



19th Scientific Meeting

Thursday, December 4

Auditorium – VHIR Central Building

19th Scientific Day and 29th Annual Conference of Vall d’Hebron

Collaborative and challenge-driven research to generate
transformative impact in health

09:00h

Institutional welcome

09:15h

Opening lecture

Laura Soucek - Codirector of VHIO’s Preclinical and Translational Research Program, Group Leader of VHIO’s Models of Cancer Therapies Group

10:15h

BLOCK 1. Research areas

- Chronic & Prevalent Diseases: **Juan Manuel Pericàs** - Principal Investigator in Liver Diseases - «Obesity-related mechanisms and clinical presentation of portal hypertension in MASLD»
- Brain, Mind & Behaviour: **Àlex Rovira** - Head of group Neuroradiology - «Understanding the Brain: From Biological Mechanisms to Clinical Applications»
- Cancer: **Miquel Segura** - Principal Investigator in Childhood Cancer and Blood Disorders - «Oncology Area: Translating Knowledge into Hope for People with Cancer»
- Infectious, Systemic and Acute Disorders: **Israel Molina** - Head of group of Infectious Diseases - «New Challenges in infectious disease research»
- Diagnosis, Treatment & Technology: **Simó Schwartz** - Principal Investigator in Clinical Biochemistry, Drug Delivery & Therapy - «Diagnosis, Treatment & Technology: Advancing technologies for better treatments and disease diagnostics»
- Child & Woman’s Health: **Pere Soler** - Head of group of Infection and immunity in pediatric patients - «State of the art of the pediatric research at VH Campus»

11:15h

Coffee break + Poster viewing

11:45h

BLOCK 2. CORES - Challenge-Oriented Research/ Missions

- Innovative & Advanced Therapies: **Miguel Chillón** - Head of group of Gene Therapy at Nervous System - «Gene Therapy: Scientific expectations and positioning»
- Transplant & Immunomodulation: **Gonzalo Sapisochín** - Head of General Surgery - «New Insights into Organ Transplantation in 2025; from the bench to the bedside»
- AI, Data, Imaging & Digital Health: **Andrea Guala** - Principal Investigator of Cardiovascular Diseases - «The AI, data, Imaging & Digital Health at the VH Campus»
- Environmental & Public Health: **M. Jesús Cruz** - Head of group of Pneumology - «Environmental and Public Health CORE: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Environmental and Public Health Challenges»
- Rare Diseases: **Belén Pérez** - Head of group of Therapeutics and Innovations in Neuropediatrics and other paediatric rare diseases - «Small Numbers, Big Impact: A Pediatrician’s Journey Through Rare Disease Research»
- Aging: **Aida Ribera** - Head of group of Research on Aging, Frailty and Transitions in Barcelona - «Research on aging and longevity. Challenges, opportunities and enablers»

13:00h

BLOCK 3. Programs

- Gender & Diversity Perspective in Health Research: **Nerea Maiz** - Head of group of Maternal and Fetal Medicine - «Towards Equity in Health Research: The Role of Gender and Diversity Perspectives»
- Research in Simulation and Educational Tools: **David Virós** - Head of group of Head and Neck Cancer: Biomedical Research Cancer Stem cells - «Robotic Surgery: Bridging clinical practice and translational research at the Vall d’Hebron Research Institute»

13:30h

BLOCK 4. Impact in research

- Nursing: **Esperanza Zuriguel** - Head of group of Multidisciplinary Nursing Research Group - «Impact and future of nursing research»
- Maternal and Fetal Medicine: **Manel Mendoza** - Head of group of Maternal and Fetal Medicine - «Impact in research: Maternal and Fetal Medicine»
- Patient Engagement: **Lucas Moreno** - Head of group of Childhood Cancer and Blood Disorders

14:00h

Lunch break

14:45h

Round table

Advancing Research Assessment: Lessons from the CoARA Framework

- **Malcolm MacLeod** - Professor of Neurology and Translational Neuroscience; Co-Director, Edinburgh Neuroscience, University of Edinburgh
- **Esther Vizcaíno** - Research Manager and Institutional Coordinator for CoARA at AQuAS
- **Núria Benítez** - Strategy Area and Open Science Officer, CERCA Institution
- **Sara Mas** - Impact & RRI Responsible at VHIR

15:30h

Collaborative activity: VHIR Kahoot

16:00h

Conclusions and award ceremony

- Poster contest
- Room naming contest

16:30h

Closing