

## Workshop on Omics Approaches for Biomarker Discovery

24 September 2026

Seminar room, Institute of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, Faculty of  
Medicine, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

### Programme

10:00 - 10:05 **Welcome**

10:05 - 10:50 **Jochen Schwenk** "The Circulating Proteome: Beyond Biomarker  
Discovery"

10:50 - 11:35 **Matti Poutanen** "Analysing Sex Steroid Profiles in Serum and  
Target Tissues: Challenges and Opportunities"

11:35 - 12:20 **Klemens Vierlinger** "Minimally Invasive Multi-Omics Biomarker  
Discovery: Best Practices and Pitfalls"

12:20 – 12:25 **Conclusions**

**Prof. Dr Jochen Schwenk** is Professor of Translational Proteomics at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, Scientific Director at the Human Protein Atlas, Founder of SciLifeLab's Affinity Proteomics Unit, Scientific Director for SciLifeLab's Proteomics Platform, and Chair of the Human Plasma Proteome Project. Prof. Schwenk is the author of 183 manuscripts with an H-index of 48 and 27,400 citations. He is currently engaged in interdisciplinary research, focusing on innovative approaches to protein analysis. Prof. Schwenk is internationally recognised in the field of proteome studies of physiological fluids, aiming to discover biomarkers of health and disease.

**Prof. Dr. Matti Poutanen** is a Professor of Physiology at the Institute of Biomedicine, University of Turku, and is also active at the Institute of Medicine, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. Prof. Poutanen is the author of 298 articles, with an H-index of 61 and 12,672 citations. Internationally, he is recognised in the field of steroid synthesis and mechanisms of action, with a focus on intracrinology and the identification of new targets for drug development. Prof. Poutanen is a co-founder of the spin-off company Forendo Pharma, which was recently acquired by the multinational company Organon.

**Dr. Klemens Vierlinger** leads the Bioinformatics section at the Molecular Diagnostic Unit of the Austrian Institute of Technology, Vienna, Austria. His group drives the in silico arm of the entire molecular biomarker development process, from omics discovery studies and candidate signature identification, through platform and matrix transfer, technical verification studies, to clinical validation studies. To resolve complex disease phenotypes, they also integrate multiple omics layers from various tissue types and/or body fluids with imaging, clinical, or exosome data. Dr Vierlinger is the author of 61 manuscripts, with an H-index of 21 and 1,806 citations.