

ARC 2015 was a 4-day international research conference for academics and industry scientists interested in basic and translational research in the ataxias. It was hosted by <u>Ataxia UK</u>, <u>Ataxia Ireland</u>, US-based <u>FARA</u> (Friedreichâ€<sup>TM</sup>s Ataxia Research Alliance) and Italy's GoFAR. The conference included the following sessions, to cover a wide range of progressive ataxias, including Friedreichâ€<sup>TM</sup>s ataxia and the spinocerebellar ataxias:

- Session 1: New genes and developments in diagnosis of the ataxias
- Session 2: Genetic and molecular mechanisms of the ataxias
- Session 3: Cellular and animal models of the ataxias
- Session 4: Cellular and systemic pathways
- Session 5: Drug discovery and emerging therapeutic strategies
- Session 6: Biomarkers and functional measures
- Session 7: Clinical trials and trial design

## Scientific Steering Committee:

Paola Giunti, Barry Hunt, Michele Lufino, Giovanni Manfredi, Massimo Pandolfo, HélÃ"ne Puccio, Roberto Testi, Rob Wilson and representatives from Ataxia UK (Julie Greenfield), FARA (Jen Farmer) and GoFAR (Mina Ruggeri).

Conference Planning Committee:

Ataxia UK, Ataxia Ireland, FARA and GoFAR.

## 2015 IARC a resounding success

## **About ARC-2015**

The International Ataxia Research Conference 2015 took place in Windsor, England on the 25th-28th of March. FARA was able to partner with International Ataxia Research Organizations to cohost what was the largest ataxia research conference. It was hailed as a great success for the advancement of Ataxia research with new collaborations being formed and ground breaking research being presented. Delegates arrived from all over the world to discuss the latest research in the Ataxias, and around 340 people attended in total. We would like to thank everyone who attended the conference and we hope that it inspired you to keep up the great work!

<u>View the abstract Book</u> or <u>View the Delegate List</u>

The research presented at the IARC 2015 was conducted all over the world, as illustrated on this map:



Here are a few pictures from the conference:
- Poster and oral presentations





- Kyle Bryant's standing ovation after his inspirational talk



"I would like to say thank you to the all of the work the ARC Committee has put into making the conference run without a hitch! It was a truly rewarding experience for me as a graduate student to be welcomed into such a wonderful community of patients, clinicians and researchers all working together to cure the ataxias." - IARC 2015 Conference Attendee

The conference was closed by Clodagh Clerkin, who read her poem about what it's like to live with ataxia and the hope that the research conference has brought her, <u>click here</u> to read it.

Many thanks to the Scientific Steering Committee:

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