

# Wihuri Research Institute Symposium on Cardiovascular Biology

9 June 2025, Biomedicum Helsinki

## Program

8.15 – 8.50 Registration  
8.50 – 9.00 Opening

## SESSION I – Vascular anomalies

Chair: Taija Mäkinen

09.00 – 09.30 **Miikka Vikkula**, Brussels - *Lymphatic anomalies: From genes and pathophysiology towards therapeutic trials*  
09.30 – 10.00 **Mariona Graupera**, Barcelona - *Behaviours of cancer-associated mutations in vascular malformations*  
10.00 – 10.15 **Short talk: Newsha Mortazavi**, Münster - *Basement membrane regulates morphogenesis and biomechanical features of cardiac valves*

**10.15 – 10.45 Coffee break and posters**

## SESSION II – Vascular control of organ physiology and disease

Chair: Tatiana Petrova

10.45 – 11.15 **Jean-Leon Thomas**, New Haven - *Targeting pattern recognition receptor signaling for glioblastoma treatment*  
11.15 – 11.30 **Short talk: Anne Pink**, Helsinki - *Integrin inhibitor SHARPIN regulates vascular permeability and tension-induced endothelial cell adhesion*  
11.30 – 12.00 **Kari Alitalo**, Helsinki - *Brain clearance or lymphedema: call VEGF-C?*  
12.00 – 12.15 **Short talk: Riikka Pietilä**, Uppsala - *Lhx6 regulates metabolic and endothelial zonation in liver*  
12.15 – 12.30 *Poster previews*

**12.30 – 13.30 Lunch**

## SESSION III – Immune-vascular crosstalk

Chair: Kari Vaahtomeri

13.30 – 14.00 **Sussan Nourshargh**, London - *Neutrophil-venular wall interactions: Dynamics, regulation and dysregulation*  
14.00 – 14.15 **Short talk: Ruth Fair-Mäkelä**, Turku - *Lymphatic responses to vaccines*  
14.15 – 14.45 **Anna Dimberg**, Uppsala - *The tumor vasculature as a target for therapy in glioblastoma*  
14.45 – 15.00 **Short talk: Yan Zhang**, Helsinki - *Cytoskeletal control of cell shape supports mechanical stability of lymphatic endothelium*  
15.00 – 15.15 *Poster previews*

**15.15 – 16.15 Coffee break and poster session**

## SESSION IV – Vascular morphogenesis

Chair: Claudio Franco

16.15 – 16.45 **Anne Eichmann**, New Haven - *Understanding arterio-venous malformations in HHT*  
16.45 – 17.15 **Holger Gerhardt**, Berlin - *Endothelial dynamics in health and disease - a tale of fish and chips*  
17.15 – 17.30 Closing of the Symposium

