

ECM2026



the
**extracellular
matrix**
pharmacology
congress

Program

14-17 June 2026
Tivoli Congress Center
Copenhagen, Denmark

Sunday, 14 June 2026

13:00 - 15:00	Registration Location: Reception	
15:00 - 16:00	Break-out industry session: Fibrosis models from ex vivo systems to animal models Chair: John Varga	Break-out industry session: Next-generation drug discovery in fibrosis and cancer Chair: Daniel Hargbøl Madsen
15:00 - 15:20	Get the full picture with quantitative 3D whole-organ imaging Henrik H. Hansen, Gubra A/S	Title: TBD Speaker TBD, AstraZeneca
15:20 - 15:40	Human slice cultures: forging a new era for translational research in fibrosis Speaker: TBD, AnaBios	Title: TBD Speaker: TBD, Bristol Myers Squibb
15:40 - 16:00	Human precision-cut tissue slices as a preclinical platform for the development & testing of novel therapeutics Speaker: TBD, FibroFind Location: Harlekin	Title: TBD Speaker: TBD Location: Columbine
16:15 - 17:30	Opening session Location: Congress hall Chairs: Morten Karsdal and Detlef Schuppan	
16:15 - 16:30	Chair's welcome and introduction Morten Karsdal, Nordic Bioscience	
16:30 - 17:30	Plenary Keynote Celebrating the era of antifibrotics Maja Thiele, Evido Health	
17:30 - 19:00	Welcome reception Drinks and celebration Location: Reception	Poster session A Poster talk at 18:00 (meeting point reception) Location: Congress hall (rear section)

Monday, 15 June 2026

11:00 - 12:30	Plenary session: Fibroblasts vs cancer cells - who is in control? Chairs: Janine Erler and Lars Henning Engelholm			Location: Congress hall
11:00 - 11:25	It's not who's in control... It's what they're building that matters: The matrix as a determinant of tumour progression and therapy response Thomas R. Cox, Garvan Institute of Medical Research			
11:25 - 11:50	Tumor-directed reprogramming of the microenvironment drives metastasis and treatment resistance in non-small cell lung cancer Don L. Gibbons, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center			
11:50 - 12:00	Oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD			
12:00 - 12:10	Oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD			
12:10 - 12:20	Oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD			
12:30 - 13:15	Lunch and exhibition			Location: Reception
13:15 - 14:15	Break-out industry session: Strategies for fibrosis resolution Chair: Dinesh Khanna		Break-out session: Degradomics and proteomics Chair: Alexandra Naba	Panel discussion: Young investigators, biotech/pharma career paths & entrepreneurship Panel Lykke Hinsch Gylvin, Boehringer Ingelheim Mads Bastrup Israelsen, Odense University Hospital Morten Karsdal, Nordic Bioscience
13:15 - 13:35	Regenerative Macrophage Therapy: targeting chronic inflammation and fibrosis with a multimodal approach Lara Campana, Resolution Therapeutics	13:15 - 13:40	A unified proteomic framework for discovering extracellular matrix damage mechanisms Alexander Eckersley, the University of Manchester	
13:35 - 13:55	Targeting CCN proteins: Navigating the balance between antifibrotic efficacy and clinical tolerability Ole Kaasbøl, Tribune Therapeutics	13:40 - 13:45	Lightning oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD	
13:55 - 14:15	Title TBD Speaker: TBD, Inventiva	13:45 - 13:50	Lightning oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD	
		13:50 - 13:55	Lightning oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD	
		13:55 - 14:00	Lightning oral abstract 4 Speaker TBD	
	Location: Columbine	14:00 - 14:15	Q&A Location: Harlekin	Location: Pjerrot

Monday, 15 June 2026

<p>14:30 - 16:00</p>	<p>Plenary session: Tissue destruction in autoimmunity and chronic inflammation</p> <p>Chairs: Tim Welting and Tazio Maleitzke</p>			<p>Congress hall</p>
<p>14:00 - 14:25</p>	<p>Synovial stromal cells and joint pain</p> <p>Dana Orange, The Rockefeller University</p>			
<p>14:25 - 14:50</p>	<p>Pathogenic fibroblasts in refractory rheumatoid arthritis</p> <p>Kevin Wei, Harvard Medical School</p>			
<p>14:50 - 15:00</p>	<p>Oral abstract 1</p> <p>Speaker TBD</p>			
<p>15:00 - 15:10</p>	<p>Oral abstract 2</p> <p>Speaker TBD</p>			
<p>15:10 - 15:20</p>	<p>Oral abstract 3</p> <p>Speaker TBD</p>			
<p>16:00 - 16:30</p>	<p>Coffee break and exhibition</p>			<p>Reception</p>
<p>16:30 - 17:30</p>	<p>Break-out industry session: From ECM biology to fibroblast-based therapies Chair: Scott Friedman</p>	<p>Break-out industry session: ECM biomarkers, Reasonably Likely Surrogate Endpoints (RLSE), and regulatory considerations Chair: Maja Thiele</p>	<p>Break-out session: Lightning late-breaking oral presentations Chair: Ali Mobasheri</p>	
<p>16:30 - 16:50</p>	<p>A Pan-Matrisome tissue atlas of fibrosis and solid tumors to decode ECM composition and biology Giuseppe Mazza, Engitix</p>	<p>Title TBD Veronica Miller, UC Berkeley</p>	<p>Lightning oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD</p> <p>Lightning oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD</p>	
<p>16:50 - 17:30</p>	<p>Title TBD Speaker TBD, FibroBiologics</p>	<p>Title TBD Speaker TBD, Roche Diagnostics</p>	<p>Lightning oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD</p> <p>Lightning oral abstract 4 Speaker TBD</p> <p>Lightning oral abstract 5 Speaker TBD</p> <p>Lightning oral abstract 6 Speaker TBD</p> <p>Lightning oral abstract 7 Speaker TBD</p> <p>Lightning oral abstract 8 Speaker TBD</p>	
	<p>Location: Pjerrot</p>	<p>Location: Columbine</p>	<p>Location: Harlekin</p>	

Monday, 15 June 2026

17:40 - 18:40	Break-out session: Lightning oral presentations Chair: Ditte Jæhger Location: Columbine	Break-out session: Lightning oral presentations Chair: Janine Erler Location: Harlekin
17:45 - 17:50	Lightning oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD	Lightning oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD
17:50 - 17:55	Lightning oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD	Lightning oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD
17:55 - 18:00	Lightning oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD	Lightning oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD
18:00 - 18:05	Lightning oral abstract 4 Speaker TBD	Lightning oral abstract 4 Speaker TBD
18:05 - 18:10	Lightning oral abstract 5 Speaker TBD	Lightning oral abstract 5 Speaker TBD
18:10 - 18:15	Lightning oral abstract 6 Speaker TBD	Lightning oral abstract 6 Speaker TBD
18:15 - 18:20	Lightning oral abstract 7 Speaker TBD	Lightning oral abstract 7 Speaker TBD
18:20 - 18:25	Lightning oral abstract 8 Speaker TBD	Lightning oral abstract 8 Speaker TBD
18:25 - 18:40	Q&A	Q&A

Tuesday, 16 June 2026

08:00 - 08:45	Fun Run Meeting point: Reception	
08:00 - 08:45	Break-out industry session: Location: Harlekin 3D disease models: integrating matrix biology and mechanics Chair: Alexandra Naba	Break-out industry session: Location: Pjerrot Rethinking fibrosis: biology, therapies, and AI Chair: Florian Rieder
08:00 - 08:20	A Tissue-Specific ECM Platform for Modeling Cancer and Fibrosis Speaker TBD, Xylyx	Title TBD Speaker TBD, Takeda
08:20 - 08:40	Title TBD Speaker: TBD, Optics11 Life	Pharmaceutical superintelligence: How generative AI is reshaping ECM-targeting discovery for fibrosis, oncology, and inflammatory disease Speaker: TBD, Insilico Medicine
09:00 - 10:30	Plenary session: Dermatology - a sign of a systemic disease Location: Congress hall Chairs: Gisli Jenkins and Stephane Heymans	
09:00 - 09:25	Insights into ECM remodeling in skin aging and disease Andrea Heinz, University of Copenhagen	
09:25 - 09:50	Title TBD Christian Vestergaard, Aarhus University Hospital	
09:50 - 10:00	Oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD	
10:00 - 10:10	Oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD	
10:10 - 10:20	Oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD	
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break and exhibition Location: Reception	

Tuesday, 16 June 2026

11:00 - 12:30	Plenary session: Drivers of multi-organ fibrosis Chairs: Mette Mogensen and John Varga			Location: Congress hall
11:00 - 11:25	Title: TBD Dinesh Khanna, University of Michigan			
11:25 - 11:50	"It's the matrix, stupid": Remodeling the ECM to impact weight loss quality and multimorbidity Manu Chakravarthy, Roche-Genentech			
11:50 - 12:00	Oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD			
12:00 - 12:10	Oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD			
12:10 - 12:20	Oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD			
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch, posters and exhibition			
13:00 - 14:00	Poster session B			Location: congress hall (rear section)
13:15 - 13:45	Poster talks			Meeting point: Reception
14:00 - 15:00	Break-out industry session: Weight loss quality Chair: Manu Chakravarthy		Break-out session: Endotrophin: When the matrix becomes a signal Chair: Kim Henriksen	Break-out session: Fibroblast heterogeneity Chair: Thomas Cox
14:00 - 14:20	Title: TBD Tina Vilsbøll, Novo Nordisk	14:10 - 14:25	When fat gets stuck: Lipid droplets, fibrosis, and the metabolic fallout of obesity Philipp Scherer, UT Southwestern Medical Center	Title: TBD Raghu Kalluri, the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
14:20 - 14:40	Title TBD Speaker TBD, Novo Nordisk	14:25 - 14:35	Oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD	Oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD
14:40 - 15:00	Title TBD Speaker TBD Location: Columbine	14:35 - 14:45 14:45 - 14:55	Oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD Oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD Location: Pjerrot	Oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD Oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD Location: Harlekin

Tuesday, 16 June 2026

15:00 - 16:30	Plenary session: The epithelium as a barrier in lung fibrosis and cardiovascular disease Chairs: Saher B. Shaker and Thomas Barker	Location: Congress hall
15:00 - 15:25	Immune driven fibrosis in heart failure Stephane Heymans, Maastricht University	
15:25 - 15:50	Title: TBD Gisli Jenkins, Imperial College London	
15:50 - 16:00	Oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD	
16:00 - 16:10	Oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD	
16:10 - 16:20	Oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD	
16:30 - 16:50	Coffee break and exhibition	Location: Reception
16:50 - 17:30	Plenary Keynote Chairs: Detlef Schuppan og Henning Grønbæk Cellular therapeutics in fibrosis: Progress and prospects Scott L. Friedman, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai	Location: Reception
18:00 - 24:00	Congress dinner Separate ticket needed	Meeting point: Harbour site

Wednesday, 17 June 2026

08:00 - 09:30	Plenary session: ECM-immune crosstalk and tissue remodeling Chairs: Henning Grønbæk and Mads Israelsen	Location: Congress hall
08:00 - 08:25	Immune cell – ECM interaction in fibrosis and cancer Detlef Schuppan, Mainz University Medical Center	
08:25 - 08:50	Title: TBD Douglas Maya Miles	
08:50 - 09:00	Oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD	
09:00 - 09:10	Oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD	
09:10 - 09:20	Oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD	
09:30 - 10:00	Coffee break	Location: Reception

Wednesday, 17 June 2026

10:00 - 11:30	Plenary session: ECM in health and disease Chairs: Don Lyn Gibbons and Dinesh Khanna	Location: Congress hall
10:00 - 10:25	Leveraging mechanobiology to drug the fibrotic matrix Tom Barker, University of Virginia	
10:25 - 10:50	Metabolic and epigenetic control of fibroblast memory in systemic sclerosis John Varga, University of Michigan	
10:50 - 10:55	Lightning oral abstract 1 Speaker TBD	
10:55 - 11:00	Lightning oral abstract 2 Speaker TBD	
11:00 - 11:05	Lightning oral abstract 3 Speaker TBD	
11:05 - 11:10	Lightning oral abstract 4 Speaker TBD	
11:10 - 11:15	Lightning oral abstract 5 Speaker TBD	
11:15 - 11:20	Lightning oral abstract 6 Speaker TBD	
11:20 - 11:30	Q&A	
11:30 - 12:30	Close of Congress	Location: Congress hall
11:30 - 11:45	Award ceremony Morten Karsdal, Nordic Bioscience	
11:45 - 12:30	Plenary Keynote Chairs: Morten Karsdal and Andrea Heinz The matrisome project: from proteomic exploration of the extracellular matrix to matritherapies Alexandra Naba, University of Illinois Chicago	