

# Day 1 Thursday 28th May 2026

Nobel Forum, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm

08:15 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:10	<b>Welcome Note</b> <i>Thomas Perlmann, Secretary General for the Nobel Assembly and Nobel Committee, Sweden</i>
	<b>History of microglia</b> <i>Chair: Marie Carlén, Karolinska Institutet, Neuro, Sweden</i>
09:10 – 09:30	<b>Pio del Río-Hortega and the discovery of microglia.</b> <i>Juan del Río Hortega, University of Valladolid, Spain</i>
	<b>Microglia in the developing brain and neurodevelopmental disorders</b>
09:30 – 10:00	<b>Microglia through the lens of early brain construction.</b> <i>Sonia Garel, Collège de France, France</i>
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Microglia-neuron interactions in the developing brain: impacts on neural circuit assembly.</b> <i>Staci D Bilbo, Duke University, USA</i>
10:30 – 11:00	COFFEE BREAK <i>Chair: Kristiina Tammimies, Karolinska Institutet, KBH, Sweden</i>
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Microglia in neurodevelopment - a disease perspective.</b> <i>Carl Sellgren, Karolinska Institutet, FyFa, Sweden</i>
11:30 – 12:00	<b>Charting microglial colonisation dynamics during human neurodevelopment.</b> <i>David Menassa, Karolinska Institutet, KBH, Sweden</i>
12:00 – 13:30	LUNCH AT NOBEL FORUM
13:30 – 14:00	<b>Born to be a phagocyte: microglial phagocytosis from development to disease.</b> <i>Amanda Sierra, Achucarro Basque Center for Neuroscience, Spain</i>
	<b>Microglia-driven neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration</b> <i>Chair: Luis Arroyo-Garcia, Karolinska Institutet, NVS, Sweden</i>
14:00 – 14:30	<b>Harnessing the restorative abilities of microglia to promote CNS resilience to inflammation.</b> <i>Maja Jagodic, Karolinska Institutet, CMM, Sweden</i>
14:30 – 15:00	<b>Mechanisms regulating interferon responsive microglia in neurodegenerative disease.</b> <i>Dorothy Schafer, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School, USA</i>
15:00 – 15:30	COFFEE BREAK
15:30 – 16:00	<b>The microglial niche in neurodegeneration - understanding pathology and targeting for immunotherapy.</b> <i>Robert Harris, Karolinska Institutet, CMM, Sweden</i>
16:00 – 16:30	<b>Innate immune activation as treatment target in neurodegenerative disease.</b> <i>Michael T Heneka, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg</i>
17:20 -	BUSS
18:00 – 22:00	CONFERENCE DINNER

# Day 2 Friday 29th May 2026

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	<b>Microglia dysregulation in Alzheimer's disease</b> <i>Chair: Heela Sarlus, Karolinska Institutet, CMM, Sweden</i>
09:00 – 09:30	<b>When immune checkpoints go too far: APOE4–TGF<math>\beta</math> immune checkpoint signaling restrains protective microglial responses in Alzheimer's disease.</b> <i>Oleg Butovsky, Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA</i>
09:30 – 10:00	<b>Defining human IL-34 deficiency through a common Alzheimer's risk variant: from human genetics to microglial survival.</b> <i>José-Luis Venero, University of Seville, Spain</i>
10:00 – 10:30	<b>The brain's cleaning system: why it fails in Alzheimer's disease.</b> <i>Marco Colonna, Washington University in St Louis, USA</i>
10:30 – 11:00	COFFEE BREAK
	<b>Microglia in brain neoplasms</b> <i>Chair: Ahmed Osman, Karolinska Institutet, KBH, Sweden</i>
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Myeloid cells and microglia across time and space in pediatric brain tumors.</b> <i>Mariella Filbin, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, USA</i>
11:30 – 12:00	<b>Role of microglia in diffuse midline gliomas.</b> <i>Dolores Hambarzumyan, University of Pennsylvania, USA</i>
12:00 – 13:30	LUNCH AT NOBEL FORUM
13:30 – 14:00	<b>Microglia in the juvenile brain after radiotherapy.</b> <i>Klas Blomgren, Karolinska Institutet, KBH, Sweden</i>
	<b>Microglial subtypes and reactive states</b> <i>Chair: Vassilis Stratoulis, Karolinska Institutet, IMM, Sweden</i>
14:30 – 15:00	<b>A novel transcriptomic microglia taxonomy across mouse and human pathologies.</b> <i>Marco Prinz, Institute of Neuropathology, University Hospital Freiburg, Germany</i>
15:00 – 15:30	COFFEE BREAK
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Microglia heterogeneity in the healthy and diseased human CNS.</b> <i>Bart JL Eggen, University Medical Center Groningen, The Netherlands</i>
16:00 – 16:30	<b>New insights into the roles of stressed microglia.</b> <i>Marie-Ève Tremblay, University of Victoria, Canada</i>
16:30 – 17:00	<b>The prelude to depletion: microglial activation under PLX5622 and why that matters.</b> <i>Bertrand Joseph, Karolinska Institutet, IMM, Sweden</i>
17:00 – 17:10	<b>Conclusions</b>