

Microbiome Meets Multi-Omics

19–20
November

2026 · Turku, Finland

Towards Functional and Mechanistic Insight

Day 1 Thursday 19 November

Session 1

Microbiome in Health and Disease

Chair: Leo Lahti

- 13:40–13:45** Welcome and opening remarks
Organising Committee
- 13:45–14:15** *Bifidobacterium* in the early-life microbiome: linking microbial metabolism to health
Asst. Prof. Urwish Trivedi · Section of Microbiology, Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
- 14:15–14:35** Infant gut development holds its pace across early-life exposures
Dr. Shuai Ji · Postdoctoral Researcher, Vatanen Group, University of Helsinki
- 14:35–14:50** Exploring maternal microbiota and metabolism: links to subsequent health outcomes
Dr. Noora Houttu and Janina Hieta · Early Life Nutrition and Health Research Group, University of Turku
- 14:50–15:05** Decoding emerging microbial lipids: what we still need to learn from our microbes
Ilfat Tammana · Gut Microbiomics Research Group, University of Turku
- 15:05–15:30** Coffee break
- 15:30–15:50** Microbiome analysis as a tool for clinical innovation
Johanna Maukonen, D.Sc. (Tech.) · Global Director, Clinical Innovation & Translation, IFF, Kantvik
- 15:50–16:30** **Keynote** Integrative microbiome research infrastructures
Prof. Hauke Smidt · Complex Microbial Ecosystems Group, Laboratory of Microbiology, Wageningen University & Research, the Netherlands
- 16:30–18:00** Networking and poster session
All participants · Snacks and drinks served
- 19:00–21:00** Conference dinner
Invited speakers and organisers

Venue

Lecture Hall Laurén 2 (MED D1016)
Medisiina D, Kiinamylynkatu 10, Turku

Organisers

BioCity Turku research programs Microbes and Immunity Research Program (MIRP) and Computational and Molecular Methodologies for Life Sciences (CompLifeSci), with Microbe Centre Turku (Mikrobikeskus)

Registration

Register here

eve.utu.fi/event/481/registrations/462

Please register before 5 November 2026



Day 2 Friday 20 November

Session 2

Big-Data-Driven Functional Discovery in the Microbiome

Chair: Santosh Lamichhane

- 09:00–09:15** Welcome to Day 2 & Introduction to Microbe Centre Turku, University of Turku and Wellbeing Services County of Southwest Finland
Organising Committee and Antti Hakanen, Director of Microbe Centre · University of Turku and Wellbeing Services County of Southwest Finland
- 09:15–09:45** Pan-repository reanalysis of public metabolomics data in microbiome studies
Senior Researcher Yasin El Abiead (PhD) · Computational Mass Spectrometry, Institute of Analytical Chemistry, BOKU University, Austria
- 09:45–10:05** Systemic metabolic responses to dietary perturbations: a multi-omics approach
Dr. Ambrin Farizah Babu · TCSMT Postdoctoral Researcher, Hanhineva Lab, Department of Life Technologies, University of Turku
- 10:05–10:25** The virome–microbiome axis in human health and disease
Prof. Heli Harvala and team · Institute of Biomedicine, University of Turku
- 10:25–10:50** Coffee break
- 10:50–11:10** Microbiome–metabolome–exposure interactions: the INITIALISE project
Prof. Matej Orešič · School of Medical Sciences, Örebro University, Sweden, and Turku Bioscience Centre, University of Turku
- 11:10–11:30** Finnish population-level gut microbiome research: the FINRISK cohort
Prof. Teemu Niiranen · Department of Internal Medicine, University of Turku
- 11:30–11:50** Microbiome cohort studies at the Centre for Population Health Research (POPC)
Docent Juha Mykkänen · Centre for Population Health Research, University of Turku
- 11:50–13:00** Lunch and networking

Session 3

Towards Functional Mechanisms in Microbiomes

Chair: Evelliina Munukka

- 13:00–13:30** From food to function: investigating gut microbiota–host interactions
Dr. Valeria Iannone · School of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Eastern Finland
- 13:30–14:00** Extracellular vesicles and the microbiome
Prof. Terhi Ruuska-Loewald · University of Oulu and Oulu University Hospital
- 14:00–14:30** Metaproteomic insights into rumen microbial activity
Assoc. Prof. Velma T. E. Aho · Department of Biology, University of Turku
- 14:30–15:00** Flash talks
Speakers to be announced
- 15:00–15:15** Closing remarks
Organising Committee