**7th Annual Finnish Symposium on Brain Tumors**

Scandic Hamburger Börs Hotel, Turku  
23-24 October 2025

PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE   
presented to

[Firstname Surname], [student number]  
[institute]

[Poster title]

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Signature Date

Oxana Denisova

On behalf of the organizing committee  
[fibtra25symposium@utu.fi](mailto:fibtra25symposium@utu.fi)

**7th Annual Finnish Symposium on Brain Tumors**

23-24 October 2025, Scandic Hamburger Börs Hotel, Turku  
 **Day 1 | 23 October 2025**

15:00 – 17:00 Registration with welcome coffee

17:00 – 17:10 Opening words from the chairman of FiBTRA

**Session 1 Brain tumor microenvironment  and immunity**

**Chairman: Prof. Cecilia Söderberg-Nauclér**

17:10 – 18:00 Keynote lecture by Prof. **Mattias Belting**, Lund University, Sweden

Metabolic adaptation in glioblastoma

18:00 – 18:30 Invited talk by Prof. **Julie Gavard**, National Centre for Scientific Research, France

Interactions between endothelial сells and tumor cells in glioblastoma

18:30 – 18.45 Short talk: **Oxana Denisova**, Turku Bioscience

18:45 – 19:00 Short talk: **Reshmi Suresh**, University of Turku

19:00 – 21:00 Toast from Chairperson of Turku City Council Dr. **Kaija Hartiala**, and Symposium dinner

**Day 2 | 24 October 2025**

**Session 2. Brain tumor treatment**

**Chairman: Prof. Kirsi Rautajoki**

08:30 – 9:00 Invited talk by Prof. **Cecilia Söderberg-Nauclér**, University of Turku

Targeting Cytomegalovirus to Improve Outcomes in Glioblastoma: A New Therapeutic Avenue.

9:00 – 9:30 Invited talk by Prof. **Alberto Ballestín**, University of Extremadura, Spain

Glioblastoma surgical resection induces ischemic hypoxia, mesenchymal reprogramming and immunosuppression

9:30 – 9:45 Short talk: **Sana Kari**, Tampere University

9:45 – 10:00 Short talk: **Anja Hartewig**, Tampere University and Tampere University Hospital

10.00 – 11:00 Poster session

11:00 – 12:30 Lunch

**Session 3. Pediatric brain tumors**

**Chairman: Oxana Denisova, PhD**

12:30 – 13:10 Invited talk by Prof. **Pascal Johann**, Augsburg University, Germany

From subgroups to intratumoral heterogeneity – the molecular composition of rhabdoid tumors

13:10 – 14:00 Keynote lecture by Prof. **Michael Taylor**, Texas Children’s Hospital, USA

Prevention is better than cure. How an understanding of Human hindbrain development will allow us to prevent rather than treat medulloblastoma.

14:00 – 14:30 Invited talk by **Virve Pentikäinen**, MD, Helsinki University Hospital

Diagnostics and treatment of pediatric brain tumors in the molecular era.

14:30 – 14:45 Short talk: **Vilja Pietiäinen**, Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland

14:45 – 15:10 Coffee break

**Session 4. Molecular biology of brain tumors**

**Chairman: Prof. Eleanor Coffey**

15:10 – 15:40 Invited talk by Prof. **Kirsi Rautajoki**, Tampere University

Mapping the regulatory landscape of diffuse astrocytomas

15:40 – 16:10 Invited talk by Prof. **Takashi Namba**, University of Helsinki

Stem cell metabolism for cell proliferation: from neural stem cells to glioblastoma stem cells

16:10 – 16:25 Short talk: **Ismaïl Hermelo**, Tampere University Hospital and Tampere University

16:25 – 16:40 Short talk: **Maxwell Miner**, Turku PET Centre, University of Turku

16:40 – 16:50 Closing words and best poster prize