


RARE DISEASE RESEARCH UK

3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

16 April, 2026 (9.30 - 16.30)

 The Birmingham Conference and Events Centre, B5 4EW

This year's conference theme, **The Power of Collaboration**, highlights how working together drives progress in rare disease research.

We'll showcase key achievements from across the platform and create space for focused, honest discussions around the challenges ahead—looking at how strong partnerships and shared expertise can turn ideas into real, impactful solutions.

We will also celebrate emerging talent with the announcement of the winners of this year's two prestigious awards: the **Early Career Researcher Award in PPIE** and the **Early Career Rare Disease Researcher Award**. Hear directly from these researchers about their projects and the difference their work is making in the rare disease community.


Programme Schedule

9:00 - 9:30	Arrival & Registration
9:30 - 9:45	Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:45 - 10.45	Shaping the Future Together: <i>Policy, Investment and Patient Voice in Rare Disease</i>
10:45 - 11:15	Break, Networking and Poster Showcase
11:15 - 12:15	Good Practice in Rare Disease PPIE

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12:15 - 13:00	Early Career Rare Disease Researcher Award: <i>Showcasing the Next Generation</i>
13:00 - 14:00	Networking Lunch
14:00 - 14:15	Early Career Researcher Award in PPIE: <i>Recognising outstanding early career researchers who are advancing meaningful patient and public involvement and engagement in rare disease research.</i>
14:15 - 15:30	Using Data in Regulatory Frameworks and Pathways for Rare Disease
15:30 - 15:40	Break & Networking
15:40 - 16:20	Innovation and the future for rare disease research
16:20 - 16:30	Reflection & close