

Terveydeksi! -seminaari / New Discoveries! -seminar 2026

Maanantai 20.4.2026, Osmo Järvi, Medisiina C

Biolääketieteen koulutusohjelman / Biolääketieteen ja lääkekehityksen tutkinto-ohjelman LuK-opinnäytetyöt

Julkinen Echo-linkki:

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Parhaan esityksen äänestys: pisteytä esitykset kunkin esityksen jälkeen

8:30 – 8:45 **Seminaarin avaus**
Professori Sari Mäkelä

Sessio 1

Puheenjohtaja: Sari Mäkelä

8:45 – 9:00 Yksilöidyn aivomallin mahdollisuudet psykiatristen sairauksien hoidossa
Mette Illukka

9:00 – 9:15 Lipidilautat Alzheimerin taudissa
Milla Ruuttila

9:15 – 9:30 Aivovamman jälkeinen Alzheimerin kaltainen neurodegeneraatio
Yar Kariom

9:30 – 9:45 MYCN-onkogeeni neuroblastoomassa
Sonja Vähätalo

9:45 – 10:00 Neuroinflammaation PET-kuvantaminen: nykytila, haasteet ja tulevaisuus
Silja Lehto

Tauko 15 min

Sessio 2

Puheenjohtaja: Leena Strauss

10:15 – 10:30 Suolistomikrobiston vaikutus kylläisyyden signalointiin
Titta Kiviö

10:30 – 10:45 Mutaatiot *Bordetella pertussis* -bakteerin *sphB1* -geenissä ja niiden yhteys soluttoman rokotteen käyttöönottoon Suomessa vuosina 1991-2020
Anette Myllylä



- 10:45 – 11:00 Flavivirusrokotteet
Tuuli Virta
- 11:00 – 11:15 John Cunningham -polyoomaviruksen neurotrooppisuus progressiivisen multifokaalisen leukoenkefalopatian synnyssä
Ville Orre
- 11:15 – 11:30 Onkolyttiset adenovirukset
Elviira Laiho

Lounas 1 h

Sessio 3

Puheenjohtaja: Elisa Närvä

- 12:30 – 12:45 Endometriumien kantasolut endometrioosissa
Iida Puolitaival
- 12:45 – 13:00 Munasarjasyövän kantasolut ja NOTCH-signalointiin kohdistuvat lääkkeet
Aino Nurminen
- 13:00 – 13:15 Makrofagien merkitys munasarjasyövässä
Tiia Lahdenmaa
- 13:15 – 13:30 iPSC-lähtöiset CAR-makrofagit kiinteiden kasvainten immunoterapiassa
Iiro Muukkonen
- 13:30 – 13:45 LOX-perheen entsyymit rintasyövän biomarkkereina ja lääkehoidon kohteena
Saaga Tammi

Tauko 15 min

Sessio 4

Puheenjohtaja: Terhi Heino

- 14:00 – 14:15 Digitaaliset kaksoset syövän mallintamisessa
Sara Seppälä
- 14:15 – 14:30 Käsikäyttöisten biotulostinten hyödyntäminen palovammojen hoidossa
Ksenia Malkova
- 14:30 – 14:45 Nanoteknologiaan perustuvat biomateriaalit kroonisten haavojen hoidossa
Tella Tenkanen
- 14:45 – 15:00 Hydrogeelien mahdollisuudet kirurgisten hoitomenetelmien tukena rustovaurioiden hoidossa
Saana Laurén
- 15:00 – 15:15 **Loppusanat**

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Tiistai / Tuesday 21.4.2026, Alhopuro, Medisiina D

MDP in Human Neuroscience (MSc) / UTU
MDP in Public Mental Health (MSc) / UTU

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MPD in Human Neuroscience

Advances in Neuroimaging and Electrophysiological Methods

Chair: Albert Bellmunt Gil

- 9:30 – 09:50 Reliability of DTI-scalars using acceleration techniques
Ville Roppola
- 9:50 – 10:10 Alpha-Band Activity During Sustained Speech Production and Playback: EEG Evidence for Continuous Monitoring
Fatemeh Naderipalangi
- 10:10 – 10:30 Auditory Event-Related-Potential Correlates of Mental Imagery
Sumaia Mehjabin

Break 10 min

Basic and Clinical Neuroscience

Chair: Albert Bellmunt Gil

- 10:40 – 11:00 Characterisation of Endogenous Positive Allosteric Modulators of the Tropomyosin Receptor Kinase B
Martin Hansen
- 11:00 – 11:20 The Influence of Neurophysiological Biomarkers on Clinical Reasoning in Post-Stroke Upper Limb Rehabilitation
Tuua Leena Jemina Palva-aho
- 11:20 – 11:40 Neuromuscular Coordination as a Marker of Motor-Cognitive Integration in Mild Impairment: An EMG Pipeline Approach
Fatima Mohammad Amin



Lunch break 60 min

MDP in Public Mental Health

Secular Trends in Child Behaviour and Lifestyles

Chair: Sanju Silwal

12:40 – 13:00 Secular changes in screen habits: a 20-year time trend study among Finnish children aged 8
Rida Zahra

Prenatal and Early Biological Risk Factors for Mental Health

Chair: Sanju Silwal

13:00 – 13:20 Exposure to Inutero Genitourinary Infection and Risk for Offspring Mental Disorders
Yeabsira Tadesse Bedada

13:20 – 13:40 Association between Maternal Hypertension during Pregnancy and Offspring Mental Disorders
Noor Warraich

Break 10 min

Child Health and Developmental Trends

Chair: Sanju Silwal

13:50 – 14:10 Changes in Pain Symptoms and Sleep Problems Among 8-Year-Old Children
Ayushma Bhandari

Digital Parenting Interventions and Effectiveness

Chair: Sanju Silwal

14:10 – 14:30 Finish Strongest Families Parenting (FSFP): Program Usage and Outcomes
Dilukshi Soysa

14:30 – 14:50 Moderators of Effectiveness in Digital Parent Training
Sadaf Zafar

Break 10 min

Vulnerable Populations and Social Determinants of Mental Health

Chair: Sanju Silwal

15:00 – 15:20 Intimate Partner Violence among Migrants in Europe
Thomas Lyons



Parenting, Early Interventions, and Family-Centred Care

Chair: Sanju Silwal

- 15:20 – 15:40 Close Collaboration with Parents Intervention in NICUs (Estonia study)
Maila Kashif
- 15:40 – 16:00 Cultural Adaptations in Parent Training Programs
Amna Nasim
- 16:00 Seminar Day ends



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Keskiviikko / Wednesday 22.4.2026, Alhopuro, Medisiina D

MDP in Human Neuroscience (MSc) / UTU
MDP in Biomedical Imaging (MSc) / UTU and ÅAU
MDP in Public Mental Health (MSc) / UTU
MDP in Drug Discovery and Development (MSc) / UTU

In collaboration with Åbo Akademi University Faculty of Science and Engineering

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MDP in Human Neuroscience

Early-Life Biological Signatures of Brain Development and Behavior

Chair: Albert Bellmunt Gil

- 8:30 – 8:50 Association Between the Metabolome and Cortical Morphology in 5-year-old
Tuli Das Gupta
- 8:50 – 9:10 Metabolic Biomarkers, White Matter Microstructure and Functional Connectivity in
5-year-old Children
Maria Muhammad Tahir
- 9:10 – 9:30 Associations Between Maternal Probiotic Intake, Gut Microbiota, and
Temperament in 5-6-Year-Old Children
Kanan Takuma

Break 10 min

Brain Development and Neurodevelopmental Disorders

Chair: Albert Bellmunt Gil

- 9:40 – 10:00 Neural structural correlates of infant attentional bias towards Faces: A study on 8-
month-old infants
Ahmed Ali
- 10:00 – 10:20 Associations between perceived social support and brain activity during a task-
fMRI paradigm in adolescents
Jantje Cosima Tumat



10:20 – 10:40 The Grand Genetic Gachapon: Mum said it's my turn with the disorder
Maite Poves Dias

Break 10 min

MDP in Biomedical Imaging

Biomedical Imaging

Chair: Riku Klén

10:50 – 11:10 Assessing Per and Poly fluoroalkyls (PFAS) in *Bucephala Clangula* eggs Using
Computerized Tomography Imaging and Ecotoxicological Studies
Erica Eshun

11:10 – 11:30 AFT-tracks is a tool to analyze the interplay between cell migration and the
extracellular matrix
Daniil Lukhtanov

Lunch break 60 min

MDP in Public Mental Health

Mental Health and Risk Behaviours in Adverse Contexts

Chair: Anne Abio

12:30 – 12:50 Alcohol and Illicit Drug Use Among Young People Exposed to Armed Conflicts
Satchit Ghimire

12:50 – 13:10 Tobacco Use Among Young People Exposed to Armed Conflicts
Suman Giri

Implementation, Engagement, and Real-World Impact

Chair: Anne Abio

13:10 – 13:30 Predictors of Attrition in the BePresent Digital Parenting Program
Catherine Koivusaari

Break 10 min

MDP in Drug Discovery and Development

From Brain to Behavior: Investigating CNS Disorders

Chair: Ullamari Pesonen

13:40 – 14:00 Associations between fasting brain perfusion and eating behaviour in lean
individuals and individuals with obesity
Essi Toivonen



- 14:00 – 14:20 Longitudinal White Matter Changes in Cognitively Healthy Individuals at Different Genetic Risk for Alzheimer's Disease
Veera Soininen
- 14:20 – 14:50 Supernatant Extraction and Subject Selection for a Pilot Study of Parkinson's Disease
Tia Leskinen

Break 10 min

Novel Physiological Models for Drug Research

Chair: Virpi Talman

- 15:00 – 15:20 Development and Validation of a Human Cardiac Fibroblast-Based In Vitro Fibrosis Model
Karoliina Pajunen
- 15:20 – 15:40 CRISPR/Cas9-mediated knockout in a hypoxia-induced zebrafish embryo heart failure model
Sk Jahid Hasan
- 15:40 – 16:00 Optimizing Split Architectures of Chimeric Antigen Receptors with a Focus on the Transmembrane Domain
Mikael Mustonen
- 16:00 – 16:10 ***Awarding Human Neuroscience and Public Mental Health best presentation and graphical abstract***

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Torstai / Thursday 23.4.2026, Alhopuro, Medisiina D

MDP in Biomedical Imaging (MSc) / UTU and ÅA

In collaboration with Åbo Akademi University Faculty of Science and Engineering

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MDP in Biomedical Imaging

Machine learning applications in medical imaging

Chair: Riku Klén

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 8:30 – 8:50 | ViTs for Processing MRI Images: An Evaluation and Comparison with CNNs
<i>Talha Ahmad</i> |
| 8:50 – 9:10 | Survival Prediction in Glioblastoma Using Baseline MRI and Machine Learning Approaches
<i>Kinshuk Dubei</i> |
| 9:10 – 9:30 | Vision Transformers for Processing PET Images in Head and Neck Cancer
<i>Abu Bakar Shoukat</i> |
| 9:30 – 9:50 | Improving Head and Neck Tumor Segmentation in PET Images using Transfer Learning
<i>Rida Rehman</i> |
| 9:50 – 10:10 | Automatic Estimation of Glioma Volume Using T2 Weighted MRI Data and a Two-Stage 2D CNN Framework
<i>Joanna Okenwa</i> |

Break 10 min

Clinical imaging

Chair: Kari Vienola

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 10:20 – 10:40 | PET Study of MCT1 expression dynamics under physiological and pathological conditions
<i>Chamathka Wijayabandara</i> |
|---------------|---|



- 10:40 – 11:00 Effect of Cold on Brain Perfusion and Brown Adipose Tissue Activity in Lean Adults
Fatima Anwar
- 11:00 – 11:20 Influence of Food Palatability on Postprandial White Adipose Tissue Perfusion
Khadiza Sheikh
- 11:20 – 11:50 Post-hoc Interpretation of Deep Learning-based Survival Model on Colorectal Cancer Using Hematoxylin and Eosin Slides
Phuong Le
- 11:50 – 12:10 Computational Analysis of Spatial Neighbourhoods in Histopathology Whole Slide Images on Single-Cell Level
Teemu Tuominen

Lunch Break 60 min

Microscopy-based research

Chair: Lauri Polari

- 13:10 – 13:30 Microscopy Driven Characterization of Human Brown Adipose Spheroids
Aima Sajjad
- 13:30 – 13:50 Exploring mass fiducials for Clever-1 structural biology
Parastoo Aziminia
- 13:50 – 14:10 Growth Characteristics and Antibody Detection of Human Parechoviruses Types 1-6 In Intestinal Hutu80 Cell Line
Omorovbiye Omorevbarhia
- 14:10 – 14:30 Rescue and Real-Time Imaging of Recombinant Coxsackievirus A9 Encoding Green Fluorescent Protein
Esrat Jahan
- 14:30 – 14:50 Optimized Visualization of Thymic Acetylcholine Receptors in Myasthenia Gravis
Heidi Toivonen
- 14:50 – 15:00 ***Awarding Biomedical Imaging best presentation and graphical abstract***

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Perjantai / Friday 24.4.2026, Alhopuro, Medisiina D

MDP in Drug Discovery and Development (MSc) / UTU

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MDP in Drug Discovery and Development

Cancer Biology and Tumor Microenvironment

Chair: Sanna Soini

- 8:30 – 8:50 Quantitative Analysis of the 3D Morphology and Immune Cell Interactions in DCIS
Aino Huuskonen
- 8:50 – 9:10 Characteristics and Prognostic Value of Cancer Stem Cells in High Grade Serous
Ovarian Cancer
Teemu Entola
- 9:10 – 09:30 RAS regulation via RNA helicase DDX54 in pancreatic and lung cancer cells
Maiju Koistinen
- 09:30 – 09:50 Ex vivo Biomarker Discovery and Validation for Clever 1 Targeting Therapy in Solid
Tumors
Bea Oksanen

Break 10 min

Novel Targets and Modalities for Drug Research

Chair: Virpi Talman

- 10:00 – 10:20 From foam to function: screening FDA approved drugs to reverse macrophage lipid
dysregulation
Kerttu Riihko
- 10:20 – 10:40 Visualization and Identification of Sperm RNAs
Riikka Palimo
- 10:40 – 11:00 Fetuin A Expression and Differentiation of MG 63 Cells Under Mechanical
Stimulation
Venla Korpela

Lunch break 60 min



Clinical trials and Sustainability

Chair: Päivi Hirvensalo

- 12:00 – 12:20 Reproductive tract microbiome during pregnancy – DNA extraction methods, metagenomic analysis and identification of *Candida albicans*
Linda Marttila
- 12:20 – 12:40 Association between clinical trial activity and access to new cancer medicines: Evidence from Finland and other Nordic countries
Lotta Kutvonen
- 12:40 – 13:00 Sustainability assessment of single use versus reusable labware
Tamanna Sarapat

Break 10 min

Inflammation and Infection

Chair: Päivi Hirvensalo

- 13:10 – 13:30 The Impact of Neurofibromatosis Type 1 on Macrophage Phenotype
Milla Lehto
- 13:30 – 13:50 Regulation of epithelial permeability and inflammatory signalling by novel selective hormone receptor modulator
Oona Sainio
- 13:50 – 14:10 Use of 3C Protease as Diagnostic Agent for Rhinovirus Infection
Tira Grahm
- 14:10 – 14:30 Quantification of long non coding RNAs in Th2 cell differentiation
Kaisa Saarikoski

Break 10 min

Molecular Target Identification and Computational Drug Discovery (DDD)

Chair: Ullamari Pesonen

- 14:40 – 15:00 In Silico Screening of Small-Molecule Inhibitors for MAGE-A4
Henna-Riikka Otranen
- 15:00 – 15:20 Computational and Experimental Identification of WEE1-Binding Compounds for Cancer Research
Roosa Saarimaa
- 15:20 – 15:40 Targeting KRAS G12X in Pancreatic Cancer: Discovery of Novel Therapeutic Candidates
Vilma Kaikkonen
- 15:40 – 15:50 ***Closing words and announcing the winners of the best presentation and best graphical abstract of MDP in Drug Discovery and Development and best presentation in BSc in Biomedicine***
Professor Ullamari Pesonen