

2026 AGENDA

CU DRC Diabetes Day & John Hutton Memorial Lecture

March 6, 2026, Shore Family Forum, CU Anschutz

Nighthorse Campbell Native Health Building, 13055 E. 17th Avenue, Aurora, CO 80045

08:45 - 09:00 am Welcome message by **Dr. Lori Sussel**, Director of CU Diabetes Research Center, Research Director of BDC

Chair: LeAnna Phillips, PhD Student

Session 1

- 09:00 – 09:30 am **A New Era in Type 1 Diabetes: Translating Immune Modulation from Discovery to Clinical Care**
Kimber Simmons, MD, MPH/MSPH, Associate Professor, Barbara Davis Center
- 09:30 – 09:45 am **Abstract 1: Loss of β -cell Heterogeneity Due to Glucolipototoxicity-induced Metabolic Stress**
Anne Gresch, PhD, Postdoctoral Researcher, Bioengineering, CU Denver
- 09:45 – 10:00 am **Abstract 2: Dysregulated Glucagon Signaling Contributes to Postbariatric Hypoglycemia in Mice**
Tyler Cook, PhD, Postdoctoral Researcher, Pediatrics-Nutrition, CU Anschutz
- 10:00 – 10:25 am **Research Snapshots I**
Brief presentation by Poster Competition participants

10:25 – 11:15 am Coffee break and Posters (Part 1)

Chair: Claire Levitt, PhD Student

Session 2

- 11:15 – 11:30 am **Abstract 3: Teplizumab Treatment for Stage 2 Type 1 Diabetes: a Real-World Evaluation of Metabolic and Immunologic Outcomes**
Kagan Karakus, MD, Postdoctoral Researcher, Barbara Davis Center
- 11:30 – 12:00 pm **Stressed β -Cells Contribute to Loss of Peri-Islet Extracellular Matrix in Type 1 Diabetes**
Nikki Farnsworth, PhD, Assistant Professor, Chemical and Biological Engineering, Adjoint Assistant Professor, Pediatrics-Barbara Davis Center
- 12:00 – 12:15 pm **Abstract 4: Clonally Expanded Islet-reactive B Cells from T1D Donors Exhibit Initial Reactivity to Viral Antigens**
Jessica Prendergast, PhD Student, Immunology & Microbiology, CU Anschutz
- 12:15 – 12:40 pm **Research Snapshots II**
Brief presentation by Poster Competition participants

12:40 – 1:45 pm Lunch and Posters (Part 2)

Chair: Kayla Fairweather, PhD Student

Session 3

01:45 – 02:00 pm **Abstract 5: Using Long-read Sequencing to Investigate Alternative Splicing Events in Type 1 Diabetes**
Maria Hansen, PhD Student, Pediatrics Department, CU Anschutz

02:00 – 02:15 pm **Abstract 6: Identifying Antigen-presenters in the Islets during T1D**
Lena Cedrone, PhD Student, Immunology and Microbiology, CU Anschutz

02:15 – 02:45 pm **Mother-Infant Microbe Seeding: Disruption, Restoration, and Metabolic Outcomes**
Noel Mueller, PhD, Associate Professor, Pediatrics-Nutrition, SOM

02:45 – 03:15 pm **Epstein-Barr Virus T Cells Reactive to a Pancreatic Beta-Cell Membrane Protein Precedes Type 1 Diabetes Onset**
Aaron Michels, MD, Professor, Pediatrics-Barbara Davis Center

03:15 – 03:30 pm Break (Judges' Discussion)

Chair: Lori Sussel, PhD, Director of CU Diabetes Research Center

Session 4

03:30 – 04:30 pm **Beta Cell & Immune Cell Crosstalk & the Road to Tolerance in T1D**
John Hutton Memorial Lecture: **Dr. Kevan Herold**, MD, C.N.H. Long Professor of Immunobiology and of Medicine at the Yale School of Medicine

04:30 – 04:45 pm Presentation of Prizes & Memorial Plaque

