The macrophage is a diverse cell type playing a complex and multifaceted role in the innate and adaptive immune response. The variable and plastic macrophage phenotype highly depends on the state of activity and stimulation. Major scientific progresses have in recent years been obtained in our understanding of how, for instance, macrophages can exert both pro- and anti-inflammatory functions in disease processes. Furthermore, the macrophage is a new focus for development of targeted medical therapy and diagnostic tools in inflammatory diseases.

Leading foreign scientists have been invited to the symposium to present their research and expert view on macrophage activation, macrophage genomics and the role of macrophages in the pathogenesis of infectious disease, cancer and chronic inflammations such as type-2 diabetes, atherosclerosis and liver inflammation. These presentations, which include recent data based on state-of-the-art technologies such as advanced genomics and video recording of in-vivo imaging studies of macrophages, will update the audience at the highest level about important roles of macrophages in disease.

8.00-9.00: Registration

Session 1: Chairman: Søren Kragh Moestrup

09:15-09:20: Welcome by Birgitte Nauntofte, CEO, The Novo Nordisk Foundation

09:20-10:00: Siamon Gordon, Oxford: Macrophage receptors in innate immunity and alternative activation

10:00-10:40: Coffee break.

10:55-11:35: Toby Lawrence, Marseille: Tumor-associated macrophages – a target for cancer therapy

11:35-12:15: Alyssa Hasty, Nashville: Macrophage iron metabolism in obesity and type-2 diabetes

12:15-12:45: Lunch.

Session 2: Chairman: Toby Lawrence

12:45-13:25: Detlef Schuppan, Mainz and Boston: Macrophages as key modulators of liver fibrosis progression and reversal

13:25-14:05: Craigh Jenne, Calgary: Visualizing macrophage capture of pathogens within the liver microvasculature

14:05-14:45: Joseph Boyle, London: 'Mhem' macrophages and atherosclerosis

14:45-15:10: Coffee break


15:35-16:00: Holger J. Møller, Aarhus: Plasma markers for macrophage activity

16:00: Closing remarks by Søren Kragh Moestrup