



Cancer Research KI Annual Retreat 2026

September 28–29, Djurönäset

Monday, September 28

08:30 Buses depart from Stockholm

09:30–10:00 Coffee & Registration

Morning session

10:05–10:15 Opening and Welcome Remarks

Chairs: **Jonas Muhr** and **Hala Habash**

10:15–11:00 **Elaine Fuchs**, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, The Rockefeller University, New York, USA

Tissue Stem Cells: Coping with Stress

11:00–11:20 **Ioannis Zerdas**, Department of Oncology–Pathology, Karolinska Institutet; Theme Cancer, Karolinska University Hospital

Deciphering tumor-immune microenvironment determinants of treatment response and resistance in breast cancer

11:20–11:35 **Celine Hafkesbrink**, Department of Women's and Children's Health, Karolinska Institutet

Chemotherapy rewires neuroblastoma into a targetable NCAM1–FGFR1 state

11:35–11:50 **Rodrigo Morales Castro**, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Karolinska Institutet

Novel histone deacetylase inhibitors limit tumor expansion in a zebrafish KRAS-driven intestinal tumor model

11:50–12:05 **Heshuang Qu**, Department of Oncology–Pathology, Karolinska Institutet
A Transcriptomics- and AI-Guided 3D NSCLC Spheroid Platform for Modeling EMT and Phenotypic Drug Screening

12:05–12:20 **Yujie Xiang**, Department of Medical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Karolinska Institutet

AI-based multi-modal prognostic modelling of histopathology images, mRNA expression, and clinical information in a Swedish study including 3,000 patients

12:30–12:40 Group picture

12:45–13:45 **Lunch**

Afternoon session

Chairs: **Kasper Karlsson** and **Sara Abu Ajamieh**

13:45–14:30 **Nicholas McGranahan**, University College London, Cancer Institute
Cancer Evolution Beyond the Genome

14:30–14:50 **Erik Benson**, Department of Microbiology, Tumor and Cell Biology,
Karolinska Institutet
Discovery of cell targeting DNA structures by evolutionary selection

14:50–15:10 **Poster pitches**

15:15–16:00 **Coffee break & Key Collection**

16:00–17:30 **Breakout sessions:**

- Meet the scientist (with our keynote speakers)
- Scientific presentations
- The patient perspective

17:30–18:00 **Welcome Drink & Poster Mounting**

18:00–20:00 **Dinner**

20:00–22:00 **Poster session**

Tuesday, September 29

07:30–09:00 **Breakfast**

Morning session

Chairs: **Marie Arsenian Henriksson** and **See Whee Park**

09:15–10:00 **Joan Massagué**, Sloan Kettering Institute, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer
Center, New York, USA
A TGF- β dormant metastasis program

10:00–10:20 **Aline Pfefferle**, Department of Medical Cell Biology, Uppsala University
Pan-cancer profiling of tumor-infiltrating natural killer cells

10:20–10:35 **Thuy Tran**, Department of Oncology-Pathology; Theranostics Trial Center,
Karolinska University Hospital
*Development of a Novel TROP2-targeted Monoclonal Antibody for
Radiotheranostics of Solid Tumors – A New Modality in Precision Oncology*

10:35–11:05 Coffee break

Chairs: **Eva Jolly** and **Mindaugas Raitelaitis**

11:05–11:25 Péter Nagy, National Institute of Oncology, Budapest, Hungary
Cysteine metabolism in cancer

11:25–11:45 Karolinska Comprehensive Cancer Center

11:45–13:00 Panel discussion: *New challenges in cancer treatment: What are we doing wrong?*

13:00–14:00 Lunch

Afternoon session

Chairs: **Hong Qian** and **Mingzhi Liu**

14:00–14:15 Flora Mikaeloff, Department of Oncology–Pathology, Karolinska Institutet
Multi-omics integrative clustering revealed three independent molecular subtypes of poor prognosis and drug resistance in acute myeloid leukemia

14:15–14:30 Isabel Barragán, Department of Oncology–Pathology, Karolinska Institutet
Immune phenotyping of molecular subtypes derived from early multiomic blood profiling for prognostic stratification in NSCLC

14:30–14:50 Amanda Andersson Rolf, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Biophysics, Karolinska Institutet
Long-term in vitro expansion of a human tripotent fetal pancreas stem cell

14:50–15:10 Filipe Pereira, Division of Molecular Medicine and Gene Therapy, Lund University, Sweden
Building the Dendritic Cells that Build TLS

15:15–15:30 Conclusion & Poster Prizes

16:00 Buses depart to Stockholm