

# International ME Conference Week 2026

*20 Years of Investing in ME Research to Discover ME:  
In Pursuit of the Mechanisms and Treatment Strategies  
for Myalgic Encephalomyelitis*

**25-29 May 2026**

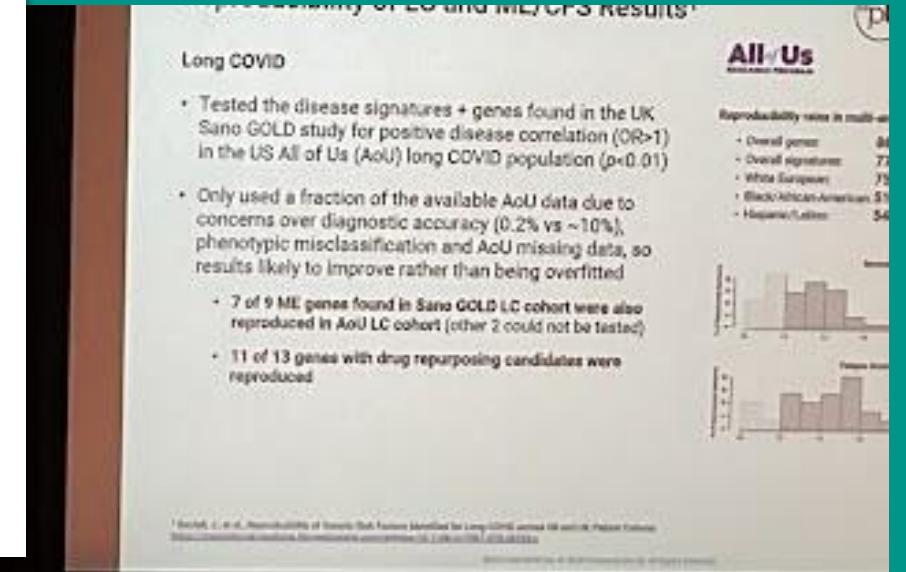


InvestinMeresearch

[investinme.org/meconferenceweek2026](http://investinme.org/meconferenceweek2026)

## ■ International ME Conference Week 2026 – At a Glance

■ Dates	25–29 May 2026
■ Format	In person meetings
■ Programme Highlights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Young EMERG Workshop – 25–26 May</li><li>- Biomedical Research into ME Colloquium (BRMEC15) – 27–29 May</li><li>- Clinicians' Conference (IIMEC18) – 29 May</li></ul>
■ Coming Soon	Full programme, speakers, and registration details will be released on the Conference Week webpages.
■ Stay Updated	Bookmark the site or sign up for alerts from Invest in ME Research.



## Celebrating 20 Years of Investing in ME Research

Since its forming as a UK charity in 2006, Invest in ME Research (formerly Invest in ME) has supported critical biomedical research into Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME).

In 2026, we celebrate 20 years of our work and especially that of our supporters, work that includes funding research projects, organising conferences, and relentlessly advocating for better clinical care for those affected by ME.

Our commitment has been to maintain a focus on scientific progress, with the ultimate aim of improving the diagnosis, treatment, and care of people with ME.

‘20 Years of Investing in ME Research to Discover ME’, reflects our continued focus on uncovering the mechanisms behind ME and advancing the search for effective treatment strategies.

## *20 Years of Advancing Research into ME: Turning Ambition into Action*



Dear Friends and Supporters,

In 2026, we mark 20 years since the establishment of Invest in ME Research. Over the last two decades, we have worked to support biomedical research into Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME), raise awareness of its impact, and advocate for better recognition and care for those affected by the condition.

The theme of this year's International ME Conference Week – '**20 Years of Investing in ME Research to Discover ME: In Pursuit of the Mechanisms and Treatment**

**Strategies for Myalgic Encephalomyelitis**' – reflects our ongoing commitment to advancing the scientific understanding of ME and supporting new ventures to understand and cure this disease. We continue to support research that aims to uncover the mechanisms of ME and improve treatment strategies for the condition.

Our objectives, reflected in our name - **#InvestinMResearch** - is to continue to energise biomedical research and sustain and augment these foundations for the future. We look forward to bringing together researchers and clinicians during the conference to continue this important work and forge new collaborations in our quest to resolve this debilitating condition and give patients and their families their lives back.

Welcome, and thank you for your continued support.

Kathleen McCall Chairman, Invest in ME Research

## Chairman's Message



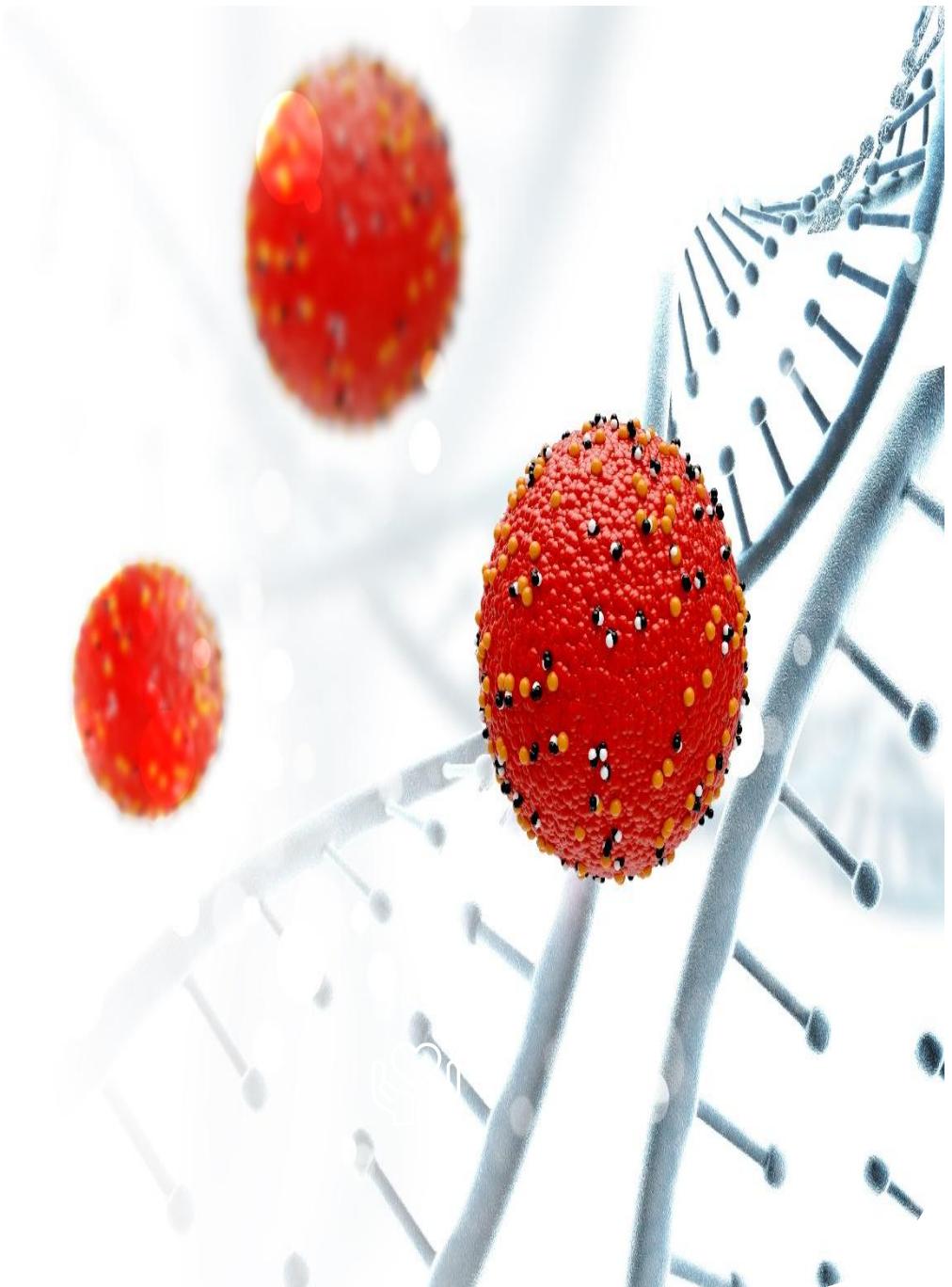
**Discover ME**  
**International ME**  
**Conference Week**  
**2026**  
**25 - 29 May 2026**

## About Myalgic Encephalomyelitis

Myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME, sometimes referred to ME/CFS) is a severe systemic, acquired illness classified by the World Health Organization (WHO) under ICD-11 Code: 8.E49 (previously ICD-10 G93.3). In the UK ME is estimated to be twice as common as MS and three times more prevalent than HIV/AIDS, with clear clinical symptoms which manifest predominantly based on neurological, immunological and endocrinological dysfunction.

While the pathogenesis is suggested to be multi-factorial, the hypothesis of initiation by a viral infection has been prominent. A wide range of viruses and other infectious agents, such as Epstein-Barr Virus, Human Herpes virus-6 and 7, Enterovirus, Cytomegalovirus, Lentivirus, Retroviruses, Chlamydia and Mycoplasma have been investigated.

Before acquiring the illness most patients were healthy, leading full and active lifestyles. ME most frequently follows an acute prodromal infection, varying from upper respiratory infections, bronchitis or sinusitis, or gastroenteritis, or an acute “flu-like” illness.



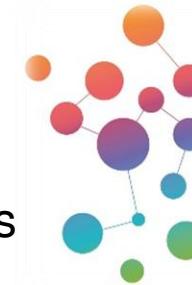
# Young EMERG Workshop (25–26 May 2026)

**Audience:** Early-career researchers

**Overview:** The Young EMERG International ME Workshop for early-career researchers will take place on 25–26 May 2026 at the Wellcome Genome Campus near Cambridge, UK. Founded by Invest in ME Research and linked to the European ME Research Group (EMERG), Young EMERG provides emerging researchers a platform to present work, engage with experts, and receive mentorship. The workshop encourages collaboration, fosters innovation, and builds the skills and connections needed to advance ME research.

As part of International ME Conference Week, it brings together young international scientists and students working on, or interested in, ME and long COVID research. The workshop is a unique networking opportunity for early-career researchers seeking collaboration and knowledge sharing.

[Register Now](#) | [Submit Abstract](#) | [Learn More](#)



young  
**EMERG**

A future for  
research into ME



# 27 – 29 May 2026



[Register Now](#) | [Learn More](#)

**Audience:** Researchers and clinicians

# BRMEC15

**Overview:** BRMEC15 is a key event during International ME Conference Week 2026, bringing together researchers and clinicians to discuss the latest advances in ME research, highlight emerging findings, and foster collaboration.

With a long history of open scientific discussion, BRMEC15 emphasises understanding the biological mechanisms of ME and improving clinical management. The theme for 2026, "Integrating Systems Biology and Clinical Research," explores ME's complexities from a systems biology perspective, including acute and chronic infections and co-infections. The conference features collaborative sessions covering Chronic Infection, Nervous System and Neuroinflammation, Immune System, Metabolism, Epigenomes and Transcriptomes, Physiology, and Other Non-Infectious Trauma, providing a platform for knowledge exchange and advancing global understanding of ME.

# 29 May 2026

## #IIMEC18

**Audience:** Clinicians and healthcare professionals

**Overview:** IIMEC18, the Clinicians Day, takes place on 29 May 2026 as part of BRMEC15. It provides clinicians with the latest insights into ME research, best clinical practices, and emerging treatment options.

The day features expert presentations and discussions on current challenges in diagnosing and treating ME.

IIMEC18 is a vital opportunity to enhance clinical understanding and improve care for those living with ME.



**20 YEARS OF INVESTING IN ME RESEARCH**

# International ME Conference Week 2026



We invite sponsors to support our mission to advance ME research and host essential events like the International ME Conference Week 2026.

Your sponsorship will:

- Facilitate collaboration among researchers, clinicians, and patients.
- Support ongoing advocacy for better recognition and care for people affected by ME.
- Directly contribute to advancing research, improving clinical practice, and raising awareness of ME.

We welcome discussions on partnership opportunities tailored to your organization. Join us in sustaining and growing these vital meetings.

Contact: [info@investinme.org](mailto:info@investinme.org)

[www.investinme.org](http://www.investinme.org)



# Invest in ME Research

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