Future of Precision Medicine Symposium 2023
Presentation of Speakers
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Arun Sanyal, Dr.
- Virginia Commonwealth University

Arun J. Sanyal, M.D., is a Professor of Medicine, Physiology, and Molecular Pathology in the Division of Gastroenterology at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia. At VCU, he is currently the Director of the Stravitz-Sanyal Institute for Liver Disease and Metabolic Health. Dr. Sanyal serves as Chairman of the NIH NASH Clinical Research Network, the NIMBLE consortium, and the Liver Forum for NASH and fibrosis. His research interests include all aspects of NAFLD and NASH as well as complications of end-stage liver disease. He has served on numerous advisory boards to pharmaceutical companies and the liver center at Yale University. He chaired the hepatobiliary pathophysiology study section of the NIH and was a founding member of the Hepatology committee of the American Board of Internal Medicine. He has also served as Secretary as well as President of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases.

Dr. Sanyal has authored more than 350 articles in publications such as Cell Metabolism, Nature Medicine, New England Journal of Medicine, Lancet, Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and the Journal of Infectious Diseases has an H-index of 102. He has been continuously funded by the NIH since 1995 and is the principal investigator of four active NIH grants. He is the recipient of the Distinguished Mentorship Award from the American Gastroenterological Association and the Distinguished Scientific Achievement Award from the American Liver Foundation in 2017 and the Distinguished Achievement Award from the AASLD in 2018.

Borja Ibanez, Scientific Director
- Spanish National Center for Cardiovascular Research (CNIC)

Borja Ibanez, PhD, is a Scientific Director and Director of Clinical Research Department at the Spanish National Center for Cardiovascular Research (CNIC) and member of the CIBERCV, with clinical activities as interventional cardiologist at University Hospital Fundación Jiménez Díaz. He holds a degree in medicine from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and PhD from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid.

Borja Ibanez completed his clinical fellowship in cardiology at the Fundacion Jimenez Diaz Hospital in Madrid, during which he became interested in clinical research, working mainly with invasive imaging techniques for the study of the atherothrombotic disease. After completing his training in clinical cardiology, he made a training period of three years in basic and translational research at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York. After returning to Spain, he combines his scientific activity in the CNIC with clinical activity in the Fundación Jimenez Díaz University Hospital. He has been focused on the clinical transition of atherothrombotic disease (i.e. acute coronary syndromes), both at the research level (running several randomized clinical trials and at the clinical guidelines level (serving as chair of the ESC clinical practice guidelines document for the management of ST-elevation myocardial infarction in 2017, and for the management of acute coronary syndromes in 2023). He has been involved in primary prevention studies aiming at early identification of atherosclerosis in middle-aged asymptomatic individuals, serving as co-PI of the PESA project. He runs a program devoted for the personalized prevention of atherosclerosis-related cardiovascular diseases. His group also perform basic research studies working at the roots of cardiovascular diseases. He is PI of several European Commission-funded projects and has published more than 350 articles.
(40% as main author). His clinical activity consists mainly in coronary interventions of patients suffering an acute myocardial infarction.

**Cathrine Tørnes, living with diabetes**  
- **Student, elementary school and passionate about handball**  
Cathrine Tørnes is a 11-year-old child who has been living with type 1 diabetes since she was 3 years old (2015). Diabetes is a great part of Cathrine's daily life, and besides from both herself and her mother living with type 1 diabetes, she has three classmates that also has type 1 diabetes.

Cathrine has good skills in handling her diabetes during schooltime and does not need much help from the teachers or other adults. She plays handball and has several times been away at handball camp without her parents. She is responsible and have good skills in taking care of herself and her diabetes. Furthermore, she loves to hang out with her friends both on social medias and in real life. Cathrine has a great desire that the future with type 1 diabetes could be a future for type 'none'.

**Chantal Mathieu, Professor**  
- **KU Leuven**  
Chantal Mathieu is Professor of Medicine at the Katholieke Universiteit and Chair of Endocrinology at the University Hospital Gasthuisberg Leuven, Belgium.

Chantal Mathieu is a physician-scientist who has contributed to the field of diabetes and endocrinology through basic and clinical research. Her basic research work focuses on pathogenesis and prevention of type 1 diabetes. Chantal Mathieu's clinical work involving new products and treatment paradigms in diabetes, such as new insulins, adjunct therapies and diagnosis of gestational diabetes have made her a speaker in international fora. She coordinates the European project ‘INNODIA’ on biomarker discovery and intervention studies in type 1 diabetes. Furthermore, Chantal Mathieu is president of EASD and EFSD as well as vice-president of the European Diabetes Forum.

**Christian Collin, living with diabetes**  
- **Mill Aviation & Partners**  
Christian Collin is a Chief Pilot in the Danish aviation industry as well as a flight instructor and examiner. Furthermore, Christian Collin is a partner in Mill Aviation & Partners, a consulting company in the aviation and healthcare sector that provides management systems, analysis, support, and advisory based on experience in the operational environment of commercial aviation.

Christian Collin was in 2017 diagnosed with diabetes type 1.5, a subtype of type 1 diabetes also known as LADA. He is a user of the Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen, which offers world-class treatment for diabetes in Denmark. In 2019, he became a member of the Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen's Board of Directors as a user representative. This initiative intensifies the focus on user involvement which aims to strengthen the Center in decision-making and development processes. Christian Collin contributes with the user perspective on different topics ranging from research to economics and the construction of new
facilities. His focus as a board member is especially on the mental aspects of living with diabetes and how the diagnosis can change the patient's life dramatically. Therefore, he aims to create more opportunities for diabetic patients to share knowledge and exchange experiences with each other but also to ensure that working environments and regulations follow the development of diabetes technology and insulins.

Coen D.A. Stehouwer, Professor
- Maastricht University

Coen D. A. Stehouwer, PhD, is a Professor of Internal Medicine and the principal investigator of the Maastricht Study. Furthermore, Stehouwer is a board member of EASD and Chairman of the EFSD Scientific Board. Professor Stehouwer has received numerous awards for his pivotal role in diabetes research, including the Donald McDonald Award of Artery Society (2017), the Dutch Society of Vascular Medicine Career Award (2007) and the Camillo Golgi Prize (EASD, 2005).

He graduated with an MD from Erasmus University in Rotterdam in 1985 and obtained his PhD from Vrije Universiteit in 1992. He was trained in epidemiology and molecular biology and is now a clinician-scientist. In his research, Professor Stehouwer fuses epidemiology, clinical physiology, and experiments to get a better understanding of metabolic changes in (pre)diabetes as well as micro- and macrovascular diseases, and to elucidate non-classical complications of diabetes, including cognitive dysfunction, and late-life depression.

Cyrielle Caussy, Professor, Medical Director
- Lyon University Hospital Center & Centre de Recherche en Nutrition Humaine (CRNH)

Cyrielle Caussy is a Professor and Hospital Practitioner at the Endocrinology Diabetes Nutrition Department at Lyon University Hospital Center. She is also the medical director adjunct of the Human Nutrition Research Center (Centre de Recherche en Nutrition Humaine - CRNH) with a strong expertise in conducting clinical research in Nutrition. Her DIATONIC research focuses on advancing the understanding of the heterogeneity among patients with T2DM and NAFLD and to define patient's profiles linked the longitudinal progression of the disease using currently available NITs and innovative cutting-edge multi-omics signatures.

Cyrielle Caussy received her PhD in Biochemistry in 2015 from the Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, France, studying the epigenetic regulation of lipid regulation at the CarMeN laboratory (CardioMetabolism, Diabetes and Nutrition) where she continues to lead translational research program. Professor Caussy’s main field of research interests are insulin-resistance, type 2 diabetes, obesity and non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD). She completed a 2-year advanced research training at the NAFLD Research Center, University of California at San Diego directed by Dr Rohit Loomba. She now has a specific interest in non-invasive biomarkers and pathophysiology of NAFLD especially in high-risk population such as type 2 diabetes and obese patients. Furthermore, she is co-leader of a clinical and research program focusing on diagnostic and pathophysiology of metabolic liver disease at the Lyon Hepatology Institute, and she is co-president of the national AFEF/SFD Liver and Diabetes study group.
Daniel Coral, MD, MPH
- Lund University
Daniel E. Coral, MD, MPH, is a PhD student at the Genetic and Molecular Epidemiology Unit at the Lund University Diabetes Center in Sweden. He is currently a leading analyst in the SOPHIA Consortium, an Innovative Health Initiative project dedicated to advancing precision medicine in obesity. His work is primarily centered around the identification of utilizing machine learning methods and omics technologies to subphenotype obesity within the general population.

He obtained his MD degree from Universidad del Valle in Colombia in 2012, where he worked as a general practitioner coordinating primary prevention programs of communicable and non-communicable diseases in urban and rural areas. He earned his MPH degree from Lund University in 2019.

Eran Elinav, Professor
- Weizmann Institute of Science
Eran Elinav is a Professor at the department of Immunology and heading the department of Systems Immunology at the Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel. Based on experimental biology, human trials and big data, Professor Eran Elinav’s research in glycemic responses following bariatric surgery, aims to uncover novel targets modulating T2DM, their molecular mechanisms, and possible activity beyond the surgical setting.

Eran Elinav completed his PhD in Immunology in 2009 at the Weizmann Institute of Science, and in 2011 he received a Postdoc in Immunology from Yale University School of Medicine. At present professor Eran Elinav is Founding Director of Israeli Society for Microbiome Research, and Director of the Weizmann Institute Center for Infectious disease and host interaction. Furthermore, he is a Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) member at the Center for Microbes, Development and Health, Institute Pasteur of Shanghai and Director of the Division of Microbiome & Cancer Research & the joint WIS DKFZ/Helmholtz microbiome research lab, Heidelberg, Germany.

Frans Pouwer, Professor
- University of Southern Denmark
Frans Pouwer is a Professor of Medical Psychology at the University of Southern Denmark and Steno Diabetes Center Odense, Denmark. His research is conducted in people with type 1, type 2 or gestational diabetes and focuses on many topics related to diabetes, including: stress/depression and diabetes risk, impact of hypoglycemic events, diabetes-distress, eating and sleeping problems in people with diabetes, fear of self-testing/self-injecting, and psychological barriers that hamper insulin therapy. He has also conducted several randomized controlled trials to test the effectiveness of the following interventions: 1) monitoring of emotional well-being in outpatients with diabetes, 2) mindfulness-based cognitive therapy, 3) web-based cognitive behavioural therapy for depression in diabetes, 4) stepped care for depression/anxiety in primary care diabetes, 5) fish oil (eicosapentaenoic acid) for treatment resistant depression in diabetes. Frans is leader of work package 6 (psychological impact of hypoglycaemia) of the Hypo-RESOLVE study.
Frans Pouwer undertook his PhD at VU University, Amsterdam, in 2000. He has over 270 publications in peer-reviewed international journals. He has given many invited lectures, for example at meetings of the EASD, EASD postgraduate courses, ADA, IDF, Diabetes UK, Primary Care Diabetes Europe, FEND, WCPD10. Frans Pouwer is past president of the PSAD Study Group of the EASD; he also chaired the European Depression in Diabetes Research Consortium (EDID).

**Giles Yeo, Professor**  
- University of Cambridge

Giles Yeo, PhD, is a Professor of Molecular Neuroendocrinology and programme leader at the Medical Research Council (MRC) Metabolic Disease Unit, University of Cambridge. He received his PhD in molecular genetics from the University of Cambridge in 1997, after which he joined the lab of Professor Sir Stephen O’Rahilly, working on the genetics of severe human obesity.

Giles Yeo's research currently focuses on the influence of genes on feeding behaviour and body weight. In addition, he is a fellow of Wolfson College, and Honorary President of the British Dietetic Association. Giles is also a broadcaster and author, presenting science documentaries for the BBC, and hosts a podcast called ‘Dr Giles Yeo Chews The Fat’. His first book ‘Gene Eating’ was published in December 2018, and his second book ‘Why Calories Don’t Count’ came out in June 2021. Giles was appointed an MBE in the Queen’s 2020 birthday honours for services to ‘Research, Communication and Engagement’.

**Jeannette Söderberg, Director**  
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International

Jeannette Soderberg, PhD, is Director of Research for Europe and Middle East at JDRF. She oversees JDRF’s research efforts to cure type 1 diabetes (T1D) and improve the lives of those living with it, in Europe and the Middle East. She is also responsible for international partnerships with world-leading governments, the European Commission and European Parliament, non-government organizations, and commercial entities. Additionally, she is the JDRF point of contact for the European regulatory and Health Technology Assessment agencies.

Patient-centricity and patient engagement are values deeply ingrained in Jeannette’s strategies and work. She leads the psychosocial program at JDRF, focusing on enhancing the emotional and social well-being of individuals living with T1D. She leads patient advisory boards within several consortia and clinical trials, championing outcome studies that prioritize the needs and perspectives of patients.

Jeannette Soderberg earned her PhD in Neurobiology and Metabolic Stress from Stockholm University in 2011. Following her doctoral studies, she received postdoctoral training at Karolinska Institutet.

**João Monteiro, Chief Editor**  
- Nature Medicine

Dr. João Monteiro is the Chief Editor of Nature Medicine, one of the top medical journals worldwide. He leads an international team covering news, opinion, and research across the entire landscape of medical research. He has spoken about medicine, science, and publishing in many international conferences, and
has championed efforts to raise ethical standards and transparency in the reporting of translational and clinical research. João cares about supporting young investigators, creating opportunities to make scientific publishing more inclusive, and harnessing the potential of scientific research to reduce health inequalities globally.

Dr. Monteiro obtained his medical degree at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, where he also earned a PhD degree studying Treg function and loss of tolerance to self-antigens in autoimmune diseases. Afterwards, he was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship from The Pew Charitable Trust and joined the lab of Ron Germain, at the National Institutes of Health in the USA, studying in vivo dynamics of the immune responses. He has been serving the scientific community as a professional editor since 2013, first at Cell as the senior for immunology and translational medicine, and later the helm of Nature Medicine. He is a core member of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) and an advisor to the European Union PREPARED initiative to accelerate research in times of crisis, without sacrificing ethics and integrity.

**Joline Beulens, Professor**  
- Vrije University

Joline WJ Beulens, PhD, is a Professor of Lifestyle and Cardiometabolic Disease Epidemiology at Amsterdam UMC - location VU University. The main focus of her research is on the role of health behaviours in aetiology and prevention of cardiometabolic diseases based on observational studies and RCTs to evaluate interventions on health behaviours and cardiometabolic risk. She is PI of the Supreme Nudge consortium investigating the role of nudging, pricing, and a physical activity app on cardiometabolic risk in people with low socioeconomic position. She is co-PI of Exposome-NL, a 10-year research program investigating the role of our living environment on cardiometabolic health. She is vice-chair of the nutrition council of the Dutch Health Council and member of the International Scientific Committee for Nutri-Score.

Joline Beulens obtained her Master’s Degree in Human Nutrition in 2001 and PhD in Human Nutrition in 2007 at Wageningen University. Her PhD research was focused on investigating the relation of alcohol consumption with type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular diseases and was performed at TNO Quality of Life, Julius Center of the UMC Utrecht and Harvard School of Public Health, where she spent 8 months as a visiting scholar in 2005.

**Jordi Merino, Associate Professor**  
- Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Basic Metabolic Research

Jordi Merino, PhD, is an Associate Professor and molecular epidemiologist with specific training and expertise in human nutrition, metabolism, and genomics. He obtained his PhD in nutrition and lipid metabolism at Rovira i Virgili University, Spain, and completed postdoctoral training in genetic epidemiology at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, US.

Dr. Merino leads the genomics and precision medicine research group at the Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Basic Metabolic Research (CBMR), University of Copenhagen. The group focuses on understanding how differences in fundamental molecular processes interact with behavioural factors
on variable cardiometabolic disease presentation, therapeutic intervention response, and propensity
to develop cardiovascular complications.

**Juleen R. Zierath, Professor**  
- Karolinska Institutet and Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Basic Metabolic Research

Juleen R. Zierath, PhD, is a Professor of Clinical Integrative Physiology at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm,  
and Professor and Executive Director at the Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Basic Metabolic Research (CBMR) at the University of Copenhagen. She is a member of the Nobel Assembly and Nobel Committee for Physiology or Medicine, the Royal Swedish Academy of Science, the European Molecular Biology Organization, and Academia Europaea. She is former Chair of the Nobel Committee and President of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD). She has received several awards, including the Claude Bernard Medal and Minkowski Prize from the EASD, the Harold Rifkin Award for Distinguished International Service in the Cause of Diabetes from ADA, and a Distinguished Alumnus Award and Honorary Doctorate of Science from University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Juleen R. Zierath graduated with an M.A. in Exercise Physiology from Ball State University in the United States in 1986 and PhD in Medical Science from Karolinska Institutet in 1995. She performs translational research to delineate mechanisms for Type 2 diabetes pathogenesis. Her current work is focused on the role of epigenetic processes for insulin resistance and the interaction between circadian rhythms and exercise training in the control of metabolism.

**Maggie Shepherd, Professor**  
- University of Exeter

Maggie Shepherd, PhD, is an Honorary Clinical Professor of Monogenic Diabetes at University of Exeter,  
Consultant Nurse for Monogenic Diabetes, and Associate Director for Nursing Research (Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust). She trained at King’s College Hospital and worked as Diabetes Specialist Nurse before joining the Exeter monogenic diabetes team in 1995. Her research focuses on monogenic diabetes: ensuring correct diagnosis, the impact of a genetic diagnosis and treatment change. She is particularly interested in effective translation of research findings into clinical care and led the Genetic Diabetes Nurse (GDN) network: training Diabetes Specialist Nurses in monogenic diabetes to increase awareness of the condition nationally. She has qualifications in Specialist Nursing (diabetes), Medical Education, Genetic Counselling, and Genomic Medicine, and has over 145 publications.

Maggie Shepherd gained a PhD in Medical Science in Exeter focusing on attitudes to genetic testing in diabetes in 2000. She was an NIHR70@70 Senior Nurse Research Leader from 2019-2022, the first nurse awarded the Arnold Bloom lecture in 2019, one of the Women in the Global Health’s 100+ Outstanding Nurses and Midwives in 2020, awarded a prestigious Florence Nightingale Foundation Leadership scholarship in 2022 and the winner of the Aster Guardians Global Nursing award in 2023.
Magnus T. Jensen, CEO
- Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen

Magnus T. Jensen is the CEO of Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen. He attained his MD from the University of Copenhagen in 2007, followed by a PhD in diabetes and heart disease in 2014. He graduated with distinction from London School of Economics and Political Science in 2018 with a master’s degree in health economics and management followed by a doctoral degree in cardiovascular epidemiology from the University of Copenhagen in 2020. He obtained his specialization in Cardiology in 2020 and served from 2020 to 2022 as Head of Department of Cardiology at Copenhagen University Hospital Amager Hvidovre.

Magnus T. Jensen serves presently as Chair-Elect of the Working Group on e-Cardiology of the European Society of Cardiology and holds various other strategic and research leadership roles. He holds a position as Honorary Senior Lecturer at Centre for Adv. Cardiovascular Imaging, Queen Mary University of London and mentors research fellows in the field of cardiometabolic and cardiorespiratory conditions. He has won several international and Danish research awards in the field of diabetes, heart disease and cardiovascular epidemiology. In 2022, Magnus T. Jensen was nominated for the 2022 Capital Region Leadership Award.

Maria Tørnes, living with diabetes
- Steno Diabetes Center Zealand

Maria Tørnes is a Nurse Specialist in diabetes at Steno Diabetes Center Zealand (DK) and is living with type 1 diabetes herself. She has several years of experience in both the public health care system and the industry. She graduated from Herlev Nursing School in 2004 and has been working with diabetes patients since she graduated. In 2008 she started working as a project and diabetes nurse at Steno Diabetes Center in Gentofte (the old Steno). She has been working with big studies as LEADER and CASCADE. Followed by a position at Novo Nordisk as Clinical Safety Associate, before becoming a diabetes nurse at the Center for Diabetes in Copenhagen. Maria has also worked for the Danish Diabetes Association with education of children and their families in her early career.

In her daily work, she has a focus on nursing care for people with diabetes, transition in patients with type 1 diabetes and on diabetes distress, not only in type 1 diabetes. Diabetes is a very interesting field, therefore also interests in many other things.

Privately Maria is married to Uffe, who is working as Senior Director of Commercial Supply Chain at Genmab. Together they have two daughters Cathrine (2012) and Vilma (2016). Cathrine has type 1 diabetes and has had it since she was 3 years old (since 2015). Diabetes in childhood is also a focus Maria has, but in a more private context.

Mario Luca Morieri, Clinical Investigator
- University Hospital of Padova

Mario Luca Morieri, MD, PhD, currently serves as a Clinical Investigator at the University Hospital of Padova and his work revolves around precision medicine, utilizing genetics and real-world data to enhance
care of patients with diabetes and dyslipidaemia. He has been leading an innovative pharmacogenetic random-
domized clinical trial (MAGNETIC-PPARA, supported by the Italian Ministry of Health) to specifically test whether genetic variants can identify patients with better responses to cardiovascular preventive treat-
ments, particularly fenofibrate.

Dr. Morieri honed his expertise in cardiovascular and metabolic disease prevention graduating cum laude at the University of Bologna’s Medical School and completing his Internal Medicine residency at the Uni-
versity of Ferrara. Prompted by the interest in precision medicine, in 2015, he joined the esteemed Dr. Alessandro Doria’s research group at the Joslin Diabetes Center and Harvard Medical School in Boston, where he focused his research activities on identifying genetic markers for cardiovascular disease prediction and prevention in type 2 diabetes patients. Subsequently earned his PhD in Translational Medicine at the University of Padova.

Dr. Morieri has received numerous awards, grants, and fellowships, including recognition from the Italian Ministry of Health, NIH, Italian Society for the Study of Atherosclerosis, European Atherosclerosis Society, and American Diabetes Association. His scientific contributions are published in top-ranked journals such as NEJM, Diabetes, and Diabetes Care.

**Martin Ridderstråle, Senior Vice President**
- Novo Nordisk Foundation

Martin Ridderstråle, PhD, MD, is Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at the Novo Nordisk Foundation and Head of Medical Science; an area that supports research and development from basic discoveries across to clinical care through broad open calls in competition overseen by the Committees for Basic Biomedicine, Endocrinology and Metabolism, Clinical and Translational Medicine and Nursing Research, respectively, to strategic initiatives such as the Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Basic Metabolic Research, the Novo Nordisk Foundation reNEW Stem Cell Center, the Novo Nordisk Foundation Cellerator – a GMP facility for the manufacturing of cell therapies, and the seven Steno Diabetes Centers.

Martin Ridderstråle is an MD, specialist in Internal Medicine, Endocrinology and Diabetology, and has a PhD in Molecular Signaling from Lund University in Sweden, where he has also been Adjunct Professor of Endocrinology, and an MBA from Copenhagen Business School. Martin Ridderstråle has worked as Head of the Department of Endocrinology and Deputy Head of the Division of Specialised Medicine at Skåne University Hospital in Sweden, and Vice President and Head of Clinic at Steno Diabetes Center in Gentofte. Before joining the Novo Nordisk Foundation, he worked as Corporate Vice President of Clinical Pharmaco-
logy and Translational Medicine at Novo Nordisk A/S.

**Paul Franks, Scientific Director**
- Novo Nordisk Foundation

Professor Paul Franks is the head of Translational Medicine at the Novo Nordisk Foundation. He has served on many advisory panels and expert groups including those of MRC, NIH, and WHO, and on the editorial boards of several journals including *Diabetologia*, *Hypertension*, *BMC Medical Genomics*, and *Obesity*. He currently chairs the ADA/EASD Precision Medicine in Diabetes Initiative. He was previously
the Vice-President Elect of the Nordic Society of Human Genetics and Precision Medicine and the chair of the Genomic Medicine Sweden Complex Trait Initiative.

In 2003 he obtained a PhD in Genetic Epidemiology from the Institute of Public Health, University of Cambridge. In 2010, he was appointed Professor of Genetic Epidemiology at Lund University in Sweden and Adjunct Professor at the Harvard School of Public Health in the United States. He was deputy director of Lund University Diabetes Centre from 2016-2021.

**Perry Elliott, Professor**  
- University College London

Perry Elliott is Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine at University College London (UCL) and a Senior Investigator of the UK National Institute for Health Research. He is director of the UCL Institute of Cardiovascular Science and a consultant cardiologist at St. Bartholomew's Hospital London. Furthermore, he is Chairman of the ESC Heart Academy and past chair of the ESC Council on Cardiovascular Genomics, the ESC Working Group on Myocardial and Pericardial Diseases and the Executive Committee for the European Outcomes Research Programme registry on cardiomyopathies. He is an executive Editor for the European Heart Journal. For almost 30 years, he has led numerous international consortia and has made substantial scientific and policy contributions including clinical risk tools, discovery of rare and common genetic causes of inherited heart conditions, and US and European Practice guidelines. He is founder and chair of the International Cardiomyopathy Network and President of Cardiomyopathy UK.

Perry Elliott studied medicine at St. Thomas’s Hospital Medical School, London. After qualifying in 1987 he trained in general medicine, gaining membership of the Royal College of Physicians in 1991, and completed his general cardiology training at St. George's Hospital Medical School, London. He was appointed as Senior Lecturer first at St. George's Hospital in 1999 and then at UCL in 2003. He was appointed to Reader in Inherited Cardiac Disease in 2005 and became a full Professor at UCL in 2012.

**Pranav Rajpurkar, Professor**  
- Harvard University

Pranav Rajpurkar, PhD, is an Assistant Professor at Harvard University and a researcher in the field of medical artificial intelligence. With a focus on medical image interpretation, Dr. Rajpurkar’s research lab strives to develop AI models that can match the proficiency of top-tier medical doctors. His research group is at the forefront of developing “Generalist Medical AI” systems that can closely resemble doctors in their ability to reason through a wide range of medical tasks, incorporate multiple data modalities, and communicate in natural language.

Dr. Rajpurkar has published more than 65 academic papers which have received over 21K citations in notable journals like Nature, NEJM, and Nature Medicine. His work has been recognized by MIT Tech Review’s Innovator Under 35 in 2023, Nature Medicine Early-career Researcher To Watch in 2022, and the Google Research Scholar Program in 2023, Forbes 30 Under 30 in 2022. Dr. Rajpurkar leads educational initiatives including the Harvard-Stanford Medical AI Bootcamp Program, and CS197: AI Research Experiences at Harvard. Before joining Harvard in 2021, he earned his B.S., M.S., and PhD degrees in Computer Science from Stanford University.
Robert Semple, Professor
- University of Edinburgh

Robert Semple, MB PhD, is a Professor of Translational Molecular Medicine, diabetologist and endocrinologist at the University of Edinburgh. He trained in Biochemistry and then Medicine in Cambridge, with clinical postgraduate training in London and Cambridge, including a PhD in the laboratory of Professor Sir Stephen O’Rahilly. Over the past 20 years his clinical and research interests have centred on severely insulin resistant diabetes, lipodystrophy and hypoglycaemia, both genetic and acquired. His key interests are use of such rare human conditions to improve understanding of pandemic “insulin resistance” and the mechanisms linking it to common disease, and on translating findings from the research laboratory into clinical benefits for patients with rare subtypes of insulin resistance and diabetes. His laboratory has discovered numerous new genetic diseases featuring diabetes, low blood glucose, insulin resistance, failed puberty and/or abnormal growth. Robert Semple aims to translate research findings into clinical benefits for affected patients, and also to use such rare conditions to improve understanding of common diseases linked to obesity. Approaches in his research group span clinical trials, experimental medicine, and disease modelling in cells and animals.

Robert Semple is also committed to mentorship, research training, and public and patient engagement. He has been Director of the Cambridge MBPhD programme, Director of Clinical Studies for Clare College, Cambridge, and Dean of Postgraduate Research for the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine at the University of Edinburgh.

Segun Fatumo, Associate Professor
- London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Segun Fatumo, PhD, is a computational geneticist with broad research interest in Non-Communicable Diseases Genomics in African Populations and specialty in genomics of kidney function. He is the head of NCD Genomics at MRC/UVRI & LSHTM Uganda Research Unit as well as an Associate Professor at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Segun Fatumo specialises in genome-wide association studies (GWAS), Polygenic Risk Score Analysis and Mendelian Randomisation. He co-led the first major GWAS of cardiometabolic traits in Africa and led the first GWAS of Kidney functions in continental African populations. Segun Fatumo is co-director of the KidneyGenAfrica Research Programme - A Partnership to Deliver Research and Training Excellence in Genomics of Kidney Disease in Africa. Segun Fatumo is strongly committed to increasing diversity in genomic studies and was in 2022 awarded the prestigious MRC Impact prize for advocating for inclusion of Africa in genomic research and championing genetic risk prediction of complex diseases in Africa.

Segun Fatumo received postdoctoral training in genetic epidemiology at the University of Cambridge and Wellcome Sanger Institute and a postdoctoral fellowship in Bioinformatics at the University of Georgia, USA. Prior to that, he had postgraduate training in applied Bioinformatics at the University of Cologne, Germany and PhD in Computer Science from Covenant University, Nigeria.
Shivani Misra, Dr.
- Imperial College London
Shivani Misra, MD, PhD, is a Wellcome Trust Career Development Clinician Scientist at Imperial College London and an Honorary Consultant Physician in Metabolic Medicine at Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust. Her Wellcome-Trust funded research is centered around the genetics and epidemiology of early-onset type 2 diabetes, which disproportionately affects people from Asian and African-Caribbean ethnicities. Her projects aim to define the heterogeneity of early-onset type 2 diabetes and how this can be leveraged to improve patient outcomes. She is a co-investigator on a NIHR programme grant assessing interventions for young adults with type 2 diabetes. As a clinician she leads the clinical service for atypical forms of diabetes and early-onset type 2 diabetes and is a specialist in the classification of diabetes subtypes across diverse ancestries.

She completed her PhD at Imperial College London in 2017 and was lead investigator of the MY DIABETES study, recruiting and stratifying UK Asian and African-Caribbean individuals with early-onset diabetes using biomarkers, to identify monogenic diabetes. Her work across diverse ancestries earned her a Future Leaders Mentorship Award from the European Federation for the Study of Diabetes in 2017 and she currently serves as Co-Chair of the ADA consensus working group on precision diagnostics in type 2 diabetes & as Co-Chair of the clinical diabetes heterogeneity working group at NIDDK.

Sivan Spitzer, Dr.
- Bar-Ilan University
Sivan Spitzer, PhD, an organizational sociologist, is the Deputy Director at the Rusell Berrie Galilee Diabetes SPHERE and the Principal Investigator of ‘HEAL’ – Health Equity Advancement Lab at the Azrieli Faculty of Medicine at Bar-Ilan University in Israel. She has a PhD from the University of Haifa.

Dr. Spitzer’s interests lie in the study of health inequities, and more specifically, in designing, implementing, and evaluating complex real-world interventions aimed at translating equity from value to action. Through the prism of implementation science, research projects carried out by Dr. Spitzer and her team focus on organization-wide change efforts in both community and hospital settings in a wide range of health and healthcare topics. Dr. Spitzer led the strategic plan and design of The Russell Berrie Galilee Diabetes SPHERE. Launched November 2021, SPHERE, a ten-year, $75 million program, aims to reduce health inequities in the country’s northern periphery, transforming diabetes care through an integrated, inter-organizational model, in which healthcare providers and communities work together.

Sophie Hindkjær, living with diabetes
- Passionate diabetes advocate with an emphasis on peer-to-peer support
Sophie has been living with type 1 diabetes for 12 years and has gotten the best out of it. Sophie’s involvement in the diabetes community spans from volunteering at the Danish Diabetes Association, working with #Dedoc and the International Diabetes Federation Europe, to running a diabetes youth initiative, Cafe Suk. The red thread through it all is a passion for community, peer-to-peer support and fostering a feeling that no one is alone with their disease. One of Sophie’s greatest resources of up-to-date knowledge on diabetes treatments is her friends and peers within the diabetes community.
Sophie sits on the board of Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen as a patient representative. Sophie is passionate about user involvement and the lived experience. Sophie is balancing her blood sugar, while balancing life with two kids under three, together with her awesome husband.

**Susanne Mandrup, Professor**  
- The University of Southern Denmark

Susanne Mandrup, PhD, is Professor at the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Southern Denmark, Head of the Functional Genomics & Metabolism Research Unit and Director of Center for Functional Genomics and Tissue Plasticity (ATLAS) and Center for Adipocyte Signaling (ADIPOSIGN). She obtained her master’s degree in Experimental Cell Biology in 1988 and her PhD in Biochemistry in 1992 from the University of Southern Denmark. In 1995-96, she was postdoc in the lab of Professor M. Daniel Lane at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore. She was recruited back to Odense as Assistant Professor in 1996 and was promoted to full Professor in 2008.

Her research group combines sequencing-based functional-genomics approaches with detailed molecular analyses and has contributed significantly to the genome-wide understanding of the transcriptional regulation of adipocyte differentiation and function. The current research focus includes investigations of the transcriptional mechanisms of adipose tissue plasticity and cooperativity of transcriptional enhancers in adipogenesis.

Susanne Mandrup is elected member of the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, Academia Europaea, AcademiaNet, and European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) and serves on the Carlsberg Foundation Board of Directors. Furthermore, she is a Knight of the Order of Dannebrog.

**Tinashe Chikowore, Dr.**  
- Brigham Women’s Hospital and Harvard School of Medicine

Tinashe Chikowore, PhD, is an Investigator at Brigham Women’s Hospital and an Instructor in Medicine at Harvard School of Medicine. Holding a PhD in Nutrition with a focus on Nutrigenetics from North-West University, he served as a Wellcome Trust International Training Fellow until August 2023 at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Tinashe Chikowore’s research is focused on understanding the role of gene-lifestyle interactions in the development and prevention of complex diseases, such as diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular diseases through harnessing statistical genetics, omics technologies, and machine learning approaches. He notable has led work of evaluating transferability of genetics risk scores for diabetes and lipid traits in continental Africans, that is featured in high impact journals. He aspires to translate his findings into personalized preventive strategies that can improve the quality of life and reduce the global health burden of chronic conditions.

Dr. Chikowore actively contributes to the scientific community as a member of the H3Africa Steering Committee and currently serves as the chair of its CVD working group. This group represents the largest genomic resource dedicated to cardiovascular-related phenotypes in Africa. Dr. Chikowore engages in international
collaborations, including the American Diabetes Association (ADA) Precision Medicine Initiative and the NIH-funded Polygenic Risk Methods in Diverse Populations (PRIMED) Consortium. Furthermore, he serves as a topical associate editor for Annals of Human Genetics, where he promotes genetic research in underrepresented populations, particularly in Africa.

**Troels Krarup Hansen, CEO, Professor**  
- **Steno Diabetes Center Aarhus**

Troels Krarup Hansen, PhD, is an endocrinologist and diabetologist, Professor in Clinical Diabetes at Aarhus University and has since 2018 been the CEO of the Steno Diabetes Center Aarhus. Furthermore, he is former President of the Danish Endocrine Society. His research is focused on translational and clinical aspects of mechanisms linking complement activation to the development of vascular complications in diabetes. In his leadership role he has a strong focus on driving change through innovation. Troels Krarup Hansen has taken executive courses in leadership and innovation at Harvard University and Stanford University, and is currently matriculated at Oxford University in an executive master's program in Global Health Leadership.

Troels Krarup Hansen has published more than 150 papers within basal, translational, and clinical diabetes research with a special focus on the role of the immune system in the development of diabetic late complications. Furthermore, he is DMSc and holds a PhD in Diabetes Research from Aarhus University.