



Professor Lene Juel Rasmussen is Professor of Molecular Aging at Center for Healthy Aging and Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, University of Copenhagen. She is Executive Director at Center for Healthy Aging.

Center for Healthy Aging is a research center that studies how more people can have a healthy life and healthy aging. The approach to research is interdisciplinary and the center studies aging and aging processes from cell to society.

Professor Lene Juel Rasmussen's own research focus at understanding the processes of cellular aging, the genetic origins of complex diseases, as well as the impact of environmental factors, which is the central challenge of modern biomedicine. Basic research into cells and genes is important for understanding how we decline throughout life and become more liable to disease. Having the knowledge means we might be able to postpone the point in life at which illnesses associated with old age typically occur, and thus give many people more years of high quality life.

Her research group identifies molecular targets for the treatment of age-related diseases and investigates the powerhouses of the cells – the mitochondria. Research in mitochondria touches several disease-related fields at the clinical level, because mitochondrial dysfunction or mutations contribute to the ontogeny of cancer, diabetes, blindness, deafness, migraine, and diseases of the heart, kidney, liver, and muscles. Furthermore, mitochondrial dysfunction is involved in aging and neurodegenerative disorders such as Parkinson and Alzheimer's dementia.

Professor Lene Juel Rasmussen received in 2016 The Olav Thon Research Grant Award, became in 2019 elected member of The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, and has from 2014-2016 been Chair of the Steering Committee for International Alliance of Research Universities.

EDUCATION

1991: PhD. in Molecular Genetics, Department of Microbiology, Technical University of Denmark, Copenhagen, Denmark

1988: MSc. in Chemical Engineering, Technical University of Denmark, Copenhagen, Denmark

POSITIONS

2009-: Executive Director, Center for Healthy Aging, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

2009-: Professor, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

2008 winter: Visiting Scientist, National Institute of Aging (NIA), Baltimore, USA

2007 fall: Visiting Scientist, National Institute of Environmental Health (NIEHS/NIH), Raleigh/Durham, USA

2006-2009: Professor, Roskilde University, Roskilde, Denmark

2000-2005: Associate Professor, Roskilde University, Roskilde, Denmark

1997 summer: Visiting Scientist, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA

1996-1999: Assistant Professor, Roskilde University, Roskilde, Denmark

1994-1996: Postdoctoral Research, Harvard University, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, USA

1991-1994: Postdoctoral Research, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, USA

1988-1991: Graduate Research, Technical University of Denmark, Copenhagen, Denmark

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2019-present: Elected member of The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters (<http://english.dnva.no/c41974/seksjon/vis.html?tid=41993>)

2015-present: Editorial Board member of the journal Mitochondrion

2014-2016: Chair of the Steering Committee for International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU)

2013-present: Member of the international Insight expert panel evaluating MMR VUS

2012-present: Board member of The Danish Society for Molecular Medicine (DK)

2008-present: Member of workgroup under World Health Organization (WHO) to define guideline for diagnosis of breast and colon cancers

2004-present: Member of the Danish Academy of Natural Sciences