

Division of Psychobiology and Epidemiology

The Division of Psychobiology and Epidemiology integrates knowledge from neuroscience, physiology, genetics, and psychology. Epidemiology focuses on how lifestyle and environmental factors influence health outcomes.

Together, these disciplines apply interdisciplinary perspectives to better understand health, behavior, and mental processes.

The Stress Research Institute is part of this division.

Research

Cognitive Neuroscience

Led by Håkan Fischer, this unit studies the brain's role in emotional, cognitive, and social processes using advanced neuroscience methods, including MRI and PET. The research also incorporates AI and deep learning algorithms to analyze behavior and brain activity.

Psychoneuroimmunology

Led by Mats Lekander and Associate Director Anna Andreasson, this unit explores the interaction between the brain and immune system, and how behavior influences this interplay. Research also focuses on underlying mechanisms and treatment of fatigue and stress-related disorders.

Sleep and Wakefulness Research

Led by John Axelsson and Associate Director Göran Kecklund, this team investigates sleep, circadian rhythms, recovery, and stress. A primary focus concerns how we sleep and function in a modern 24/7 society and how this affects cognition, behavior, and health.

Epidemiology

Led by Hugo Westerlund and Associate Director Hui-Xin Wang, this unit focuses on work-related health risks and the links between stress, disease, and brain health. The unit leads SLOSH (PI: Hugo Westerlund), a national longitudinal study with over 40,000 participants, and SLOSH-MRI (PI: Hui-Xin Wang), which currently includes over 300 participants.

Laboratories and Infrastructure

The division uses neuroscience, biological, behavioral, and epidemiological methods, including MRI, PET, sleep laboratories, and large-scale population studies.



Selected Research Funders

- Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet)
- Forte
- Region Stockholm
- The Bank of Sweden Tercentenary Foundation
- The Wallenberg Foundations

Education

Researchers at the division teach at undergraduate, advanced, and doctoral levels in biological psychology, neuroscience, and epidemiology. Supervision is provided for bachelor's, master's, and PhD students.

Research Communication

The Stress Research Podcast (in Swedish)

Contact

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