



**Swedish Society for Virology (SSV) Newsletter, February 2025**

**Words from the Chairman of SSV and the Pandemifonden Secretary General**

Dear Colleagues,

We hope this letter finds you well. As February comes to a close, there's a hint of spring in Stockholm—or perhaps just wishful thinking! Meanwhile, in the north, we're still enjoying a crisp, white winter.

The SSV Board recently held its winter face-to-face meeting in the beautiful city of Lund, where we were warmly hosted by Marianne, despite her ongoing lab relocation to Malmö. It was as usual fantastic to meet colleagues and discuss virology, and it was also a productive meeting, and we're pleased to share some exciting updates:

Travel Grants for 2025 – We're happy to confirm that the SSV Travel Grant opportunities for PhD students and postdocs will continue also 2025, so we encourage you to apply for support for your upcoming travels, see our [website](#).

Smögen 2024 Meeting Finances – The financial statement for the Smögen 2024 Meeting is balanced, ensuring the stability of our initiatives.

Smögen 2025 Meeting & Research School – We discussed the program for the Smögen 2025 Meeting, as well as the research school supported by the Swedish Research Council, which will be coordinated by Umeå University—led by Annasara Lenman, Marta Bally, and their team. Congratulations to Umeå University and all other universities involved! The research school has an exciting course program ahead, with plans for two courses in 2025—stay tuned for more details.

We are also pleased to inform that Viruskollen is now [Live \(!\)](#) and linked to Pandemifonden's website. Read and enjoy. Thanks to all authors for your contributions! This will contribute to public knowledge and attract visitors to our website. We are now planning for Viruskollen 2.0, which will include knowledge about vaccines, antiviral treatments, diagnostics, and virus-caused diseases. We, SSV - Virus- and pandemifonden, are also preparing for a seminar and discussion about virus-caused diseases at the Swedish Government to highlight the impact of virus-caused diseases and pandemic preparedness. This topic was recently discussed by us and the Minister for Social Affairs and Public Health, Jakob Forssmed, at [DN Debatt](#).

Next week marks the annual meeting of the German-Speaking Society for Virology, where several of our members will be presenting—wishing everyone attending a great and inspiring conference!

Additionally, the Swedish Research Council has opened calls for Distinguished Professorships and Medical Project Grants, with more virus- and pandemic-focused calls expected later, see list below. We strongly encourage you to apply.

As we move toward longer, brighter days, we hope this lightness extends to your research and daily life.

All the best from  
Ali Mirazimi and Niklas Arnberg

1) **Virology News:**

**Occupational-related risk of testing SARS-CoV-2 positive for publicly employed medical doctors in Sweden: A nationwide cohort study.** Fonseca-Rodriguez O, Tobjörk E, Jerndal H, Eriksson M, Fors Connolly AM. Scand J Public Health. 2024 Dec 26;14034948241304487. doi:[10.1177/14034948241304487](https://doi.org/10.1177/14034948241304487).

2) **Campaigns**

**SSV – Pandemifonden** has together with patient associations, "Covidföreningen", "Riksförbundet för ME-sjuka", and "Föreningen för svårdiagnostiserade infektionssjukdomar", **launched a campaign** running until April 30. The purpose is to fundraise support **for research on post-infectious diseases** such as post-covid and ME/CFS. For more information and donations see [link](#) (in Swedish)

3) **Open positions**

**Group Leader** for innovative research in **molecular infection medicine**, including research on viruses, at **MIMS**, Umeå University. Five-year funding with the opportunity to extend up to nine years. For information see [link](#). **Application deadline March 31.**

**Postdoc scholarship in Virology and Cell biology**, at Karolinska institutet. For more information and see [link](#). **Application deadline February 28.**

4) **Upcoming Calls:**

at Swedish Research Council (VR), see [link](#)

- **Distinguished professor** grant within medicine and health
- Grant for **research time in a clinical** environment
- **Consolidator grant** within medicine and health
- **Starting grant** within medicine and health
- Research **Project grant** within medicine and health
- Research project grant for development of methods to replace, reduce and refine animal experiments **(3R)**
- Project grant for **research into** knowledge gaps in **viruses and pandemics**
- **Consolidator grant within viruses** and pandemics
- **Starting grant within viruses** and pandemics
- **Network grant** for collaboration in the area of **viruses** and pandemics
- Project grant for **cross-sectoral collaboration** within medicine and health
- Grant for **research time in a clinical environment** within **viruses** and pandemics

5) **Meetings:**

**34th Annual Meeting of the German-speaking Society for Virology (GfV)**, Hamburg **March 4-7, 2025**, including plenary sessions on: Innate Immunity, Structural Virology, Virus–Host Interactions, Viral Data Science and Emerging Viruses/ Zoonoses, and many parallel workshops. For more information, and registration see [link](#). **Note!** When you login for registration you should tick, under “Membership”, that you are member of SSV. This since the registration fee, both for students and more senior virologists, will be reduced to the same level as for **GfV** members.

**9th European Congress of Virology 2025**, Dubrovnik, Croatia, **April 27-30, 2025**. For information on the program and registration see [link](#).

**World Society for Virology Conference WSV2025** in Kuala Lumpur **May 6-8, 2025**. See [link](#).

**EMBO/FEBS lecture course on Physical Virology, June 1-6, 2025**; Sant Feliu de Guixols, Spain. See [link](#).

**Save the date! 8th Nordic Conference of Antiviral Treatment Strategies and Drug Resistance** in Uppsala **June 11, 2025** See [link](#)

**Save the date!** Next year's **Smögen Summer Symposium on Virology** will be held **August 21-23, 2025**.

- 6) 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](mailto:Tomas.Bergstrom@microbio.gu.se)
- 7) 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/>
- 8) 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](mailto:Niklas.Arnberg@pandemifonden.se)  
Together we can make a difference, and, it will be fun!
- 9) **Reminder!** We kindly ask you to post, in your neighborhood, the attached Pandemifonden poster, with information on how to donate money.
- 10) [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](mailto:marianne.jansson@med.lu.se)

**Best wishes to all members (n=311)  
from SSV**

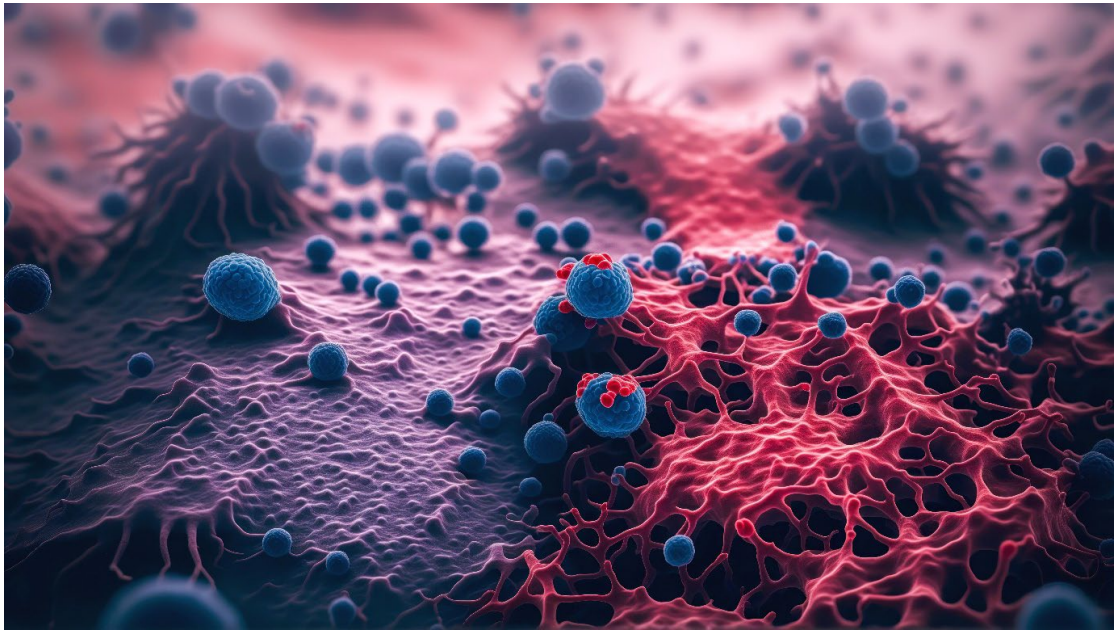


Foto: Getty Images

Vi är övertygade om att banbrytande forskning och multidisciplinärt samarbete mellan akademi, industri och hälsosektorn är avgörande för att utveckla nästa generations behandlingar och vacciner mot virussjukdomar. Genom att kombinera avancerad virologisk forskning, innovativa bioteknologiska lösningar och datadriven läkemedelsutveckling kan vi möta nuvarande och framtida pandemiska hot.

Pfizer i Sverige samarbetar med Pandemifonden för att stödja svensk virusforskning, stärka den vetenskapliga infrastrukturen och att bidra till kunskapsspridning om virus, immunrespons och antivirala behandlingsstrategier. Tillsammans bygger vi en mer motståndskraftig samtid och framtid mot infektionssjukdomar.

Pfizer AB  
Solnavägen 3H  
113 63 Stockholm  
Tel. 08-550 520 00





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