SRP DIABETES WEBINAR

New connections between snoRNAs and metabolic regulation

JEAN SCHAFFER Professor Joslin Diabetes Center/Harvard Medical School

See presentation of Dr. Schaffer on next page.



Recent epidemiological data on cardiovascular disease and heart failure in diabetes

ANNA NORHAMMAR Professor Karolinska Institutet

See presentation of Dr. Norhammar on next page



Karolinska Institutet

Date:Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 15.00 – 16.30Place:Zoom webinarRegister in advance at this linkHost:Juleen Zierath / SRP Diabetes





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Jean E. Schaffer, Joslin Diabetes Center, Harvard Medical School

Dr. Schaffer uses genetic, biochemical, cell biological, and physiological approaches to study mechanisms through which metabolic stress leads to cell dysfunction and cell death. A major area of focus of her work has been the lipotoxicity that results from high circulating free fatty acids and triglycerides, metabolic abnormalities that are common in type 2 diabetes and that contribute to cardiac and hepatic complications. The Schaffer lab has developed mouse models of diabetic cardiomyopathy, characterized alterations in cellular and systemic lipid metabolism using sensitive mass spectrometry-based approaches, and carried out genetic screens to delineate the molecular underpinnings of the response to lipotoxic stress. The latter approach led to the lab's current focus on non-canonical functions of small nucleolar RNAs (snoRNAs), regulated RNA degradation, and translational regulation in the response to metabolic stress. Dr. Schaffer completed her AB and MD degrees and clinical training in medicine and cardiology at Harvard University. She carried out postdoctoral training in cell biology with Harvey Lodish at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. From 1995-2019, she was a faculty member at Washington University in St Louis, where she was the Virginia Minnich Distinguished Professor and directed the NIH-funded Diabetes Research Center. In July 2019, Dr. Schaffer was recruited to the Joslin Diabetes Center and Harvard Medical School. She is currently a Senior Investigator and Associate Research Director at Joslin and Professor of Medicine at Harvard. Dr. Schaffer is a recipient of the American Heart Association's Established Investigator Award and Louis N. Katz Prize, the American Association for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology's Avanti Award, and the Heinrich Wieland Prize.



Anna Norhammar, Dept of Medicine Solna, Karolinska Institutet

Dr. Norhammar is a cardiologist and clinical physiologist who researches cardiovascular complications of diabetes and prediabetes. She is an adjunct Professor of Cardiology at the Department of Medicine, Karolinska Institutet and Senior physician at Capio S:t Göran's Hospital. Her finding that people with diabetes, due to a lack of application of evidence-based treatment, have twice the risk of mortality after a myocardial infarction led to improved treatment in Sweden and globally – and to significantly higher survival rates. Her research has further shown that patients with diabetes continue to have an increased risk of heart failure and a worse prognosis than other patients with heart failure.





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