



NTNU

Norwegian University of  
Science and Technology

Nasjonalforeningen  
for folkehelsen



# The Norwegian National anti-Alzheimer's disease network (NO-AD):

## First network meeting (zoom meeting)

*at*

09:20-16:30 (CET), Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2020

Zoom Meeting

<https://uio.zoom.us/j/62369306020>

(a new link generated due to many registrations; previous one expired)

Speakers/panelists, use the private link sent you by zoom

Registration: <https://noad100.com/news/>

Organizers:

Evandro F. Fang (UiO) and Menno P. Witter (NTNU)

Queries: [e.f.fang@medisin.uio.no](mailto:e.f.fang@medisin.uio.no)

# Important notes

- **Speakers:** All the speakers (including the morning and afternoon sessions), please use the private 'panellist' link sent you from zoom. This link will enable you to speak and share slides. If you can not find from your email, inform E.F.F. ([e.f.fang@medisin.uio.no](mailto:e.f.fang@medisin.uio.no)) to send to you again by 6 pm Oslo time the 24<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2020.
- **Attendees:** For all the registered attendees (if you have not registered, also welcome to attend) please use this link to join the webinar: <https://uio.zoom.us/j/62369306020>
- **Time:** Due to the tight schedule in the afternoon session, we will have a strict control of time. **The 'system' will mute you** once you are over 5 min (for the afternoon sessions).
- **Recording:** the even will be recorded for research use purpose. So please do not show any sensitive and unpublished data; the organizers can cut off any such data before release the video to the public per request from the speaker, via the request must be made before the talk. The video will be released in <https://noad100.com/videos-previous-events/>.

# The First NO-AD network meeting (zoom meeting)

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Zoom Meeting

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Detailed programme: <https://noad100.com/news/>

## Keynote speakers



**Maria Grazia Spillantini**  
The University of  
Cambridge  
on  
*The Tau aetiology of AD*



**Wiesje van der Flier**  
Alzheimercentrum  
Amsterdam UMC,  
Netherland  
on  
*Advances in diagnosis  
of AD*



**Oskar Hansson**  
Lund University,  
Sweden  
on  
*New biomarkers of  
AD*



**Geir Selbæk**  
AHNCS and OUH,  
University of Oslo,  
Norway  
on  
*Clinical studies of AD*

# The 1<sup>st</sup> NO-AD Program

09:20-09:30: Welcome speech by Prof. Menno P. Witter; Evandro F. Fang to introduce the programme and logistics

09:30-10:00: Invited speaker 1: **Prof. Maria Grazia Spillantini** (University of Cambridge, UK) (Moderator: Evandro F. Fang)

Title : Tau protein and its aggregation in neurodegenerative diseases

10:00-10:10: Questions

10:10-10:40: Invited speaker 2 : **Prof. Wiesje van der Flier** (Alzheimercentrum Amsterdam UMC, The Netherland) (Moderator: Menno P. Witter)

Title: Solving Alzheimer's disease: Advances in diagnosis of AD

10:40-10:50: Questions

10:50-11:00: Break

11:00-11:30: Invited speaker 3 : **Prof. Oskar Hansson** (Lund University, Sweden) (Moderator: Menno P. Witter)

Title : Update of the blood-based biomarkers for AD

11:30-11:40: Questions

11:40-12:10: Invited speaker 4: **Prof. Geir Selbæk** (AHNCS and OUH, University of Oslo, Norway) (Moderator: Evandro F. Fang)

Title : Norwegian cohorts of older adults – a unique opportunity for translational research

12:10-12:20: Questions

12:20-13:00: Break

13:00-13:10: **Representative of nasjonalforeningen + other representative(s)** (Moderator: Menno P. Witter)

13:10-13:30: **Representatives of patients/users** (Moderator: Evandro F. Fang)

13:30-15:10: **Talks by PIs, Ph.D. students and postdocs – 5 min each** (Moderator: Evandro F. Fang) (detailed list in slide 4)

15:10-15:15: Break

15:15-16:30 **Talks by PIs, Ph.D. students and postdocs – 5 min each** (Moderator: Menno P. Witter) (detailed list in slide 5)

**13:30-15:10: Talks by PIs, Ph.D. students and postdocs – 5 min each (Moderator: Evandro F. Fang)**

01. Henrik Schirmer (Ahus, UiO)
02. Tormod Fladby (Ahus, UiO)
03. Ingrid Åmellem (Linda Bergersen lab, UiO)
04. Farrukh Abbas Chaudhry (UiO)
05. Tomás Schmauck (Evandro Fang lab, UiO and Ahus)
06. Wannan Tang (UiO and NTNU)
07. Anne-Brita Knapskog (OUS, UiO)
08. Bjørn Erik Neerland (OUS, UiO)
09. Leiv Otto Watne (OUS, UiO)
10. Alexey A. Shadrin (Ole Andreassen lab, OUS and UiO)

**5 min break**

11. Clive Bramham (UiB)
12. Kristoffer Haugarvoll (UiB)
13. Dag Aarmland (UiS, KCL)
14. Abdul Hye (KCL)
15. Johannes (SUS)
16. Ketil Oppedal (SUS)
17. Alberto Jaramille Jimenez (SUS)
18. Chiara de Lucia (KCL)
19. Melissa Barber (KCL)

## 15:10-15:15: Break

15:15-16:30 **Talks by PIs, Ph.D. students and postdocs – 3-5 min each** (Moderator: Menno P. Witter)

01. Menno Witter (NTNU)
02. Asgeir Kobre-Flatmoen (NTNU)
03. Ioanna Sandvig (NTNU)
04. Clifford Kentros (NTNU)
05. Christian Doeller (NTNU)
06. Geir Braathen (NTNU)
07. Katja Scheffler (NTNU)
08. Axel Sandvig (NTNU)
09. Ulrik Wisløff (NTNU)
10. Ingvild Saltvedt (NTNU)

## 5 min break

11. Anders Martin Fjell / Kristine Beate Walhovd (UiO)
12. Torgeir Bruun Wyller (OUS, UiO)
13. Ira Haraldsen (OUS, UiO)

## Networks

14. Linda Bergersen (The Nansen Neuroscience Network)
16. Evandro F. Fang: The NO-Age Network
17. Menno Witter (Norwegian Research School in Neuroscience, NRSN)



**Speaker: Prof. Maria Grazia Spillantini (NO-AD International Advisory Board Member)**

**Title: Tau protein and its aggregation in neurodegenerative diseases**

**Abstract:**

Microtubule-associated tau protein forms intracellular aggregates in several neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer's disease that are known also as tauopathies. Tau aggregates formation is closely associated with disease development but how tau affects neuronal function and how neurons become dysfunctional and die is still debated.

Diseases with tau aggregation are characterised by inflammation with astrocytosis and microglia activation but whether and how glial cells contribute to the neurodegenerative process is unclear. In a transgenic mouse model expressing mutant P310S human tau specifically in neurons we have investigated how glial cells interact with mutant tau containing neurons and whether they can contribute to tau-related neurodegeneration. We found that neurons containing abnormal tau affect glial cells that can then contribute to the progression of the pathological process. The role of glial cells in tau-related neurodegeneration should be taken into account when considering the pathological process to develop new therapeutic approaches.

**Biography:**

Maria Grazia Spillantini is Professor of Molecular Neurology at the University of Cambridge. She was born in Arezzo, Italy, and received a Laurea in Biological Sciences from the University of Florence. In 1987 she moved to the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology where she obtained a PhD in Molecular Biology from Cambridge University. In 1996 she moved to the Department of Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Cambridge where first she was at the Brain Repair Centre and now at the Clifford Allbutt Building. With her collaborators, she identified alpha-synuclein as the major component of the filaments that form the Lewy bodies in Parkinson's disease and described one of the first mutations in the *MAPT* gene causing FTDP-17T. Among others she has received the Potamkin Prize of the American Academy of Neurology, the Cotzias Prize of the Spanish Neurological Society and the Jay Van Andel Award for achievements in Parkinson's disease. She is Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences, Fellow of the Royal Society and has received a Knighthood from the President of Italy.

**Name:** Prof. Maria G. Spillantini  
**Institute:** The University of Cambridge  
**Email:** mgs11@cam.ac.uk



**Speaker: Prof. Wiesje van der Flier (NO-AD International Advisory Board Member)**

**Title: Solving Alzheimer's disease: Advances in diagnosis of AD**

**Abstract:**

The advances in diagnosis of AD using MRI, markers in Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF), and amyloid-imaging using PET are among the largest successes of AD research. As a result, AD is no longer a diagnosis per exclusionem, but the disease process can be demonstrated during life. In addition, these novel diagnostic tests allow the measurement of Alzheimer's pathology before the stage of dementia. Nonetheless, in a large proportion of patients, a diagnosis is only made in a late disease stage. A better and earlier diagnosis would be very beneficial, as with timely diagnosis, patients can receive help quicker and more effectively.

There are still questions to be answered as to how these biomarkers and diagnostic tests can be optimally implemented in daily practice. In 2018, a novel diagnostic framework has been proposed for the research setting, under auspices of NIA-AA. Evaluation of this novel framework, where biomarkers play a central role, is currently ongoing. Even when the novel diagnostic tests are a great advance in the field, their use has drawbacks in terms of invasiveness and costs. A blood test would be ideal. This will be particularly important when disease modifying treatment comes at the horizon.

**Biography:**

Wiesje van der Flier (1975) is full professor and head of clinical research at Alzheimer center Amsterdam at Amsterdam UMC, the Netherlands, where she works since 2004. She studied neuropsychology at the University of Utrecht. In addition, she is clinical epidemiologist. She leads the Amsterdam Dementia Cohort, an ongoing memory-clinic based cohort including over 6000 patients with deep phenotyping (MRI, EEG, CSF biomarkers, and PET) and linked biobank (blood, DNA, CSF). The Amsterdam Dementia Cohort is at the basis of many of the studies performed at Alzheimer center Amsterdam. Van der Flier has been (co)promotor of >25 theses and is currently supervising ~10 PhD projects. Van der Fliers main research areas are looking for the origin of AD, diagnosis&prognosis, and intervention&prevention.

**Name:** Prof. Wiesje van der Flier  
**Institute:** Alzheimercentrum  
Amsterdam UMC, Netherland  
**Email:** wm.vdflier@amsterdamumc.nl





**Speaker: Prof. Oskar Hansson (NO-AD International Member)**

**Title: Update of the blood-based biomarkers for AD**

**Abstract:**

In this presentation I will review recent results on blood-based biomarker's for Alzheimer's disease. The main focus will be on the development and validation of plasma P-tau217 and P-tau181 as accurate biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease pathology. However, performance of plasma Ab42/40 will also be described.

**Name:** Prof. Oskar Hansson  
**Institute:** Lund University, Sweden  
**Email:** oskar.hansson@med.lu.se



**Speaker: Prof. Geir Selbæk (NO-AD National Member)**

**Title: Norwegian cohorts of older adults – a unique opportunity for translational research**

**Abstract:**

Translational research is commonly defined as research that translates new information or knowledge developed in one area to another application, typically basic to clinical, clinical to population or basic to population. The Norwegian population with relatively low mobility, extensive health registries and several large health surveys offers a unique opportunity to conduct important translational research. Clinical, social and biological data from health surveys, health registries or clinical cohort studies may be linked to administrative data in several national registries allowing for research on various key aspects of ageing, including cognitive impairment and dementia. In this presentation, I will highlight ongoing work in some of the largest health surveys and clinical studies in Norway. The main focus will be on the Health Survey in Trøndelag (HUNT), which is one of the largest longitudinal health studies ever performed with a comprehensive database spanning more than 30 years of data collection. Together with other key cohorts including older adults, these data allow for conduct of ground-breaking translational research.

**Biography:**

Geir Selbæk (1963) is professor at the University of Oslo and research director at the Norwegian National Advisory Unit on Ageing and Health. He is a medical doctor who graduated in 1991, and he became a psychiatrist in 2001. He completed his PhD on neuropsychiatric symptoms and medication use in nursing home patients with dementia in 2008. He leads the Norwegian registry for persons with cognitive symptoms, at present including 14.000 persons from 42 policlinics in Norway. He is also leader of the population-based study of cognition in old age, HUNT4 70+, including 12.000 persons 70 years of age or older, and the follow-up study of this project, Ageing in Trøndelag. His research covers several aspects of ageing, with a particular focus on cognitive impairment and dementia.

**Name:** Prof. Geir Selbæk  
**Institute:** AHNCS and OUH, University of Oslo, Norway  
**Email:** geir.selbaek@aldringoghelse.no

# No-AD family representatives

User  
Representatives



Marko Katajisto  
(AD Family representative)



Eigil Bele  
(AD Family representative)



Sigurd Annexstad Mølmann  
(AD Family representative)



Christine Mølmann Annexstad  
(AD Family representative)



Arnt-Børge Jensen  
(AD Family representative)

NO-AD Network Annual Meeting  
25.11.2020