

March 6, 2014



I am very pleased to announce that Professor Matej Orešič has been appointed to a new position as Principal Investigator, Systems Medicine, at the Steno Diabetes Center.

Matej is a native of Slovenia, and during his impressive career to date he has made a significant contribution to the emerging fields of metabolomics, bioinformatics and systems biology – both nationally and internationally. His track record as a leader in these fields clearly demonstrates his ability to innovate and translate from basic laboratory science to a range of clinical fields including both type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

After graduating in Physics from the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, he completed his PhD in Biophysics at Cornell University. Prior to moving to Finland, Prof. Orešič was a head of computational biology and modeling at Waltham/Massachusetts-based BG Medicine, Inc. and bioinformatician at LION Bioscience Research in Cambridge/MA. Since 2003 he has led research in domains of quantitative biology and bioinformatics at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland (Espoo, Finland), where he is a Research Professor in Systems Biology and Bioinformatics. He is the Director of the Academy of Finland Centre of Excellence in Molecular Systems Immunology and Physiology Research. His main research areas are metabolomics applications in biomedical research and integrative bioinformatics. He is particularly interested in the identification of disease vulnerabilities associated with different metabolic phenotypes and the underlying mechanisms linking these vulnerabilities with the development of specific disorders or their co-morbidities. Recent investigations include studies of longitudinal metabolic profiles of children who progressed to type 1 diabetes and studies of metabolic profiles in type 2 diabetes, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, Alzheimer's disease and psychotic disorders.

Matej Orešič is now an established international expert in the field of human metabolism. He has authored 180 peer reviewed papers, in addition to several reviews and a recent textbook "A Systems Biology Approach to Study Metabolic Syndrome".

He is Principal Investigator on 8 current major programme grants, and was the only European scientist to be awarded a grant from the GE NFL Head Health Challenge programme in January 2014. Matej is a well-known and respected scientist in the Danish research community, with active and forthcoming collaborations both at Copenhagen University and the Novo Nordisk Center for Biosustainability at DTU.

Matej Orešič will take up his new position on April 1, 2014. I know that he is eager to move to Denmark and work with his new colleagues at Steno as well as to establish new collaborations in the Danish research community and abroad. I hope that you will join me in congratulating Matej on his appointment and giving him a very warm welcome.

Regards,

John Nolan MD FRCPI FRCP(Ed)

CEO Steno Diabetes Center

Steno Diabetes Center is a world leading institution within diabetes care and prevention. Steno is owned by Novo Nordisk A/S and is a 'not for profit' organisation working in partnership with the Danish healthcare system. Steno treats around 5600 people with diabetes.