



Swedish Society for Virology (SSV) Newsletter, November 2023

Words from the Chairman of SSV and Pandemifonden Secretary General

We hope this letter finds you in good health. It is with great pleasure that we extend our warmest congratulations to each, and every, virologist who recently has been awarded a research grant from the Swedish Research Council. Your dedication and commitment to advancing the field of virology are truly commendable, and your achievements are a testament to the high standards of excellence upheld by our society. We would like to take this opportunity to encourage all members who has not received research grants this year to come back in the upcoming year. The grants from the Swedish Research Council provide a valuable opportunity to support and further your research endeavors. The innovative and groundbreaking work undertaken by our members plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of virology and contributes significantly to our collective understanding of infectious diseases.

Many of us has been – and still are – engaged in the development of the National Research Program about Virus and Pandemics. Next year The Swedish Research Council opens three new calls within this [program](#). This includes:

- Project grant for research into zoonosis
- Doctoral programme grant within the infection area
- Proof of concept within the infection area

To support research and increase visibility for virus-caused diseases, Pandemifonden is currently preparing for a campaign that target virus-caused diseases in children, where we seek collaborations with patient organizations, in similarity with the post-covid campaign that was performed together with Svenska Covidföreningen last year. We are also in the process to finalize Viruskollen.se, and, to further strengthen collaborations with company partners. 90-account from Svensk Insamlingskontroll has been approved for 2024, and we are also happy to inform that we are now also members of [Agenda Hälsa Västland](#), Forska!Sverige.

Finally, we are also happy to inform you that we have received several nominations for Pandemifonden and Sigvard Olofsson awards. Recognizing and honoring the contributions of young and talented scientists is crucial for sustaining and growth of our field. In closing, we wish each, and everyone, of you continued success in your research pursuits.

Ali Mirazimi and Niklas Arnberg

1) **Open positions:**

Postdoctoral two-year fellowships (n=2), concerning virus structure studies, at Uppsala University. Full advertisements in this [link](#) and this [link](#).

Junior Research Group Leader positions (n=4) in the field of Infection, at Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research, Germany. Deadline December 10, see more information in [link](#)

- 2) Of note, time to nominate **members to VR (Swedish Research Council) review panels**. Important that we get virologists in as many seats as possible. Please find information at the following [link](#). **Deadline November 30**.
- 3) **Virology News:**
Miguel Cantero, Virginija Cvirkaite- Krupovic, Mart Krupovic, & Pedro J. de Pablo. **Mechanical tomography of an archaeal lemon- shaped virus reveals membrane-like fluidity of the capsid and liquid nucleoprotein cargo**. PNAS, 120 (42), 2023
<https://www.pnas.org/doi/epdf/10.1073/pnas.2307717120>

Lars Krogvold, Ida Maria Mynarek, Erica Ponzi, Freja Barrett Mørk, Trine Witzner Hessel, Trine Roald, Nina Lindblom, Jacob Westman, Peter Barker, Heikki Hyöty, Johnny Ludvigsson, Kristian F. Hanssen, Jesper Johannesen & Knut Dahl-Jørgensen. **Pleconaril and ribavirin in new-onset type 1 diabetes: a phase 2 randomized trial**. Nat Med, Oct 4, 2023.
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41591-023-02576-1>
- 4) **Meetings:**
21st Smögen Summer Symposium on Virology, will be held August 22-24 next summer 2024. **Save the date !**
- 5) Anyone that has suggestions on **virology publications** that should be **highlighted**, and are of interest for Swedish virologist, please send this information to Tomas.Bergstrom@microbio.gu.se
- 6) For those of you that are active at **social media**, it would also be a great help to increase awareness – and donations – if you follow/share Pandemifondens messages. If you feel comfortable, recommend your network to follow Pandemifonden:
 - Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/pandemifonden/>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Pandemifonden>
 - LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/pandemifonden/>
- 7) Would you like to engage in Pandemifonden as a volunteer and join **Crew Pandemifonden**, together with us/others who share the vision and ambition of Pandemifonden? Contact Niklas.Arnberg@pandemifonden.se
Together we can make a difference, and, it will be fun!
- 8) **Reminder!** We kindly ask you to post, in your neighborhood, the attached Pandemifonden poster, with information on how to donate money.
- 9) [Information](#) on Virus- och Pandemifonden – **Swedish Society for Virology membership**: Attending the Smögen Summer Symposium on Virology will make you, free of charge, member of SSV for the coming three years. If you want to opt out of the membership, do not want to receive Newsletters or have other suggestions, please contact marianne.jansson@med.lu.se

Best wishes to all members (n=318)
from SSV



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