



Neutrophil 2026

San Diego, September 21-23

Scientific Program

Hazen Auditorium, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla

DAY 1 | Monday, September 21

11:00-12:45 Badge Pick-Up

12:45-12:50 Welcome Address from the Neutrophil Meetings Steering Committee
Patrick P. McDonald, Université de Sherbrooke (Sherbrooke, Canada)

12:50-1:00 Welcome Address from the 2026 Meeting Chair
Sergio D. Catz, The Scripps Research Institute (La Jolla, USA)

1:00-2:00 Session 1: Neutrophil Subsets

Chair: Sergio D. Catz, The Scripps Research Institute (La Jolla, USA)

1:00-1:30 Marco Cassatella, University of Verona (Verona, Italy)
New insights into the human neutrophil-committed progenitors

1:30-2:00 Lynn Hedrick, Augusta University (Augusta, USA)
Neutrophil Heterogeneity and Cell Communication in Atherosclerosis

2:00-3:00 Session 2: Neutrophils in Cancer

Chair: Sanja Arandjelovic, University of Virginia (Charlottesville, USA)

2:00-2:30 Yanfang "Peipei" Zhu, Augusta University (Augusta, USA)
The Neutrophil Lineage in Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma: via Time and Space

2:30-3:00 Tanya Mayadas, University of Rochester Medical Center (Rochester, USA)
Harnessing neutrophil antigen presentation for the treatment of cancer

3:00-3:30 Coffee Break

3:30-4:30 Session 3: Neutrophil-Pathogen Interactions

Chair: Silvia Uriarte, University of Louisville (Louisville, USA)

3:30-4:00 Alison Criss, University of Virginia (Charlottesville, USA)
*Manipulation of neutrophil functionality by *Neisseria gonorrhoeae**

4:00-4:30 Emily Rosowski, Clemson University (Clemson, USA)
*Revealing redundant neutrophil effector functions against *Aspergillus hyphae* in larval zebrafish*

4:30-5:30 Session 4: Keynote Address

Intro by Sergio D. Catz, The Scripps Research Institute (La Jolla, USA)

4:35-5:30 Ken McLeish, University of Louisville (Louisville, USA)
My journey from clinical medicine to neutrophil biology

5:30-7:30 Reception and Poster Session 1



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DAY 2 | Tuesday, September 22

8:30-10:30 Session 5: Neutrophils in Inflammation and Infection

Chair: Balázs Rada, University of Georgia (Athens, USA)

8:30-9:00 Nicolas Demaurex, University of Geneva (Geneva, Switzerland)
Regulation of neutrophil phagocytosis by store-operated and mechanosensitive channels

9:00-9:30 Sofia De Oliveira, Albert Einstein College of Medicine (Bronx, USA)
Neutrophils Outside the Box: Rethinking Inflammation in Complex Disease States

9:30-10:00 Borko Amulic, University of Bristol (Bristol, UK)
Fine tuning the neutrophil response in infections

10:00-10:30 Véronique Witko-Sarsat, Inserm (Paris, France)
Cytosolic Proliferating Cell Nuclear Antigen (PCNA): A central signaling scaffold orchestrating neutrophil plasticity in inflammation

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-11:20 Featured Young Faculty

Chair: Silvia Uriarte, University of Louisville (Louisville, USA)

Hawa Racine Thiam, Stanford University (Stanford, USA) (14' + 4' Q&A)
A chromatin-osmotic-VRAC ion channel axis tunes cell volume and plasma membrane tension to drive NETosis execution

11:20-12:00 Trainee Session 1

Chair: Stephania Libreros, Yale University (New Haven, USA)

11:20-11:30 Richard Felix Kraus, University of Regensburg (Regensburg, Germany) (6' + 2' Q&A)
Modulating the Front Line: In Vitro Adaptation of Human Neutrophil Granulocyte Responses to Escherichia coli

11:30-11:40 Nghi Ly, University of California, Irvine (Irvine, USA) (6' + 2' Q&A)
The obligate cytosolic pathogen Rickettsia parkeri survives and replicates within neutrophils

11:40-11:50 Julia K. Kuehn, Boston Children's Hospital (Boston, USA) (6' + 2' Q&A)
Megakaryocyte emperipolesis arms neutrophils via intracellular provisioning

11:50-12:00 Yaqi Li, The University of Oxford (Oxford, UK) (6' + 2' Q&A)
Decoding Bone Marrow Responses to Severe Infection

12:00-2:00 Lunch & Poster Session 2

2:00-3:40 Session 6: Neutrophil Activation and Maturation

Chair: Attila Mócsai, Semmelweis University (Budapest, Hungary)

2:00-2:30 Anna Huttenlocher, University of Wisconsin (Madison, USA)
Myeloid derived growth factor: regulation of neutrophil activation and motility

2:30-3:00 Oliver Soehnlein, University of Münster (Münster, Germany)
Novel concepts of neutrophil maturation – a matter of location

3:00-3:20 Matthew Lawrenz, University of Louisville (Louisville, USA) (14' + 4' Q&A)
Dynamic Remodeling of Pulmonary Extracellular Vesicles During Plague Shapes Host Inflammation

3:20-3:30 Marcos Ramos-Benitez, Ponce Health Sciences University (Ponce, USA) (6' + 2' Q&A)
Neutrophil Activation and Failed NET Clearance Converge to Drive Pulmonary Fibrosis in Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome Type 1

3:30-3:40 Marie Siwicki, University of Calgary (Calgary, Canada) (6' + 2' Q&A)
Neutrophil Diversity in the Host Defense Niche

3:40-4:10 Coffee Break



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DAY 2 | Tuesday, September 22

- 4:10-5:30** **Session 7: Neutrophils in Immunity and Development**
Chair: Sonja Vermeren, University of Edinburgh (Edinburgh, United Kingdom)
- 4:10-4:40 Lai Guan Ng, Shanghai Jiao Tong University (Shanghai, China)
Neutrophils: One Cell, Many Faces
- 4:40-5:10 Stephania Libreros, Yale University (New Haven, USA)
Anatomy of Granulopoiesis
- 5:10-5:20 Vivien Maltez, University of California, San Diego (La Jolla, USA) (6' + 2' Q&A)
Spatiotemporal imaging uncovers tissue-specific regulation of NETosis in cancer
- 5:20-5:30 Elsa Meneses-Salas, The Scripps Research Institute (La Jolla, USA) (6' + 2' Q&A)
WASH orchestrates phagosomal maturation and bacterial killing in neutrophils through actin-dependent lysosomal trafficking and syntaxin 19-mediated vesicle fusion
- 6:00-10:00 *An Evening at the Birch Aquarium (ticket required)*
- 5:35-6:00 *Buses leave for transfer to the Birch Aquarium*



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DAY 3 | Wednesday, September 23

- 8:30-9:30 Session 8: Neutrophil Inflammasome and Cell Death**
Chair: Ben Croker, University of California, San Diego (La Jolla, USA)
- 8:30-9:00 Hongbo Luo, Boston Children's Hospital (Boston, USA)
Beyond Death: Neutrophil Fate and Lasting Immune Modulation
- 9:00-9:30 Hal Hoffman, University of California, San Diego (La Jolla, USA)
Cooperation of Gasdermins in Neutrophils in NLRP3-Mediated Disease
- 9:30-10:10 Trainee Session 2**
Chair: Wagner Fontes, University of Brasília (Brasília, Brazil)
- 9:30-9:40 Tim Delemarre, Genentech (San Francisco, USA) (6' + 2' Q&A)
BFL-1 inhibition drives neutrophil-selective apoptosis and suppresses inflammatory neutrophil responses
- 9:40-9:50 Asha Thomas, Indiana University (Indianapolis, USA) (6' + 2' Q&A)
KLF2-PYDC3 Axis Regulates Neutrophil Inflammasome Activation and Immunothrombosis in Antiphospholipid Syndrome
- 9:50-10:00 Motoyoshi Nagai, NIAID, National Institutes of Health (Bethesda, USA) (6' + 2' Q&A)
Spleen-driven neutrophil maturation fuels psoriatic skin inflammation
- 10:00-10:10 Jeniffer Mendes da Silva Freire, University of Brasília (Brasília, Brazil) (6' + 2' Q&A)
Integrated miRNA-mRNA analysis reveals putative regulatory targets in human neutrophils stimulated with PAF and fMLP
- 10:10-10:30 Featured Young Faculty**
Chair: Silvia Uriarte, University of Louisville (Louisville, USA)
- Alaz Ozcan, University of Zurich (Zurich, Switzerland) (14' + 4' Q&A)
Neutrophils Regulate Extracellular Matrix Architecture in Fibrosis
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee Break**
- 11:00-12:00 Session 9: Extracellular Traps and Vesicles**
Chair: Balázs Rada, University of Georgia (Athens, USA)
- 11:00-11:15 Alexander Weber, University of Tübingen (Tübingen, Germany) (10' + 3' Q&A)
Release of the pre-assembled NET-associated RNA-LL37 "composite DAMPs" drives inflammation
- 11:15-11:30 Pushkar Lele, Texas A&M University, (College Station, TX, USA) (10' + 3' Q&A)
From NETs to pseudopods: how confinement reprograms neutrophil antibacterial responses
- 11:30-12:00 Carole Parent, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, USA)
Inside Out: How exosomal LTB4 and surface DNA help resolve sterile inflammation
- 12:00-2:00 Lunch & Poster Session 3**
- 2:00-3:40 Session 10: Neutrophil Migration**
Chair: Daniel Irimia, Massachusetts General Hospital (Boston, USA)
- 2:00-2:20 Balázs Enyedi, Semmelweis University (Budapest, Hungary) (14' + 4' Q&A)
Multicolor Biosensors Illuminate Chemoattractant Dynamics in Real Time
- 2:20-2:50 Michael Schnoor, CINVESTAV (Mexico City, Mexico)
The role of myosin-1e in neutrophil functions and recruitment
- 2:50-3:20 Klaus Ley, Augusta University (Augusta, USA)
Talin-1 determines the direction of neutrophil migration
- 3:20-3:30 Sebastian Jusuf, Massachusetts General Hospital (Boston, USA) (6' + 2' Q&A)
Cytokine augmentation of primary human neutrophil responses to invasive human fungal pathogens
- 3:30-3:40 Tasha Phillips, East Tennessee State University (Johnson City, USA) (6' + 2' Q&A)
Targeting Giants: Insights into how Neutrophils Identify and Swarm to Fungal Hyphae



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DAY 3 | Wednesday, September 23

3:40-4:10 Coffee Break

4:10-5:00 PM Closing Lecture

Introduction by Sergio D. Catz, Scripps Research, La Jolla, USA

4:15-5:00 PM Mariana Kaplan, NIAMS, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA
Rethinking Autoimmunity Through Neutrophil Biology

5:00-10:00 Awards Session and Farewell

Presented by The Neutrophil 2026 Meeting Chair and Co-Chairs

5:10-5:15

Closing Remarks from the Neutrophil Meetings Steering Committee
Patrick P. McDonald, Université de Sherbrooke (Sherbrooke, Canada)