

FINAL PROGRAMME

PRRS INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM 2026

October 6th–8th, 2026

Hotel Exe Campus · Vila Universitària, Campus UAB
Cerdanyola del Vallès, Barcelona · Spain

TUE 6	WED 7	THU 8
Swine Health Forum Keynote Lectures	Invited Lectures Oral & Flash Talks	Round Table Awards & Closing

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

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PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

Three Days in Barcelona

6 TUESDAY

09:00–11:00
Swine Health Forum *(in Spanish)* · Registration opens

16:00
Welcome & Opening Remarks

16:15–17:45
Keynote Lectures

17:45
Welcome Reception

7 WEDNESDAY

08:30–10:30
Invited Lectures & Oral Communications

11:00–13:00
Invited Lectures & Oral Communications

14:00–17:00
Invited Lectures, Oral Comm. & Flash Talks

17:00
European PRRS Research Awards

20:00
Gala Dinner

8 THURSDAY

08:30–10:30
Invited Lectures, Oral Comm. & Flash Talks

11:00–13:00
Round Table · Control & Eradication of PRRS

14:00–16:50
Invited Lectures, Flash Talks & Oral Comm.

16:50–17:00
IPRRS 2026 Awards & Farewell Message

VENUE

Hotel Exe Campus · Vila Universitària, Campus UAB · Cerdanyola del Vallès, Barcelona · Spain

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We look forward to welcoming you in Barcelona.

6 · TUESDAY, OCTOBER

09:00 Swine Health Forum (in Spanish) · Registration from 11:00

16:00 Welcome and opening remarks

KEYNOTE LECTURES

16:15 The porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus (PRRSV) saga: using macrophages as targets is ingenious but challenging for a virus with an evolutionary plan · *Prof. Hans Nauwynck, Ghent University*

17:00 Veterinary and public health challenges of swine influenza viruses · *Prof. Lars E. Larsen, University of Copenhagen*

17:45 Welcome reception

7 · WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER

MORNING

INVITED LECTURES

08:30 The evolutionary dynamics behind epidemic waves of PRRSV · *Prof. Kimberly VanderWaal, University of Minnesota*

09:00 PRRS epidemiology in practice · *Prof. Giovanni Trevisan, Iowa State University*

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

09:30 Whole-genome classification system for porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus type 2 (Betaarterivirus americense) strains combining ORF5, nsp3-4-5 and indels · *Vicent Baby, Université de Montréal*

09:45 Known enemy or new threat? A tussle between introduction, persistence and recombination of PRRSV strains on pig farms · *Harsh Bardhan Gupta, Utrecht University*

10:00 Assessment of the mutation, selection, substitution and recombination patterns and dynamics of 'classical' versus 'Rosalía and Rosalía-like' Spanish PRRSV-1 strains · *Martí Cortey, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*

10:15 An artificial intelligence (AI) agent-based support system for porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) health management in Colombia · *Francisco Gómez, Universidad Nacional de Colombia*

10:30 Coffee break

INVITED LECTURES

11:00 Molecular mechanisms of PRRSV persistence: challenges for elimination · *Prof. Ying Fang, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

11:30 Genome editing for disease resistance in pigs · *Dr Christine Tait-Burkard, The Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh*

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

12:00 A new reverse-genetics system for PRRSV identifies a GP3 trafficking signal that promotes viral replication · *Dongwan Yoo, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

12:15 Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus nsp1α degrades ribosomal components to inhibit cellular translation · *Qiongqiong Zhou, China Agricultural University*

12:30 CD169 blockade as an in vitro model to discriminate PRRSV-1 isolates with different virulence profiles · *Francisco Javier Martínez-Lobo, Universitat de Lleida*

12:45 Highly virulent PRRSV-1 Rosalía strain induces enhanced CTLA-4 expression and immune dysregulation in piglets during the early and late stages of infection · *Jaime Gómez-Laguna, Universidad de Córdoba*

13:00 Lunch

AFTERNOON

INVITED LECTURES

14:00 Immunopathogenesis of the reproductive form of PRRS · *Prof. Andrea Ladinig, University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna*

14:30 Emerging vaccine platforms for swine viral diseases · *Prof. Xiang-Jin Meng, Virginia Tech*

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

15:00 Towards an improved understanding of adaptive immune dysregulation during arterivirus infection · *Jane Edwards, The Pirbright Institute*

15:15 Systems vaccinology reveals mechanistically distinct immune profiles of interferon-augmented PRRSV vaccines · *Laura Miller, Kansas State University*

15:30 Generation of PRRSV epitope–MHC class I tetramers to investigate CD8 T cells at the maternal–foetal interface in infected sows · *Mahsa Rafieiyan, The Pirbright Institute*

15:45 Mucosal induction of trained immunity reduces susceptibility to PRRSV infection in pigs · *Aida Tort Miró, IRTA-CReSA*

16:00 PRRSV-anergic status in vaccinated sows: impact on vaccine efficacy and piglet challenge outcomes · *Marylène Tignon, Sciensano*

16:15 Isolation and characterisation of naturally occurring PRRSV-neutralising monoclonal antibodies to support structural vaccinology · *Simon Graham, The Pirbright Institute*

FLASH TALKS

16:30 Evaluating the economic impact of early interventions against PRRSV using multivariate syndromic surveillance in Spanish swine breeding herds · *Mafalda Pedro Mil-Homens, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*

16:35 Estimation of PRRS hazard and vulnerability through a health risk index based on data analytics · *Fausto Moreno, Universidad Nacional de Colombia*

16:40 Prevalence and epidemiological role of porcine respiratory coronavirus, porcine haemagglutinating encephalomyelitis virus and influenza D virus in Spanish herds · *Menjun Wang, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*

16:45 Comparison of cell systems for isolation and replication assessment of porcine parainfluenza virus 1 · *Ge Ye, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*

16:50 A novel swine trophoblast organoid system to investigate PRRSV–placenta interactions · *Abigail Williams, North Carolina State University*

16:55 Impact of formalin fixation time on PRRSV-1 detection by RNAscope® in situ hybridisation combined with deep-learning-based digital pathology · *Giuditta Capaldi, Universidad de Córdoba*

17:00 European PRRS Research Awards

20:00 Gala dinner

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IPRRS 2026 SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

8 · THURSDAY, OCTOBER

MORNING

INVITED LECTURES

08:30 Overview of viral swine diseases worldwide · *Dr Gregorio Torres, Head of the Science Department, World Organisation for Animal Health*

09:00 Investigations into influenza A virus reassortment in commercial pigs · *Prof. Montserrat Torremorell, University of Minnesota*

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

09:30 Validation of genomic prediction for disease resilience traits and their genetic relationship with selection-index traits · *Claudia Sevillano, Topigs Norsvin*

09:45 Enhancing biosecurity in swine operations: investigating wildlife interactions at mortality-management structures on swine farms · *Rafael Medeiros de Avila Melo, University of Minnesota*

10:00 Road-level transmission risk of PRRS in the United States swine network: a spatiotemporal Bayesian framework linking animal movement to farm infection · *Nicolás Cárdenas, North Carolina State University*

FLASH TALKS

10:15 A structural bioinformatics framework for precision host-factor engineering towards influenza-resistant pigs · *Joaquín Gadea, Universidad de Murcia*

10:20 Monitoring PRRSV dynamics in different farm environments: evaluating diagnostic samples in farrowing and nursery units · *Laura Junquera, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela*

10:25 Interlaboratory comparison of PRRSV genome and antibody detection across diagnostic laboratories in Central Europe · *Kristin Heenemann, Leipzig University*

10:30 Coffee break

ROUND TABLE · INVITED SPEAKERS

11:00 Round table · Experiences in the control and eradication of PRRS · *Moderator: Dr Tijs Tobias, Royal GD, Deventer*

– Danish PRRS reduction strategy: background, progress and lessons learned · *Nicolai Rosager Weber, Danish Agriculture & Food Council*

– PRRS control and eradication experiences in the USA · *César Corzo, University of Minnesota*

– Diverse PRRSV and its control and elimination strategies in China · *Prof. Hanchun Yang, China Agricultural University*

13:00 Lunch

AFTERNOON

INVITED LECTURES

14:00 African swine fever and eradication in the European context · *Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food*

14:30 Protective immunity associated with viral control in PRRS · *Prof. Jun Han, China Agricultural University*

15:00 New PEDV epidemic patterns in China: virulent G2c variants and S-INDEL clade-2 recombinants and their implications for global PEDV evolution · *Prof. Yao-Wei Huang, South China Agricultural University*

FLASH TALKS

15:30 A highly virulent porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus strain exhibits macrophage and endothelial cell tropism in infected piglets · *Paula Curto, Universitat de Lleida*

15:35 Comparison of infection by PAM- and MARC-145-passaged PRRSV isolates in PK15CD163+ and PK15Sialoadhesin+CD163+ cell lines · *Wenjing Su, Ghent University*

15:40 Lipid nanoparticle encapsulation enhances DNA vaccine efficacy against highly pathogenic avian influenza virus H5N1 clade 2.3.4.4b · *Hiep Vu, University of Nebraska–Lincoln*

15:45 Local viral load shapes T-cell composition and differentiation at the maternal–foetal interface during PRRSV infection · *Melissa Stas, University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna*

15:50 Impact of persistent infection with an attenuated African swine fever virus on viral population dynamics following subsequent inoculation with virulent strains · *Tomoya Kitamura, NIAH–NARO*

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

16:05 Clinical, histomorphological and molecular profiling of swine enteric coronavirus infection: insights from microRNA and target-gene expression in piglets · *Carmen Álvarez Delgado, Universidad de Córdoba*

16:20 Non-canonical TRS usage and functional analysis of the ORF6 region of a type I PRRSV strongly suggest translation of a novel essential protein, 6a · *Eszter Göltl, HUN-REN Veterinary Medical Research Institute*

16:35 Evaluation of the dose-dependent virulence of PRRSV-1 'Rosalía' in weaned piglets and the modulating role of maternal antibodies · *Carles Vilalta, IRTA-CReSA*

16:50 IPRRS 2026 Awards

17:00 Farewell message