



Conference on

Population Genomic Screening - Exploring its Complexities

**Wellcome Trust Lecture Hall
The Royal Society**

6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

on

Thursday 23 October, 2025

Admission is **FREE**, but strictly by ticket, available from:

www.eventbrite.co.uk

or the General Secretary

Adelphi Genetics Forum

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Speakers and Chairs

Philip Ball PhD	Science writer
Felicity Boardman PhD	Professor in Department of Health Sciences at University of Warwick Medical School
Dian Donnai CBE FRCP FRCOG FMedSci	Emerita Professor of Medical Genetics, Manchester Centre for Genomic Medicine, University of Manchester and Vice President Adelphi Genetics Forum
Aroon Hingorani FMedSci FRCP BA PhD MBBS	Chair of Genetic Epidemiology at UCL Institute of Cardiovascular Science
Rosemary Ekong BSc MSc PhD	Honorary Senior Research Fellow, Genetics, Evolution and Environment at University College London and Vice President Adelphi Genetics Forum
Richard Houlston FMedSci FRS FRCP FRCPath MD PhD	Professor in Cancer Genomics and Head of Genetics and Epidemiology at the Institute of Cancer Research
David Hunter FMedSci AC MBBS MPH ScD	Richard Doll Professor of Epidemiology & Medicine, Director Translational Epidemiology Unit Nuffield Department of Population Health, Oxford
Anneke Lucassen DPhil(Oxon) FRCP FRCGP(Hon)	Professor of Genomic Medicine and Director of the Centre for Personalised Medicine, University of Oxford and Trustee Adelphi Genetics Forum
Margaret McCartney FRSE MBChB MRCGP PhD	Senior Clinical Lecturer in General Practice at University of St Andrews and practising GP
Diane B Paul BA PhD	Emerita Professor University of Massachusetts Boston and Research Associate, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University
Gregory Radick BA MPhil PhD	Professor of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Leeds and Vice President Adelphi Genetics Forum
Nicholas Wood PhD FRCP FMedSci	Professor of Clinical Neurogenetics, Institute of Neurology, University College London and President of Adelphi Genetics Forum

Conference organisers:

Dian Donnai, Rosemary Ekong, Shirley Hodgson, Anneke Lucassen, Betty Nixon, Andrew Read, Gregory Radick, Veronica van Heyningen and Nicholas Wood

Population Genomic Screening - Exploring its Complexities

09 55 - 10 00 **Welcome: Nicholas Wood, President of Adelphi Genetics Forum**

10 00 - 10 40 **Chair and Introduction: Rosemary Ekong
Richard Houlston**
Overview of population screening programmes

10 40 - 11 10 **Coffee**

11 10 - 11 50 **Chair: Gregory Radick
Diane B Paul**
A historical perspective on the realities of newborn screening

11 50 - 12 30 **Felicity Boardman**
Ethical considerations in screening programmes

12 30 - 13.10 **David Hunter**
The clinical utility of common genetic variation

13 10 - 14 10 **Lunch**

14 10 - 14 50 **Chair: Dian Donnai
Aroon Hingorani**
Polygenic risk scores in population screening and disease prediction

14 50 - 15 30 **Philip Ball**
Challenges of communicating the complexities of genomic data

15 30 - 16 00 **Tea**

16 00 - 17 00 **Chair: Nicholas Wood
Adelphi Lecture
Margaret McCartney**
Challenges of population screening

Presentation of Adelphi Prize by Nicholas Wood

Adelphi Genetics Forum

In 2021, we selected the name Adelphi Genetics Forum to replace the Galton Institute.

The Galton Institute was named after Sir Francis Galton who was a hugely important scientist working in the 19th and early 20th centuries. He was one of the founding fathers of the science of genetics as well as making foundational contributions to other fields, including statistics, meteorology and psychology. However, some of Galton's views had darker implications: he held beliefs about race and social class which might have been acceptable then but are certainly not now. The Adelphi Genetics Forum completely rejects his and all other eugenic and racist ideas. Furthermore, we have never benefitted financially from Francis Galton.

The full name *Adelphi Genetics Forum: Exploring Heredity and Society* was chosen by our Trustees. The literal translation of the Greek 'Adelphi' is 'brothers', but, as well as meaning brother or sibling, it means fraternity, with no gender implication, and friends with mutual respect.

The Adelphi Genetics Forum is active in science communication, education and fostering debate about the role of genetics in medicine and society. In addition to its Annual Conference at the Royal Society it holds a biennial Teachers Conference in Manchester where Sixth Form teachers can learn about advances in genetics and discuss societal aspects with experts in their fields. The Forum also supports science and society with biannual small grants to conferences and workshops organised by groups of scientists, sociologists, ethicists etc in their specialist fields. In 2022 we advertised a PhD scholarship currently held by a student at UCL. Over the years the Forum has published booklets and other literature and these, along with videos of previous conferences can be accessed on our website www.adelphigenetics.org