M1: Okay, thank you for returning so promptly. Welcome to the third session of our annual conference. This of course, is of pretty primary importance because the impact of UK Biobank on health outcomes is ultimately what is going to represent success or failure to us. We've seen an awful lot of success already today and I think we'll see some more in the next two sessions. I think the success of UK Biobank is doubly important because, due to the care and attention to detail and sheer perseverance of the UK Biobank team, I think we are on the way to slaying a UK shibboleth about the fact that using people's health records for research purposes and to understand better what will improve their health outcomes is somehow the work of Satan. Whilst we may congratulate ourselves on having an awful lot of wonderful rich data in the National Health Service, gaining access to it remains unnecessarily problematic.

I think the success of UK Biobank is ultimately going to be vitally important to explaining to the UK public just why they have nothing to fear from allowing their health data to be used in the right way with the right controls by appropriately managed people to do important medical research. So congratulations to UK Biobank for leading the charge in that very difficult area. The other thing that to me characterises UK Biobank has always been planning. Sir Rory reminded us this morning of the period between 2003 and the formal establishment of UK Biobank and the launch in 2006, but of course, a lot of planning went into the establishment phase for the three or four years before even that. So we are coming up to a 20 year timepoint for UK Biobank and when I look back, I think that that prolonged period of analysis and reflection before the start meant that UK Biobank avoided a lot of pitfalls that it otherwise might have stumbled into.

So planning is vitally important and we're going to hear in the next session about some of the things that UK Biobank is currently having to wrestle with. I describe them as the challenges of success. So to give you one example, it is not going to be possible for you all to download the whole genome sequences of 300,000 people, because that will require more electrons than there are in the universe and so, already UK Biobank is starting to think about the different way that the research community can access that type of data and that may be much more about you coming into a Biobank resource, rather than the Biobank resource coming out to you and I think Mark is going to give us a little flavour on the thinking of that later. So let's kick off and our first speaker is Robin Flaig who is going to tell us about some of the follow up studies in Biobank and you've seen this morning how important a component of the overall programme those are. So Robin…

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