Jesper Petersson is currently the Director of Research and Education, Department of Neurology at the Malmö University Hospital. He holds this role since 2004, when he was also appointed lecturer and Head of Department - Neurology, Malmö, Institute for Clinical Sciences, Lund University. He has held consecutive appointments as Young Clinical Scientist for two three-year periods at the Lund Medical Faculty. He is Director of medical studies for the 9<sup>th</sup> semester. He has worked as a short term consultant at WHO. He heads the regional pharmacological committee in neurology and is vice-chair of the regional neurology board. Dr Petersson was elected member of the British Pharmacological Society in 1997.

Dr. Petersson's clinical interest lies mainly in stroke. He is founding member of the Swedish SITS – committee and founding member and vice-president of the ESRNH. The Malmö stroke unit is one of the largest in Sweden and treats 800 stroke patients per year. It has access to modern CT and MRI equipment. The Neurovascular unit has excellent knowledge in Transcranial Doppler and Duplex techniques. The stroke unit includes a semi-intensive unit with 6 beds with full monitoring facilities including long-term EEG. There is an excellent cooperation with the intensive care unit chaired by Dr. Anders Ersson, who is an expert on hypothermia in cardiac arrest patients.

His current research interests focus on treatment of acute ischaemic stroke, especially therapy with cooling and hypothermia. Dr. Jesper Petersson has extensive experience with clinical trials in acute stroke and unique firsthand experience with cooling in stroke. He was a member of the Steering Committee for the NOCSS-trial (Nordic Cooling in Ischemic Stroke Study). He has designed and started the Malmö Acute Stroke COoling Trial (MASCOT). He has been principal investigator in major sponsored acute stroke trials such as ECASS-1, CLASS, Emlimomab, POST, SAINT and FAST. He has been national investigator for the CHANT trial and now holds this position in DIAS-4 for Sweden. Dr. Petersson has also been on DSCMC's, i.e. for Diamyd trials 1-3.

Dr. Petersson has authored and co-authored more than 20 scientific papers on cerebrovascular diseases and pharmacology in journals such as Nature, Diabetes, Cerebrovascular Diseases, Pharmacology & Toxicology and the British Journal of Pharmacology. He has held lectures at International Meetings such as the European Stroke Council, ANIM, New York Neurocritical Care Symposium, Therapeutic Temperature Management. He has organized and chaired local symposia such as the Swedish Neurological Society meeting and the first Swedish workshop on thrombolytic therapy in stroke.

## Selected articles

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Zygmunt PM, Petersson J, Andersson DA, Chuang H, Sorgard M, Di Marzo V, Julius D, Hogestatt ED (1999) Vanilloid receptors on sensory nerves mediate the vasodilator action of anandamide. Nature 400: 452-7