

CO-HEP Symposium

20-year Anniversary of Copenhagen
Hepatitis C Program (CO-HEP)



Date: Friday 18 September 2026

Time: 9:30-17:00

Where: Maersk Tower, Jerne Auditorium

We have the pleasure of inviting you to celebrate the 20-year Anniversary of Copenhagen Hepatitis C Program (CO-HEP) following the HCV-Flavi2026 Congress.

We look forward to a great day of science with invited speakers, friends and collaborators within virology and immunology research.

[Register here for free](#)

Best wishes,

Jens Bukh, Judith M. Gottwein and Troels K. H. Scheel

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Program

- 9:30** **Welcome**
- Charlotte Menne Bonefeld, University of Copenhagen (DK) – *ISIM and the CO-HEP Center*
- Thomas Benfield, Hvidovre Hospital (DK) – *Infectious Diseases and CO-HEP*
- Jens Bukh, Judith M. Gottwein and Troels K. H. Scheel – *CO-HEP - a new virus initiative in Copenhagen*
- 09:50** T. Jake Liang, National Institutes of Health (US) – *From Denmark to America and back: the journey of Vikings in the science of hepatitis C*
- 10:10** Jean-Michel Pawlotsky, Hôpital Henri Mondor, Université Paris-Est, Créteil (FR) – *HCV elimination in the DAA era: tackling the remaining challenges*
- 10:30** Nina Weis, Hvidovre Hospital (DK) – *20 years of clinical and translational hepatitis research in Denmark*
- 10:50** John Law, Memorial University of Newfoundland (CA) – *Genotype specific humoral response against HCV*
- 11:10** Rowena Bull, University of New South Wales (AU) – *B-cell immunology in acute viral diseases*
- 11:30** Mansun Law, The Scripps Research Institute (US) – *HCV Broadly Neutralizing Antibodies*
- 11:50** **Lunch**

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- 12:35** CO-HEP Investigators - *Highlights of what shaped virus research in CO-HEP*
- 12:55** Thomas Pietschmann, Twincore Hannover (DE) – Diversity and plasticity: the curse and key to HCV vaccine development
- 13:15** Philip Meuleman, Ghent University (BE) – *Mice with humanized liver for the study of viral hepatitis*
- 13:35** Joy Tomlinson, University of Pennsylvania (US) – *Viral determinants of transmissible liver disease in equids*
- 13:55** Amit Kapoor, Nationwide Children's Hospital (US) – *Latest on infection and immunity of rat Hepacivirus and Pegivirus in mouse models*
- 14:15** **Coffee**
- 14:35** Clara T. Schoeder, Leipzig University (DE) – *Antigen design with computational protein design tools for (re-)emerging viruses*
- 14:55** Volker Lohmann, Heidelberg University (DE) – *Evolution of highly replicating HCV variants and their contribution to pathogenesis*
- 15:15** Joseph Luna, Case Western Reserve University (US) – *Teaching RNA binding proteins to do new things*
- 15:35** Pablo Gastaminza, National Center for Biotechnology (ES) – *Insight into the mode of action of a family of antivirals with pan-coronavirus potential*
- 15:55** Peter Simmonds, University of Turku (FI) – *From HCV genotypes to the deeper origins of RNA viruses – adventures in virus taxonomy*
- 16:15** **Reception**