

# The Neuro4D Conference

**Advances in Drug Discovery for Proteopathic Neurodegenerative Diseases**

This is an international conference on **Neuro Degenerative Disease Drug Discovery** bringing together innovators, drug discovery companies and service providers in the field of proteopathic neurodegenerative diseases, such as **Alzheimer's dementia** and **Parkinson's disease** etc. Outdated concepts have led to largely unsuccessful drug development programs despite high investment, consequently resulting in the loss of tens of billions of Euros worldwide. However, disease mechanisms have seen paradigm **changes** in recent years and **evolving** insights have given rise to improved drug discovery strategies and better disease models. New approaches hold the promise of stopping disease progression.

The conference concepts include presentations by distinguished academic speakers, summarizing state of the art understanding of neurodegenerative disease and giving new insights into the mechanisms of progressive neurodegeneration and new target opportunities. Biotech and international pharmaceutical drug discovery companies will present their efforts to develop new therapeutic options for these diseases and outline the models and technologies used in compound selection. Service companies will present their technology platforms and disease models and show examples how their services contribute to the drug discovery efforts of their clients.

**Posters** of innovations in neurodegenerative disease drug discovery will be presented and discussed in dedicated sessions to allow feedback and idea exchange.

The focus of the program and dedicated time schedules will offer time and locations for **one-on-one meetings**, as contacts emerge during the conference.

## Call for Posters (Abstracts):

Poster abstracts (300 words) are accepted after registration and must be submitted before **May 1<sup>st</sup> 2018**. They will be evaluated by the scientific committee and approval will be communicated by May 20<sup>th</sup>. Accepted abstracts will be published in the program together with their designated poster board number. Poster boards have a width of 1.20 m and a height of 1.50 m (with an overall total height of 1.85 m). Posters must have a portrait orientation and be a maximum size of A0 (84 × 119 cm). Poster presenters need to be at their posters during the dedicated sessions.

## Location / Accommodation:

The night of June 4th to 5th is included in your corporate conference fee, please book additional nights directly with hotel staff, mentioning your participation in the conference.

Academic participants will need to book their own accommodation.

**Favorite  
Park Hotel**

Karl-Weiser Str. 1  
55131 Mainz  
Germany

Tel.: +49 6131 80 15 0  
empfang@favorite-mainz.de  
www.favorite-mainz.de/en/

## ONLINE REGISTRATION

will close on May 16<sup>th</sup>

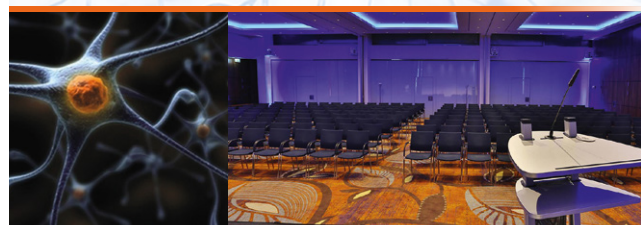
On site registration will still be possible.

## Highlights:

- **NEW INSIGHTS INTO NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASE DRIVERS: SYNAPTIC AND NEURONAL LOSS, NEUROINFLAMMATION & INFLUENCE OF THE MICROBIOME**
- **NEW TARGET CANDIDATES**
  - » **NOVEL DISEASE MODELS AND TARGET VALIDATION**
  - » **IN VITRO SCREENING ON TARGETS**
  - » **IN VITRO VALIDATION IN (HUMAN) NEURONAL MODELS**
  - » **IN VIVO MODELS AND BIOMARKERS**
- **DISCUSSION OF SELECTION CRITERIA FOR CLINICAL DEVELOPMENT**

## Target Audience:

- **ACADEMIC EXPERTS IN PROTEOPATHIC NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES INTERESTED IN DRUG DISCOVERY**
- **DRUG DISCOVERY EXPERTS FROM BIOTECH AND PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY**
- **SERVICE PROVIDERS WITH NOVEL MODELS OF PROTEOPATHIC NEURODEGENERATION**
- **PHARMA STRATEGISTS AND INVESTORS INTERESTED IN THE NEURODEGENERATIVE FIELD**



## Registration:

**CORPORATE 1800 €**      **ACADEMIC 600 €**

**ONLINE**

meals +  
accommodation

meals

**ON SITE**

meals

meals

All prices: + VAT 19%

### Social Program:

The end of the first conference day will offer **wine tasting** from the region of 'Rheinessen' and a **conference dinner** exemplifying regional hospitality.

**Accompanying partners** can enjoy sightseeing in Mainz and a boat trip on the river Rhine seeing the world heritage site of the middle Rhine valley with its spectacular scenery and many castles from the water or during onsite visits.

### Directions Public Transport: 30 min from Frankfurt Airport!

Take train from Frankfurt Airport Regional Train Station below Terminal 1:

- e.g. S8 (not S9!) leaving every 30 min to final destination Wiesbaden
- or an RE – Regional Express (e.g. direction Saarbrücken, Koblenz, Bingen)
- and exit at 'Mainz Römisches Theater'
- take a taxi (10 min) in front of the station,
- or walk 10 min through the park after taking the rear exit of the train station (uphill).

### Directions for Drivers:

- Coming from the East via the A60 exit 'Mainz Zentrum' via the B9 and then enter Karl Weiser Str. on your left.
- Coming from the South (A63) or West (A61) via the A60 exit at Mainz South (Exit 22b) and drive → via Geschwister Scholl Str., → Emy Roeder Str., ← Hechtsheimerstr., → Am Stiftswingert, ↑ Göttelmannstr., ← Karl Weiser Str.
- Parking is in the surrounding streets or in the hotel car park (16 € per night)
- Rush hours are in the direction to Frankfurt from 7:00 – 9:00 and from Frankfurt in the direction to Mainz 16:00 – 19:00

### Alternative Accommodation in Walking Distance:

#### IBIS Mainz City

Holzofstraße 2  
 55116 Mainz  
 Tel.: +49 6131 2470  
[www.ibis.com/de/hotel-1084-ibis-mainz-city/index.shtml](http://www.ibis.com/de/hotel-1084-ibis-mainz-city/index.shtml)

#### Hotel Stiftswingert

Am Stiftswingert 4  
 55131 Mainz  
 Tel.: +49 6131 98264-0  
[info@hotel-stiftswingert.de](mailto:info@hotel-stiftswingert.de)

#### Hotel Burg Stuben

Mönchstraße 13  
 55130 Mainz  
 Tel.: +49 6131 9719809  
[www.burg-stuben.mainz-hotels.com/de/](http://www.burg-stuben.mainz-hotels.com/de/)



### Organizer:

**Dr. Andreas Köpke (bioExpert)**  
 Tel: +49 6136 957 3000  
[info@bioexpert.biz](mailto:info@bioexpert.biz)

### Advisory Committee:

**Manuel Buttini – Marcus Fändrich – Thierry Pillot – Joseph Araujo – Hans-Ulrich Demuth**

### Sponsors:



MONDAY  
JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>

## Program Day 1 – Morning

Time	Activity		Speaker
8:00	Registration Breakfast		
9:00	Opening of the Conference		
9:15	Scientific Introduction	<i>Proteopathic neurodegenerative diseases, similarities and differences</i>	<b>Andrew West</b> Neurology, University of Alabama, Birmingham, USA
10:00	New Approaches to fight AD	<i>β-Amyloid, microbiome and Alzheimer's disease: how can we slow down disease progression?</i>	<b>Sylvie Claeysen</b> Institute of Functional Genetics, CNRS, INSERM, Uni. Montpellier, France
10:30	New Insights into AD	<i>The role of tau aggregates in AD</i>	<b>Luc Buée</b> Head of the Inserm laboratory Alzheimer & Tauopathies, University of Lille, France
11:00	Coffee Break		
11:30	AD Drug Discovery	<i>GT177 active compounds improve cognition and biomarkers in sporadic AD models</i>	<b>Jan V.d. Schueren</b> Discovery Site Head, Galapagos NV, Mechelen, Belgium
11:45	AD Drug Discovery	<i>What did the field learn from the last fifteen years of AD clinical studies?</i>	<b>Laurent Pradier</b> Neuroscience Research Therapeutic Area, Sanofi, Paris, France
12:00	AD Model	<i>Cognitive decline in the aged Beagle as a natural AD model</i>	<b>Joseph Auraujo</b> InterVivo Solutions, Toronto, Canada
12:15	Exhibition Poster Session: All Presenters will be at their Posters for Discussions One on One Meetings		
13:00	Buffet Lunch in the Foyer		

MONDAY  
JUNE 4TH

## Program Day 1 – Afternoon

Time		Activity	Speaker
14:00	New Insights into AD	<i>Structure of A<math>\beta</math> amyloid oligomers and fibrils: implications for disease mechanism and drug discovery</i>	<b>Marcus Fändrich</b> Institute of Protein Biochemistry, Ulm University, Germany
14:30	AD Drug Discovery	<i>Normalization of Ca<sup>2+</sup> homeostasis restores neuronal function and cognition in preclinical models of Alzheimer's disease</i>	<b>Gerard Griffioen</b> CSO Drug Discovery, Remynd, Leuven, Belgium
14:45	AD Model	<i>Improving clinical translatability of Alzheimer's disease mouse models</i>	<b>Bart Roucourt</b> CRO Manager, Remynd, Leuven, Belgium
15:00	AD Model	<i>Induced and engineered disease models for relevant drug discovery: modeling proteopathic neurodegeneration with human iPSC-derived neurons</i>	<b>Sabine Lange</b> Senior Field Application Scientist, Cellular Dynamics International Inc., Madison, USA
15:15	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Coffee Break</b> Poster Session: All Presenters will be at their Posters for Discussions One on One Meetings</p>		
17:00	New Approaches to Fight AD	<i>The role of post-translational modifications of amyloid-<math>\beta</math> for neurotoxicity and resulting therapeutic opportunities</i>	<b>Hans-Ulrich Demuth</b> Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology, Leipzig, Germany
17:30	New Approaches to Fight AD	<i>Neuroinflammation in AD: a realistic target?</i>	<b>Michael Harte</b> University of Manchester, United Kingdom
18:00	Wine Tasting		
19:00	Dinner		
22:00	End of the Day		



TUESDAY  
JUNE 5TH

## Program Day 2 – Morning

Time	Activity	Speaker
8:00	Joint Breakfast Exhibition	
9:00	Scientific Introduction  <i>PD is not just a dopaminergic disease affecting energetic systems of dopaminergic neurons</i>	<b>Nico Diederich</b> Department of Neurosciences, Central Hospital, Luxembourg
9:30	PD Model  <i>Modeling Parkinson's in murines: mission impossible?</i>	<b>Manuel Buttini</b> Head of Neuropathology and Animal Model Core Unit, Centre for Systems Biomedicine, Luxembourg
10:00	PD Drug Discovery  <i>ONO-2160/CD, a prodrug of levodopa, translation from a preclinical to clinical study</i>	<b>Takashi Kitajima</b> Group Head of Discovery Research Laboratories, Ono Pharmaceuticals, Osaka, Japan
10:15	Models of Neuro- degenerative Diseases  <i>Aggregate-induced in vitro and in vivo models facilitate drug discovery for sporadic neuro-degenerative diseases</i>	<b>Andreas Köpke</b> bioExpert, Nieder-Olm, Germany
10:30	PD Biomarkers  <i>MASCK – Microtubules, <math>\alpha</math>-synuclein and cytokines: A new project investigating biomarkers in PD</i>	<b>Massimiliano Bianchi</b> Transpharmation Ltd., Dublin, Ireland
10:45	Coffee Break & Exhibition Poster Session: All Presenters will be at their Posters for Discussions One on One Meetings	
11:30	New Approaches to Fight PD  <i>Disease-modification by small molecules targeting pathological oligomers</i>	<b>Armin Giese</b> Center for Neuropathology & Prion Research, Munich, Germany
12:00	PD Drug Discovery  <i>Optimization of cellular and in vivo models for identification of antibodies inhibiting <math>\alpha</math>-synuclein-fibril-induced pathology</i>	<b>Pekka Kallunki</b> Principal Scientist, Project Leader, Lundbeck Pharma A/S, Valby, Denmark
12:15	New Approaches to Fight PD  <i>Microglia as potential drug targets in Parkinson's disease?</i>	<b>Knut Biber</b> Head Neuroinflammation, Abbvie, Ludwigshafen, Germany

TUESDAY  
JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup>

## Program Day 2 – Afternoon

Time	Activity	Speaker
12:30	PD Drug Discovery <i>Development of therapeutic molecules targeting <math>\alpha</math>-synuclein</i>	<b>Andreas Weihofen</b> Principal Scientist, Biogen, Cambridge, USA
12:45	PD Drug Discovery <i>Epitope-based selection of a passive immunotherapy approach for PD</i>	<b>Phil Dolan</b> , Prothena, South San Francisco, USA
13:00	Seated Lunch	
14:00	PD Drug Discovery <i>Development of disease-modifying treatments for Parkinson's disease</i>	<b>Kenneth Christensen</b> Project Director, Servier, IDRS, Paris, France
14:15	PD Model <i>Update on non-human primate models of Parkinson's disease: symptomatic and disease-modification approaches</i>	<b>Jonathan Brotchie</b> Director & President, Atuka Inc., Toronto, Canada
14:30	PD Drug Discovery <i>Human antibodies targeting C9orf72 dipeptide repeat proteins for the treatment of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Frontotemporal Dementia</i>	<b>Fabio Montrasio</b> , Senior Scientist ALS Research & Head of Alliance Management, Neurimmune AG, Schlieren, Switzerland
14:45	Coffee Break Poster Session ends One on One Meetings	
15:15	Scientific Outlook <i>Current and future challenges in the research of and therapy development for proteopathic diseases</i>	<b>Erich Wanker</b> Head Proteom Research & Mol. Mechanisms of Neurodegenerative Diseases, MDC, Berlin, Germany
15:45	Panel Discussion <i>What are the challenges of academic researchers, service providers and drug discovery companies to reach translational drug discovery in neurodegenerative disease?</i>	<b>Hans-Ulrich Demuth</b> , <b>Manuel Buttini</b> , <b>Joseph Araujo</b> , <b>Jonathan Brotchie</b> , <b>Laurent Pradier</b> , <b>Kenneth Christensen</b>
16:20	Summary and wrap-up of the conference	
16:30	End of the conference and departure	