Cardiovascular Research Meeting 2026

Tuesday 13th January 2026







09:00-10:00	Registration and Welcome Coffee
10:00-10:10	Welcome note from the President of the LS ² Intersection Cardiovascular Biology: Sarah Longnus (Bern)
10:10-12:00 Chairs	Cardiac Session 1 Marie Noëlle Giraud, Gabriela Kania
10:10-10:40	Plenary speaker 1 Sean Davidson (University College London, UK) A New Approach to Targeting PI3-Kinase for cardioprotection
10:40-10:50	Talks selected from abstracts (7 min + 3 min Q&A) Linda Clochard Role of Pannexin1 in cardiac repair after ischemia-reperfusion
10:50-11:00	Anja Helmer Sex-dependent recovery of left ventricular function and corresponding gene expression in a rat model of donation after circulatory death (DCD)
11:00-11:10	Natalia Atzemian Epigenetic control of renal dysfunction in HFpEF: chromatin remodeling as a driver of cardiorenal maladaptation
11:10-11:20	Greta Scherler AKAP2 is a new regulator of collagen secretion in cardiac myofibroblasts
11:20-11:30	Christian Zuppinger Development of a laser injury model using human cardiac spheroids
11:30-12:00	Plenary speaker 2 Dario Diviani (University of Lausanne) Spatial control of cardiac repair and fibrosis: roles of A-kinase anchoring proteins
12:00-13:00	Lunch break
13:00-14:50	Vascular Session 1

Chairs	Marie-Luce Piallat, Giovanni Camici
13:00-13:30	Plenary speaker 3 Gemma Vilahur (Sant Pau Research Institute, ES) Impact of metabolic alterations on the Bone Marrow-Heart axis in ischemic heart disease
13:30-13:40	Talks selected from abstracts (7 min + 3 min Q&A) Soumaya Es Sarhdaoui Studying the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis: Role of S100A4-expressing cells
13:40-13:50	Bryce Evans ChemR23 prevents phenotypic switching of vascular smooth muscle cells into macrophage like foam cells in atherosclerosis.
13:50-14:00	Valeria Masciovecchio Alveolar macrophages are drivers of endothelial damage in obese HFpEF-related pulmonary hypertension
14:00-14:10	Silvia Ortona Multi-marker analysis of carotid atherosclerotic plaques reveals stress-response and neuro-immune pathways associated with vulnerability
14:10-14:20	Amedeo Tirandi Zinc-alpha-2-glycoprotein relates to worse neurological outcomes in acute ischemic stroke patients and disrupts the endothelial integrity of the blood-brain barrier
14:20-14:50	Plenary speaker 4: Marco Bacigaluppi (University of Zurich) Unraveling immune cell dysregulation in stroke under frailty conditions
14:50-15:15	Flash talks preceding poster discussion Posters: TBA
Chairs	TBA
15:15-16:30	Coffee break and poster session Evaluation committee: tba
16:30-16:45	Industry talk Lutz Priebe (sFAS Olink Proteomics, Part of Thermo Fisher Scientific) Next-generation proteomics with Olink® - Advancing diagnostics and therapeutics
16:45-17:45	Keynote speaker

Giovanni Camici, Sarah Longnus

Chairs

Arnold von Eckardstein (University of Zurich)

Endocytosis, Transcytosis, and Retroendocytosis of HDL: Mechanisms, pathophysiology, and options for clinical exploitation

19:15 Meeting Dinner (Upon previous registration)

	Wednesday 14 th January 2026	
9:00-10:50 Chairs	Cardiac Session 2 Jan Kucera, Lucio Barile	
09:00-09:30	Plenary speaker 5 Antonio Zaza (Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, IT) Type 2 long QT syndrome: a HERG problem only?	
09:30-09:40	Talks selected from abstracts (7 min + 3 min Q&A) Marina Vannucci Computational modelling of ephaptic interactions between a pair of cardiomyocytes exposed to an extracellular electric field pulse: an approach to predict transmembrane potentials in intercalated discs	
09:40-09:50	Enaam Chleilat Translational Development of a Dual-Zone Reperfusion Catheter to Prevent Perivascular Excitation Tunnelling-Associated Arrhythmias	
09:50-10:00	Claudia Altomare Genetic and Stress-Induced Senescence Converge on Mitochondrial and Electrophysiological dysfunction in Human iPSC-Derived Cardiomyocytes	
10:00-10:10	Shaista Ahmed Fibrin–Bone Marrow Cell Secretome Induces a Reparative Arg1 ⁺ Macrophage Phenotype Potentially Mediating Cardiac Repair	
10:10-10:40	Plenary speaker 6 Nina Cabezas-Wallscheid (ETH Zürich) Modulation of bone marrow haematopoietic stem cell activity as a therapeutic strategy after myocardial infarction: a preclinical study	
10:40-10:55	Industry talk ADINSTRUMENTS making stiggreg gaster	

Accuracy matters. About the relevance of data quality in life science research

10:55-11:20 Flash talks preceding poster discussion (1 min max)

Posters: TBA

Priska Schorlemmer (ADInstruments)

Chairs	TBA
11:20-12:35	Coffee break and poster session Evaluation committee: TBA
12:35-13:35	Lunch break
13:35-13:55	Cardiovascular working group: General Assembly
13:55-15:45 Chairs	Vascular Session 2 Nathalie Rosenblatt, Andrea Banfi
13:55-14:35	Plenary speaker 7 Tatiana Petrova (UNIL – CHUV) Mechanisms and functions of vascular specialization
14:25-14:35	Talks selected from abstracts (7 min + 3 min Q&A) Nunzia Di Maggio Functional and persistent microvascular networks in a VEGF-decorated matrix: a vascularization module
14:35-15:45	Alessandra Vescovi VEGF chemically modified mRNA-loaded matrix for vascularized bone engineering
14:45-15:55	Ellen Kossmann Endothelialized Cardiac Microtissues to Model Fibrotic and Microvascular Changes
14:55-15:05	Martin Flück RAS Blockade compensates for the Hypertensive and Fibrotic Effects of ACE2 Inhibition
15:05-15:35	Plenary speaker 8 Niels Riksen (Radboud University Medical Center, NL) Innate immune cell reprogramming in the pathophysiology of atherosclerosis
15:35-15:50	Small break to summarise votes
15:50–16:05	Award Ceremony Sarah Longnus (Bern) / Lucio Barile (Lugano)
16:05-16:10	Closing remarks from the president of the LS ² Cardiovascular Biology Inter-Section: Sarah Longnus (University of Bern)