



Swedish Society for Virology (SSV) Newsletter, April 2025

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

Dear Members of Virus- och pandemifonden – Swedish Society for Virology

We hope this email finds you well and that you had a restful and enjoyable Easter holiday. We are pleased to share that the Swedish Research School, National Doctoral Program in Virus Infections and Pandemics (NDP-VIP), headed by Umeå University, has initiated an exciting new collaboration with the Junior Section of the German-speaking Society for Virology. This partnership aims to foster international exchange by allowing both groups to invite each other's students and speakers to participate in their respective events and activities.

As part of the upcoming program, NDP-VIP will be offering two specialized courses this year. The first will focus on antiviral strategies and is scheduled to take place in conjunction with the Smögen meeting. The second course will explore vaccines—with a focus on viruses, parasites, and bacteria—and will be held alongside the National Infection Biology Meeting just outside Stockholm. These courses will be open for registration shortly, however, you can already now register yourself to become a member of NDP-VIP (see [link](#)). We encourage you to keep an eye on the [NPI-VIP website](#) for updates and details.

In addition, we would like to draw your attention to several new calls recently announced by the Swedish Research Council (VR), particularly those focusing on viruses and pandemic preparedness (for more details see below). We strongly encourage you to apply, as it is crucial to demonstrate both our collective interest in this field and the high quality of the research being conducted within our community. It could also be highlighted that VR has a special call for supporting [recruitment of researchers](#) active outside Europe.

Virus- and pandemifonden will soon engage in a webinar about diagnostics of respiratory infections, to be broadcasted and recorded with support from our company partner bioMérieux and in collaboration with Bonnier Health Care. More information to come. We also engage in an investigation to understand the societal total costs of virus-caused infections in the airways. We do this in collaboration with AstraZeneca and Macanda. We also collaborated with the Swedish Blood Cancer Society in a survey with their members to understand the impact of infections in this patient group. Read more about this [here](#). As a member of Forska!Sverige's think tank Agenda för Hälsa och Välstånd we contributed to the new report Implement more!, which will be presented and discussed May 14 together with e.g. Minister of Social Affairs Jakob Forssmed. Read more [here](#) and register for the meeting. We thank company partner Sanofi for support to Forska!Sverige member fee. We are also happy to welcome Cepheid as a new company partner of ours. We are really pleased that there is an increasing interest to collaborate with us.

All the best from Ali Mirazimi and Niklas Arnberg

1) **Smögen meeting:**

22nd Smögen Summer Symposium on Virology, August 21-23, 2025. We are happy to also this year have excellent keynote speakers, including **Stephanie Pfänders**, Lübeck, on the interplay between RNA viruses and the host, **Karl Ståhl**, SVA, Uppsala, on epizootic diseases, **Mikael Dolsten**, former CSO at Pfizer, on mRNA vaccine developments. **Abstract submission deadline May 31.** See following [link](#) for more information and registration.

2) **NDP-VIP and Courses:**

NDP-VIP research school is now open for registration

We are excited to announce that the new research school, the **National Doctoral Program in Virus Infections and Pandemics (NDP-VIP)**, is now open for registration at ndp-vip.se! Membership is open to PhD students and postdocs.

Registration for our **first course, "Antivirals – Mechanisms, Resistance and Innovation,"** will open soon. The course will be held August 18–20, 2025, at Bohusgården in Uddevalla, Sweden. The course takes place directly before the Smögen Summer Symposium on Virology, and transport to Smögen will be arranged for participants on August 21. Stay tuned for more updates!

3) **Open positions:**

DDLS fellow - Associate Senior Lecturer within Data-driven Epidemiology and Biology of Infection, **at Lund University**, including generous start-up package that will allow you to start your independent research career. **Application deadline May 11**, for more information and application see [link](#).

DDLS fellow- Group Leader within Data-driven Epidemiology and Biology of Infection, **at Umeå University**, including generous start-up package that will allow you to start your independent research career. **Application deadline May 11**, for more information and application see [link](#).

4) **Opportunities together with Young GfV for early career researchers:**

Young GfV regularly organizes workshops focused on specific scientific topics. These workshops are intentionally kept small (around 20-40 participants) to provide a unique opportunity for students and early-career researchers. Further information about the workshops and preliminary programs can be found on Young GfV homepage, see [link](#)

5) **Meetings:**

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

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

XIXth Negative Strand RNA Virology meeting, June 22-27, 2025, Montpellier, France. Abstract submission deadline April 11. See [link](#) for more information and registration.

49th Annual International Herpesvirus Workshop, Berlin, Germany, July 26-30, 2025. See [link](#) for more information and registration.

13th International Congress for Veterinary Virology, September 2-5, 2025, Portorož, Slovenia. See [link](#) for more information on abstract deadline and registration.

11th European Meeting on Viral Zoonoses, September 20-23, 2025, Saint-Raphael, France. Abstract submission deadline May 12. See [link](#) for more information and

registration.

Nordic HIV & Virology Conference 2025, September 24-26, 2025, Stockholm. Abstract submission deadline August 25. See [link](#) for more information on abstract deadline and registration.

6) **Upcoming Calls:**

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

- 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
- Grant for recruiting **international visiting researchers** to Sweden

7) 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

8) 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/>

9) 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!

10) **Reminder!** We kindly ask you to post, in your neighborhood, the attached Pandemifonden poster, with information on how to donate money.

11) [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=311)
from SSV**



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danaher.

RSV burden *is broader* than hospitalizations

Current management of *RSV infections* in young children requires *substantial healthcare resource utilization* in both inpatient & outpatient settings.^{1,2,3}



To read the latest RSV report, scan the QR-code or click the link:
<https://qrco.de/bfqz18>



sanofi

1. Hall CB. The burgeoning burden of respiratory syncytial virus among children. *Infect Disord Drug Targets*. 2012;12(2):92-97.
2. Cromer D, van Hoek AJ, Newall AT, Pollard AJ, Jit M. Burden of pediatric respiratory syncytial virus disease and potential effect of different immunization strategies: a modelling and cost-effectiveness analysis for England. *The Lancet Public health*. 2017;2(8):e367-e374.
3. Santé Publique France. Bronchiolite: Bilan de la surveillance 2018-19. (2019)

MAT-SE-2500033-1.0-02/2025



A pioneer in antiviral development.

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SE-UNB-0347 April 2025



Virology

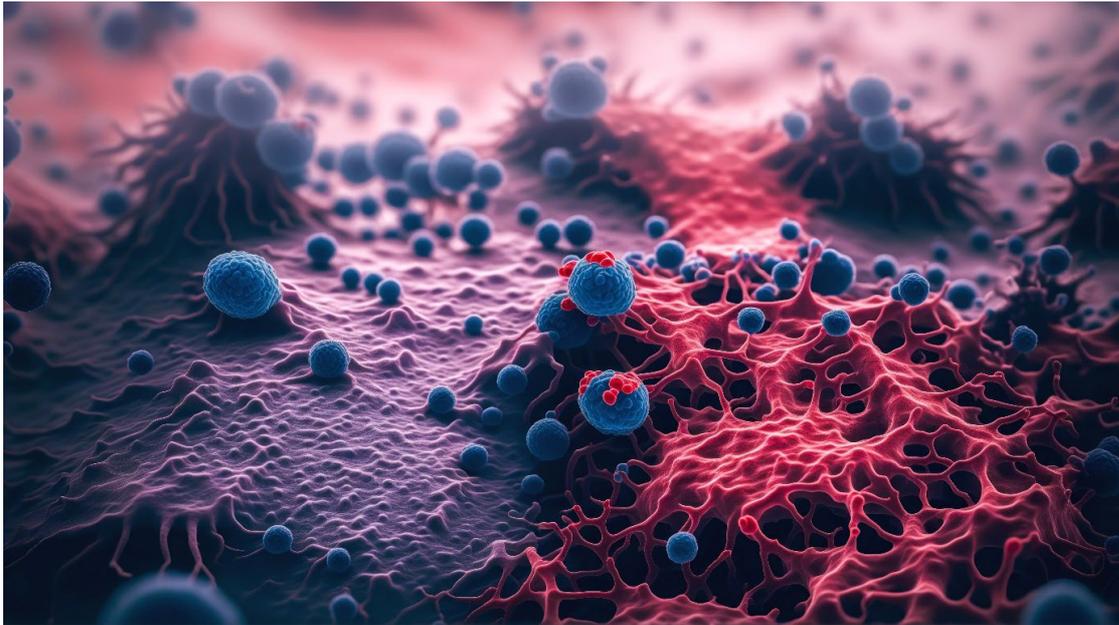


Foto: Getty Images

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.

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