



International Conference

THE MICROBIOME THROUGHOUT LIFE

Translating new science into clinical practice

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ROCHELLYS DIAZ HEIJTZ

Rochellys Diaz Heijtz, PhD, is a Principal Investigator and Associate Professor (Docent) at Karolinska Institutet, Sweden. She is one of the pioneers in research on the microbiota –gut–brain axis, demonstrating how gut microbes influence brain development, function, and behavior. Her work focuses on microbial metabolites and bacterial peptidoglycans as molecular messengers relevant to neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

She has authored widely cited papers that have shaped this field, including a landmark PNAS paper cited over 2,400 times (Web of Science). She is also deeply committed to postgraduate teaching, mentoring early-career scientists, and advancing interdisciplinary research bridging neuroscience, microbiology, and psychiatry.

