



2026 WDC Summit: *The New Patient: Before symptoms, after diagnosis*
Francis Crick Institute, London, United Kingdom
Tuesday 20 October 2026
In person

Outline Agenda

Time	Session	
08:15		Registration and coffee
09:00		Welcome and opening remarks
09:30	Plenary	Science Moves First: Are Treatment and Diagnostics Shifting the Meaning of Dementia? <i>How emerging treatments and diagnostics are moving Alzheimer's identification earlier, in the future creating a new patient experience and reshaping definitions of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.</i>
10:30	Coffee break	
11:00	Parallel Session	From Late Diagnosis to Early Detection: Alzheimer's in Transition <i>As diagnosis shifts earlier in the disease course, this session will explore the scientific, ethical, and policy implications of identifying Alzheimer's before clinical onset.</i>
11:00	Parallel Session	Can Brain Health Become the Next Public Health Movement? <i>This session will examine whether brain health is the right framework to drive population-level progress on risk reduction and prevention. It will consider how well the concept translates scientific evidence into action.</i>
11:00	Parallel Session	Will Demand Outpace Capacity? Lessons from the First Wave of Treatment <i>What early implementation reveals about capacity, bottlenecks, and real-world system behaviour.</i>
12:00	Parallel Session	Scaling and Integrating Biomarker and Digital Testing <i>How to validate, finance, and scale biomarkers and digital diagnostics across systems in high and low resource settings.</i>
12:00	Parallel Session	If Early Diagnosis Becomes the New Normal, What Does Prevention Become? <i>This session will explore what secondary prevention looks like when individuals are identified as at risk before symptoms develop or in early stages of the disease.</i>
12:00	Parallel Session	What Can Technology Replace in the Dementia Pathway? <i>As digital biomarkers, remote monitoring, and AI- support expand, the question is no longer whether technology will become part of dementia</i>



		<i>care — but where it belongs. This session will examine opportunities, risks and questions about trust.</i>
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Parallel Session	Making Treatment Real: Infrastructure, Capacity and System Readiness <i>What is required to deliver disease-modifying therapies at scale.</i>
14:00	Parallel Session	Integrating Brain Health into Health Systems <i>This session will examine how evidence-based brain health interventions can be developed and delivered in both high- and low-resource settings. It will consider what evidence is needed to justify adoption, how interventions can be adapted, and models of delivery.</i>
14:00	Parallel Session	Data Across the Disease Course <i>With longer periods between early diagnosis and symptoms, continuous monitoring becomes central to care. This session will examine how AI and data streams — from digital cognitive testing to remote physiological measures — can support long-term follow-up, detect meaningful change, and guide decisions about intervention.</i>
15:00		Coffee break
15:30	Plenary	Can Health Systems Keep Up with Scientific Progress? <i>Whether systems can adapt fast enough to match the pace of scientific progress.</i>
17:00		Drinks reception