

press release

Novo Nordisk and University of Washington to collaborate on exploring the role of the brain in regulating blood glucose and obesity

Bagsværd, Denmark, 3 November 2015 – Novo Nordisk today announced that a research collaboration has been initiated with Dr Michael Schwartz, director of The Diabetes and Obesity Center of Excellence at UW Medicine. The collaboration aims to understand factors mediating brain control of blood glucose and appetite with the ultimate goal of developing new therapeutic agents for the treatment of diabetes and obesity. The research will be conducted at UW Medicine’s South Lake Union research campus in Seattle, Washington, and at Novo Nordisk.

Over the next three years, Michael W Schwartz, MD, a University of Washington professor of medicine and his team together with Novo Nordisk researchers will conduct a research programme on the effect of known hormonal factors working in the brain to regulate whole body glucose metabolism and appetite.

Dr Schwartz is a world expert in diabetes and obesity with focus on the role of the brain in the regulation of energy balance, insulin resistance and glucose metabolism. His work is continuously published in high-ranking journals and is setting direction for this field of research.

“We are very happy to enter into a close collaboration with Dr Schwartz. There is a large potential in following this angle for blood glucose and appetite control, and we hope it will bring new agents for the treatment of diabetes and obesity to the patients,” says Peter Kurtzhals, senior vice president, Global Research Novo Nordisk.

Dr Michael Schwartz says, “We are excited to launch this new collaboration with colleagues at Novo Nordisk. Our collective skill and expertise will help us to both advance our understanding of the brain’s role in blood sugar control and to develop novel approaches to diabetes treatment.”

About Novo Nordisk

Novo Nordisk is a global healthcare company with more than 90 years of innovation and leadership in diabetes care. This heritage has given us experience and capabilities that also enable us to help people

defeat other serious chronic conditions: haemophilia, growth disorders and obesity. Headquartered in Denmark, Novo Nordisk employs approximately 40,300 people in 75 countries and markets its products in more than 180 countries. For more information, visit novonordisk.com, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#).

About UW Medicine

UW Medicine's mission is to improve the health of the public by advancing medical knowledge, providing outstanding primary and specialty care to the people of the region, and preparing tomorrow's physicians, scientists and other health professionals. UW Medicine owns or operates Harborview Medical Center, Northwest Hospital & Medical Center, Valley Medical Center, University of Washington Medical Center, a network of 10 UW Neighborhood Clinics that provide primary care and secondary care, the physician practice UW Physicians, the UW School of Medicine and Airlift Northwest. In addition, UW Medicine shares in the ownership and governance of Children's University Medical Group and Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, a partnership among UW Medicine, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and Seattle Children's. Our faculty includes 3 living Nobel Prize winners (5 in our history), 36 National Academy of Medicine members, 32 National Academy of Sciences members and 13 Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigators. For more information, visit uwmedicine.org.

Further information

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