



HFPEF
— **SUMMIT** —
COPENHAGEN

Meeting program

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20th 2026

13:00–13:30 Registration

13:30–13:45 Welcome address by the organizers

SESSION 1: One disease or a myriad of different ones?

Chair and discussion leader: Laura Meems

13:45 Lars Køber: *Clinical diagnosis of patients with HFpEF - one size fits all?*

14:10 David A Kass (online): *Recipe for a HFpEF Heart*

14:35 Peder Langeland Myhre: *Using biomarkers to distinguish HFpEF and HFrEF*

15:00 Discussion, moderated by Laura Meems

15:20–15:50 Coffee break

SESSION 2: Animal models of HFpEF

Chair and discussion leader: Gabriele Schiattarella

15:50 Peter M H Heegaard: *The challenge of recreating complex phenotypes in minimally manipulated animal models*

16:15 Laura Meems: *Embracing clinical complexity in mouse models*

16:40 Dirk Duncker: *Swine models of HFpEF - It all starts in the coronary microcirculation*

17:05 Discussion, moderated by Gabriele Schiattarella: *Phenogrouping in HFpEF - how to move forward in the lab?*

17:25 Networking hour in the Carlsberg Academy

18:30 Carlsberg Brewery tour

THURSDAY, MAY 21st 2026

08:30–08:50 Coffee, tea and croissants

08:50–09:00 Welcome address by the organizers

SESSION 3: Treatment avenues for HFpEF

Chair and discussion leader: Nazha Hamdani

09:00 Gabriele Schiattarella, *Cardiometabolic HFpEF: Mechanisms to Therapeutics*

09:25 Michael Nyberg, *Targeting HFpEF with once weekly C-type natriuretic peptide: a new treatment option*

09:45 Stefan Wagner, *Cardiac mechanisms of SGLT2 inhibitors and GLP-1 receptor agonists - novel drugs to treat HFpEF*

10:10 Discussion, moderated by Nazha Hamdani: *Linking phenogroups to treatment - personalised medicine?*

10:30–11:00 Coffee break

SESSION 4: Flash talks from early-career presenters

- 11:00 Bernadin Ndongson-Dongmo, *Gene therapy with phosphodiesterase 2A for atrial fibrillation and conduction dysfunction in a mouse model of HFpEF*
- 11:10 Diana S Usai, *Mouse model of HFpEF with significant fibrosis*
- 11:20 Katrine Hegelund Rasmussen, *Coronary flow reserve in mice with HFpEF*
- 11:30 Markus Harbo, *Myocardial tug of war impairs early relaxation*
- 11:40 Martin Frydland, *Social disparities in HFpEF*
- 11:50 Massar Omar, *WECURE HFpEF*

12:00-13:00 Lunch

SESSION 5: Calcium and energetics

Chair: Daniel Johnson

- 13:00 Frank Heinzel, *Adrenergic drive, calcium and HFpEF*
- 13:25 Morten B Thomsen, *Slow cytosolic calcium removal prolongs ventricular relaxation in mice with HFpEF*
- 13:45 William E Louch, *Understanding and targeting cardiomyocyte calcium handling in HFpEF myocytes*
- 14:05 Christoph Maack, *Mechano-energetic uncoupling in HFpEF*
- 14:30 *Flash talk:* Anna Vingborg, *Dapagliflozin prevents left ventricular hypertrophy by decreasing mitochondrial oxygen consumption and efficiency*

14:40-15:10 Coffee break

SESSION 6: HFpEF beyond the myocyte

Chair and discussion leader: Wolfgang A Linke

- 15:10 Michael R Zile, *Myocardial Fibrosis in heart failure: molecular, cellular, and myocardial causes of persistent fibrosis*
- 15:35 Nicolas Girerd, *Endothelial glycocalyx injury as a central driver of HFpEF*
- 16:00 Sofia Gerward, *From bench to bedside: IL-6 driven inflammation, an unmet need*
- 16:20 *Flash talk:* Jeremy Lagrange, *Hyaluronan and Syndecan-1 in glycocalyx degradation and HFpEF progression*
- 16:30 *Flash talk:* Athira Sasi, *Understanding the stiff heart: The role of versican fragments in cardiac fibrosis*
- 16:40 *Flash talk:* Gianluigi Pironti, *Dietary nitrate and iron synergistically protect against diastolic dysfunction and cardiac remodeling in aging multifactorial HFpEF*
- 16:50 Discussion, moderated by Wolfgang A Linke: *HFpEF is a disease of calcium handling and/or the extracellular matrix*
- 17:10 Networking hour in the Carlsberg Academy
- 18:00-20:00 Summit Reception at Restaurant Dolores, Kildepladsen 12 (5-min walk).

FRIDAY, MAY 22nd 2026

08:30–08:50 Coffee, tea and croissants

08:50–09:00 Welcome address by the organizers

SESSION 7: New ideas in HFpEF

Chair: Morten B Thomsen

09:00 Carsten Tschöpe, *Beyond preserved EF: Rethinking the role of ejection fraction across the HFpEF–HFsnEF spectrum*

09:25 Thassio Mesquita, *Ventricular arrhythmias and HFpEF*

09:50 Mathis Korseberg Stokke, *Pacing in HFpEF – Old ideas revisited and revised*

10:15 Stephan Lange, *Disrupted protein homeostasis at intercalated disks promotes sex-specific pro-arrhythmogenic changes in a genetic model of diastolic heart failure*

10:40–11:10 Coffee break

SESSION 8: Intracellular proteins and HFpEF

Chair: William E Louch

11:10 Nazha Hamdani, *Transition from cardiometabolic issues to HFpEF and cardiovascular diseases*

11:35 Wolfgang A Linke, *Titin stiffness, diastolic (dys)function and HFpEF*

12:00 Inês Falcão Pires, *Ketones in HFpEF: friend or foe?*

12:25 Discussion of the proposed white paper. With Dan Johnson

13:00 Closing remarks

13:10 Lunch, to go or to stay

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