

Name of Researcher, Degree(s): Anders Svenningsson, MD, PhD

Title, Department: Professor of Neurology, Head of Neuroimmunology, Department of Neurology and Clinical Sciences, Karolinska Institutet Danderyd Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden

Anders Svenningsson, MD, PhD, is Head of Neuroimmunology and Professor of Neurology at Danderyd Hospital in Stockholm, Sweden. Dr. Svenningsson earned his medical degree at the University of Gothenburg and his doctoral degree at the same University on the subject of immunological changes in the cerebrospinal fluid in MS. He completed a postdoctoral training at the Karolinska Institutet in the group of Professor Tomas Olsson with further focus on the immunopathology of MS. He was a board certified Neurologist 1998 and has been engaged in research and clinical development of MS ever since. Dr Svenningsson was chair of the Swedish MS Association 2011 – 2013 and chair of the Swedish Association of Neurology 2014 - 2016. He was heading the working group developing Swedish national guidelines for MS treatment on behalf of the National Board of Health and Welfare 2015 – 2016.

The main focus of Dr Svenningsson's research during the last years has been to develop new efficient treatment protocols in MS in both the inflammatory and the progressive phase of the disease. In particular, Dr Svenningsson has specialised in B-cell directed therapies and has initiated six academic clinical trials on this topic in both progressive and relapsing MS. He is presently running two phase 3 trials evaluating rituximab in MS regarding comparative efficacy and long-term treatment protocols to optimise safety and efficacy of this treatment modality.