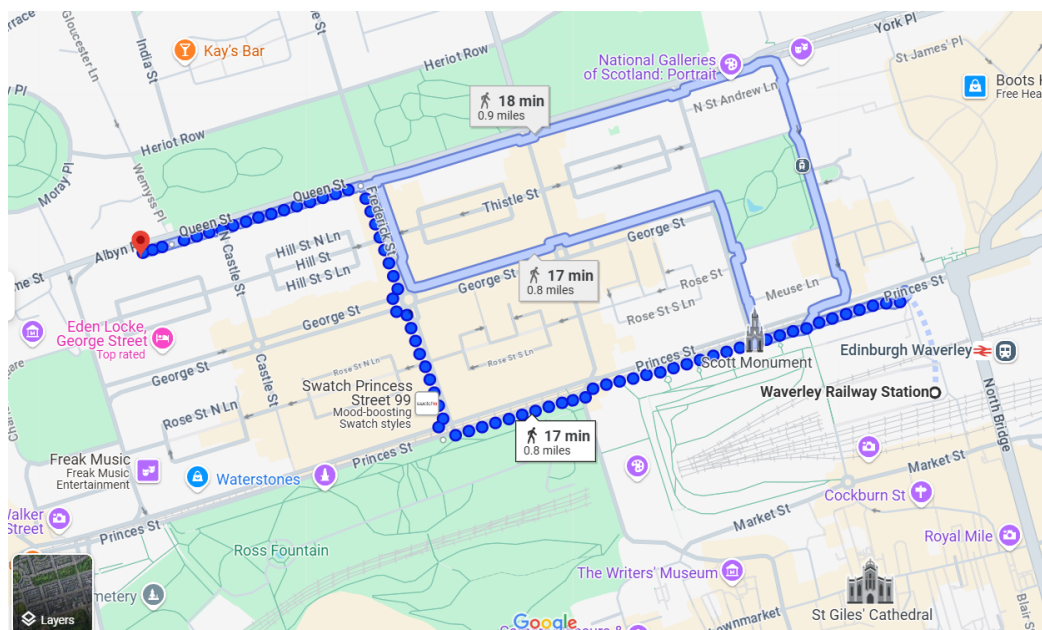
Paediatric Oncology Fellows, Paediatric Oncologists, Shared Care Paediatricians, Advance Nurse Practitioners, Clinical Nurse Specialists

## ENDORSEMENTS

Approved by the Royal College of Paediatrics & Child Health (RCPCH) for Continuing Professional Development Credits (CPD). The course is endorsed by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians for CPD and American Academy of Paediatrics (Haematology /Oncology).

**Venue: YOTEL Edinburgh, 68-73 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 4NA** <https://www.yotel.com/en>

YOTEL Edinburgh is centrally located at 68-73 Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 4NA. A 5-minute walk to Princes Street and a 17-minute walk from Waverley Station.



## Advanced Paediatric Oncology Course (APOC 14) 18-22 MAY 2026

### MONDAY 18 MAY

TIME	TITLE	Presenter/Chair
8:30	Welcome and Introduction to 14th Advanced Paediatric Oncology Course (APOC)	Professor Simon Bailey
<b>MOLECULAR HALLMARKS OF CANCER IN CHILDREN</b>		Chair: Professor Michael Sullivan
09:15	Genetics in Childhood Cancer: An Introduction	Professor Steve Clifford
10:15	<b>Break Tea/Coffee</b>	
10:30	Molecular Biology in Clinical Practice	Dr Rebecca Hill
11:30	Use of omics in design of clinical trials	Professor Steve Clifford
12:30	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>PRECISION MEDICINE IN CHILDHOOD CANCER (Part 1)</b>		Chair: Professor Simon Bailey
13:30	Precision Medicine – Benefits and Pitfalls	Professor Darren Hargrave
14:30	Car T cells – principles and practice	Dr Geoff Shenton
15:30	<b>Break Tea/Coffee</b>	
<b>PRECISION MEDICINE IN CHILDHOOD CANCER (Part 2)</b>		
15:45	Molecular Tumour Board: Case presentations and discussion 4 smaller groups	Dr Rebecca Hill, Professors Alan Davidson, Michael Sullivan, Simon Bailey
16:45	Day 1: Summary and Q&A	Professor Simon Bailey
17:00	<b>Close</b>	
17:00	Drinks & canapes, bar area, YOTEL Edinburgh	

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### TUESDAY 19 MAY

TIME	TITLE	Presenter/Chair
<b>CLINICAL TRIALS – EVOLUTION AND DESIGN</b>		Chair: Dr Rebecca Hill
<b>09:00</b>	Designing Contemporary Clinical Trials	Professor Simon Gates
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Break Tea/Coffee</b>	
<b>10:30</b>	Basics of Immunotherapy including targeted immunotherapy	Professor John Anderson
<b>11:30</b>	Wilms and Renal Tumours: current and emerging therapy	Professor Marry van den Heuvel-Eibrink
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>PRECISION MEDICINE IN CHILDHOOD CANCER (Part 3)</b>		Chair: Professor Simon Bailey
<b>13:30</b>	Brain Tumours: Biologically Informed Therapy	Professor Amar Gajjar
<b>14:30</b>	<b>Break Tea/Coffee</b>	
<b>14:45</b>	Emerging Therapy for Childhood Brain Tumours	Professor Amar Gajjar
<b>15:45</b>	Molecular Tumour Board: Case presentations and discussion 4 smaller groups	Drs Rebecca Hill, Professors Alan Davidson, Michael Sullivan, Simon Bailey
<b>16:45</b>	<b>Close</b>	

## Advanced Paediatric Oncology Course (APOC 14) 18-22 MAY 2026

### WEDNESDAY 20 MAY

TIME	TITLE	Presenter/Chair
<b>PRECISION MEDICINE IN CHILDHOOD CANCER (Part 4)</b>		Professor Michael Sullivan
<b>09:00</b>	Bone malignancies: the evolution of treatment and hopes for the future.	Dr Gail Halliday
<b>10:00</b>	Break Tea/Coffee	
<b>10:30</b>	Sarcomas: development of Rhabdomyosarcoma treatment and current controversies	Dr Helen Rees
<b>11:30</b>	Extracranial Germ Cell Tumours: biology and new clinical trials	Professor Matt Murray
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>RISK ADAPTED THERAPY (Part 1): LEUKAEMIA AND LYMPHOMA</b>		Chair: Dr Rebecca Hill
<b>13:30</b>	Molecular based treatment of ALL	Dr John Mopett
<b>14:30</b>	Non-Hodgkin lymphoma – the developing molecular landscape and its impact on novel therapies	Dr Simon Bomken
<b>15:30</b>	<b>Break Tea/Coffee</b>	
<b>15:45</b>	Neuroblastoma: biologically informed therapy, clinical trials and the future	Dr Fiona Herd
<b>16:45</b>	Clinical cases	Drs Rebecca Hill, Fiona Herd, Professors Michael Sullivan, Alan Davidson, Simon Bailey
<b>17:30</b>	<b>Close</b>	

## Advanced Paediatric Oncology Course (APOC 14) 18-22 MAY 2026

### THURSDAY 21 MAY

TIME	TITLE	Presenter/Chair
<b>RISK ADAPTED THERAPY (Part 2): SURVIVORSHIP</b>		Chair: Professor Simon Bailey
<b>09:00</b>	<b>John Pritchard Lecture:</b> Neurocognitive consequences of Paediatric Oncology Treatment	Dr Sarah Verity
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Break Tea/Coffee</b>	
<b>10:30</b>	Cardio-oncology: biological markers and cardio-protection	Dr Chris Plummer
<b>11:30</b>	Biological determinants of Survivorship	Dr Debbie Hicks
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>RISK ADAPTED THERAPY (Part 3)</b>		
<b>1:30</b>	Hepatoblastoma and ototoxicity	Professor Michael Sullivan
<b>14:30</b>	<b>Break Tea/Coffee</b>	
<b>GLOBAL ONCOLOGY</b>		Chair: Professor Michael Sullivan
<b>15:00</b>	Global Oncology: The African Experience	Professor Elizabeth Molyneux
<b>16:00</b>	Case reports of child cancer care in resource challenged countries.	Professors Molyneux, Alan Davidson, Simon Bailey, Michael Sullivan
<b>16.45</b>	Global Initiatives for Childhood Cancer	Professor Alan Davidson
<b>17:00</b>	<b>Close</b>	
<b>20:00</b>	<b>APOC Course Dinner Venue: Howies Waterloo Place, 29 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh EH1 3BQ</b> <a href="https://www.howies.uk.com/venues/howies-waterloo-place/">https://www.howies.uk.com/venues/howies-waterloo-place/</a>	



## Advanced Paediatric Oncology Course (APOC 14) 18-22 MAY 2026

### FRIDAY 22 MAY

TIME	TITLE	Presenter/Chair
<b>RISK ADAPTED THERAPY (Part 4)</b>		Chair: Dr Rebecca Hill
<b>09:00</b>	The future of early phase trials	Dr Quentin Campbell Hewson
<b>10:00</b>	<b>Break Tea/Coffee</b>	
<b>10:30</b>	How is biology going to influence practice in the future.	Professor Michael Sullivan
<b>11:30</b>	Final Cases highlighting precision medicine	Professor Michael Sullivan, Professor Simon Bailey, Dr Fiona Herd and Dr Rebecca Hill
<b>12:30</b>	<b>APOC Close and Lunch</b>	<b>Professor Simon Bailey</b>

### APOC Convenors and Faculty Edinburgh 18-22 MAY 2026

<b>CONVENORS</b>		
Professor Simon Bailey	Professor of Paediatric Neuro-Oncology and Consultant Paediatric Oncologist, Sir James Spence Institute of Child Health Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne	Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Professor Alan Davidson	Professor of Paediatric Haematology and Oncology, Red Cross Children's Hospital, and Department of Paediatrics, University of Cape Town	Cape Town, South Africa
Dr Fiona Herd	Consultant Paediatric Oncologist Paediatric Oncology Service, Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital, NHS Grampian	Aberdeen, UK
Dr Rebecca Hill	MRC Clinician Scientist & Honorary Consultant in Paediatric Oncology, Translational and Clinical Research Institute, Newcastle University	Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Professor Michael Sullivan	Paediatric Oncologist/Neuro-Oncologist, Royal Children's Hospital Professor of Paediatric Oncology University of Melbourne	Melbourne, Australia
<b>FACULTY</b>		
Professor John Anderson	Professor of Experimental Paediatric Oncology, UCL London and Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital	London, UK
Dr Simon Bomken	MRC Clinician Scientist & Honorary Consultant in Paediatric Oncology	Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Dr Quentin Campbell Hewson	Consultant in Paediatric Oncology	Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Professor Steve Clifford	Professor of Molecular Paediatric Oncology and Director, Newcastle University Centre for Cancer	Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Professor Simon Gates	Professor of Biostatistics and Clinical Trials	Birmingham, UK
Professor Amar Gajjar	Co-Chair, Department of Oncology; Director, Neuro-Oncology Division, St Jude Children's Research Hospital	Memphis, USA
Dr Gail Halliday	Consultant Paediatric Oncologist	Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Professor Darren Hargrave	Consultant Paediatric Oncologist, UCL London and Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital	London, UK
Professor Marry van den Heuvel-Eibrink	Pediatric Oncologist, Princess Maxima Center for Pediatric Oncology/Hematology	Utrecht, The Netherlands
Dr Debbie Hicks	Research Fellow of Molecular Cancer Survivorship, Newcastle University Centre for Cancer	Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Professor Elizabeth Molyneux	Professor of Paediatrics	Blantyre, Malawi, Africa and UK
Dr John Moppett	Consultant Paediatric Haematologist	Bristol, UK

Professor Matthew Murray	Professor of Cellular and Molecular Pathology and Honorary Consultant Paediatric Oncologist	Cambridge, UK
Dr Chris Plummer	Consultant Cardiologist	Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Dr Helen Rees	Consultant Paediatric Oncologist	Bristol, UK
Dr Geoff Shenton	Consultant Paediatric Haematologist/ Associate Clinical Lecturer	Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Dr Sarah Verity	Consultant Neurology Psychologist	Newcastle upon Tyne, UK