

Meeting program

We warmly welcome you to the BRAINWEST meeting **4th of December 2026** at **Wallenberg conference center**! The theme of this year's meeting is neurodevelopment in a broad sense. We have presentations ranging from pediatric psychiatry and oncology to intra uterine neurodevelopment and mouse models. Importantly, we also hope to enable cross-disciplinary and cross-departmental discussions!

Organized by:

Steering group (Erik Smedler, Lars Westberg, Asgeir Jakola, Helena Carén, Fredrik Sterky, Michael Schöll).

Schedule

12.00-13.00 **Lunch**

13.00-13.40 **Keynote lecture** Christoffer Gillberg: *History of ESSENCE*

13.40-14.00 **Short lectures** 15 min presentation + 5 min questions

1. Maryam Ardalán: *Early-Life Programming of Autism Risk: Identifying Biomarkers Across the Microbiota–Immune–Brain Axis*

14.00-14.20 **Fika**

14.20-15.40 **Short lectures** 15 min presentation + 5 min questions

2. Joakim Ek: *From placental ischemia to persistent brain injury*
3. Francesco Longo: *Striatal RNA dysregulation in autism spectrum disorder: from molecular mechanisms to circuit dysfunction*
4. Aron Onerup: *Lifestyle for recovery and prevention of neurological and psychological complications after childhood cancer*
5. Luisa Klahn: *ADHD comorbidity in bipolar disorder - insights from cognition and brain imaging*

15.40-16.40 **Poster session**

Please bring your registered posters at lunch to mount them and be prepared for presenting in the afternoon. You do not need to submit abstracts.

Sponsored by: