



Protein quality control in Health and Disease

Date: 28-29 May 2026

Venue: The Beijer Hall, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences,
Lilla Frescativägen 4A, Stockholm.



Programme

DAY 1

9.00

Conference opening (Maria Masucci, Gunnar von Heijne, Nico Dantuma)

Session I - Protein folding and molecular chaperones

Chairperson: Gunnar von Heijne, Stockholm University

9.10

David Balchin, The Crick Institute, London, UK
Molecular logic of chaperone generalists

10.00

Manu Hegde, LMB, Cambridge, UK
The machinery and mechanisms of membrane protein biogenesis

10.50 Coffee break

11.10

Gunnar von Heijne, Stockholm University, Sweden
Cotranslational compaction and folding of a multidomain protein

12.00

Lunch

Session II - Ribosomal and ER stress responses

Chairperson: Vicent Pelechano, Karolinska Institutet

13.30

Claudio Joazeiro, Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany
Ribosome-associated Quality Control (RQC): mechanisms, evolution, and roles in neurodegeneration



14.20

Jesper Svejstrup, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark
Transcriptional buffering of RNA polymerase II availability

15.10

Coffee break

Short Talks

Chairperson: Neus Visa, Stockholm University

15.30

Oscar Fernandez-Capetillo, Karolinska Institutet, Solna, Sweden
The accumulation of orphan ribosomal proteins as a hallmark of neurodegeneration

15.50

Anniina Vihervaara, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden
Transcriptional responses to proteotoxicity: from the instant heat shock response to the slow progression of neurodegeneration

16.10

Per Nilsson, Karolinska Institutet, Solna, Sweden
The role of autophagy in amyloid beta and tau metabolism in Alzheimer's disease

16.30

Claes Andreasson, Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden
Generalist and dedicated chaperones at the ribosome

17.20

Concluding remarks day 1

DAY 2

Session III - Proteostasis and the ubiquitin-proteasome system

Chairperson: Maria Masucci, Karolinska Institutet

9.00

Sylvie Urbé, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
Targeting and harnessing DUBs to modulate protein and organellar quality control

9.50

Nico Dantuma, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden
Hide and seek at mitochondria: accelerating proteasomal degradation of neurodegeneration-associated proteins

10.40

Coffee break

Session IV - Proteostasis and autophagy

Chairperson: Nico Dantuma, Karolinska Institutet

11.00

Terje Johansen, University of Tromsø, Norway
The selective autophagy receptors NBR1 and p62/SQSTM1: Modes of action, evolution and interplay



11.50

Fulvio Reggiori University of Aarhus, Danmark
Selective degradation of protein aggregates by autophagy

12.40

Lunch

Session V - Proteostasis in disease

Chairperson: Axel Abelein, Karolinska Institutet

14.10

Anne Bertolotti, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, UK
Therapeutic and structural insights on the integrated stress response

15.00

Thorsten Hoppe, University of Cologne
Cellular mechanisms to organismal aging: proteostasis in longevity and disease

15.50

Coffee break

16.10

Lea Sistonen, Åbo Akademi University, Turku, Finland
Regulation of Heat Shock Transcription Factors (HSFs) in Cell Stress and Cancer

17.00

Concluding remarks day 2 (Maria Masucci, Gunnar von Heijne, Nico Dantuma)

17.30

End of the symposium