

Virology Next 2026 Conference

Scientific Programme

1st and 2nd October 2026

Campus Flemingsberg, Jan-Åke Gustafsson Auditorium, Neo building

Day 1

TIME	SESSION / SPEAKER	TOPIC
08:30–09:00	REGISTRATION	
09:00–09:15	Opening Remarks Soham Gupta & Iva Filipovic	
09:15–10:00	KEYNOTE Adolfo García-Sastre <i>Icahn School of Medicine</i>	New determinants of host tropism of SARS-CoV-2 and influenza viruses
10:00–10:30 Coffee break		
SESSION 1 · VIRUS ENTRY AND TROPISM		
10:30–11:00	INVITED TALK Stefan Pöhlmann <i>German Primate Center</i>	Virus entry / host-cell factors
11:00–11:30	INVITED TALK Debby van Riel <i>Erasmus MC</i>	Neuropathogenesis of emerging viruses: influenza A viruses and SARS-CoV-2
11:30–11:45	SELECTED TALK Meaghan Flagg <i>Umeå University</i>	Induction of Strong Innate Immune Response in Human Alveolar Epithelium is Correlated with Pathogenicity of Avian Influenza Viruses.
11:45–12:00	SELECTED TALK Akhee Sabiha Jahan <i>Statens Serum institut</i>	DNA Vaccination with Inferred Ancestral Antigens: A New Strategy Against Evolving Swine Influenza Viruses
12:00–13:00 Lunch		
SESSION 2 · HOST-VIRUS INTERACTION		
13:00–13:30	INVITED TALK Nerea Irigoyen <i>Cambridge University</i>	What can ribosome profiling teach us about Zika virus?
13:30–14:00	INVITED TALK Susana Guerra <i>Universidad Autónoma de Madrid</i>	ISG15-mediated antiviral restriction of emerging MPXV strains
14:00–14:15	SELECTED TALK Ana Cindrić <i>Genos d.o.o.</i>	Immunoglobulin G glycosylation as a modulator of antiviral immunity: from acute respiratory virus infection to maternal and infant RSV immunisation.
14:15–14:30	SELECTED TALK Mariano A Molina <i>Karolinska Institutet</i>	Multimomics profiling reveals distinct cervicovaginal states across high-risk HPV infections.
14:30–15:00 Coffee break		

TIME	SESSION / SPEAKER	TOPIC
SESSION 3 · ANTIVIRALS, ANTIBODIES AND VACCINES		
15:00–15:30	INVITED TALK Isabelle Imbert <i>Aix Marseille Université</i>	Deciphering molecular replication in RNA viruses: paving the way for new antiviral strategies
15:30–16:00	INVITED TALK Leo Hanke <i>Karolinska Institutet</i>	Structural basis of henipavirus fusion neutralization
16:00–16:30	INVITED TALK Jayanta Bhattacharya <i>THSTI</i>	Monoclonal antibodies as rapid medical countermeasures for priority pathogens
16:30–16:45	SELECTED TALK Lara Sweetapple <i>Karolinska Institutet</i>	A Pre-GMP mRNA–LNP Platform to Accelerate Vaccine Development in the Nordics.
16:45–17:00	SELECTED TALK Britta Wahren <i>Karolinska Institutet</i>	Therapeutic vaccine regimens result in reduction of viral reservoir in pediatric HIV
17:00–20:00 Poster session + mingle + dinner		

Day 2

TIME	SESSION / SPEAKER	TOPIC
09:00–09:45	Inauguration of CSIB	
09:45 – 10:30	SPECIAL KEYNOTE Maria Van Kerkhove <i>WHO</i>	Global pandemic preparedness
10:30–11:00	<i>Coffee break + photo</i>	
SESSION 4 · ZOO NOTIC AND EMERGING VIRUS PREPAREDNESS		
11:00–11:30	INVITED TALK Magnus Evander <i>Umeå University</i>	Rift Valley Fever at the Human-Animal-Environment Interface
11:30-12:00	INVITED TALK Jonas Klingström <i>Linköping University</i>	Hantaviruses on the move - preparedness and possible novel treatments
12:00–12:15	SELECTED TALK Peter Sjö <i>Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi)</i>	Identification of Host-Directed Therapies (HDTs) to prevent dengue disease escalation.
12:15–12:30	SELECTED TALK Léna Vandenabeele <i>Karolinska Institutet</i>	Comparative analysis of hantavirus infection in human and natural host cells.
12:30–13:30 <i>Lunch</i>		
SESSION 5 · MUCOSAL AND CELLULAR ANTIVIRAL IMMUNITY		
13:30 – 14:00	INVITED TALK Elena Martinelli <i>Northwestern University</i>	Host programs shaping viral persistence and antiviral immunity in HIV/SIV: from IFN to TGF-β
14:00–14:30	INVITED TALK Clive M. Gray <i>Stellenbosch University</i>	The Immune Landscape of the Placenta at the Maternal: Fetal Interface: The Case of Maternal HIV and CMV Co-Infections
14:30–15:00	INVITED TALK Asier Sáez-Cirión <i>Institut Pasteur</i>	Resilient CD8 T cells: An alternative differentiation pathway associated with optimal response against persistent viruses
15:00–15:15	CLOSING REMARKS	

Program is subject to change.