



## **Welcome to the April edition of Alumni Monthly**

*This e-mail newsletter aims to bring you closer to what is happening at the DKFZ. Enjoy reading the news from the Press Office and become acquainted with newly appointed researchers at the NCT Dresden and DTKT Frankfurt/Mainz.*

*Application is now open for the Summer Selection of the International PhD Program and we would be very grateful if you would share this information with potential candidates.*

*We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and we are looking forward to hearing your suggestions for future issues.*

---

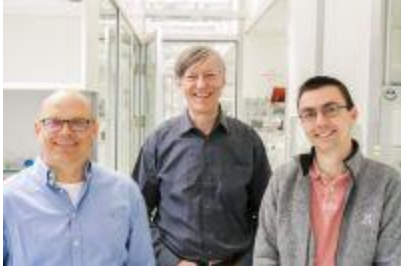
## **Content**

- » **News from the Press Office**
  - » **Highlight Publications**
  - » **New Research Groups**
  - » **Lectures & Conferences**
  - » **Job Openings**
  - » **Alumni Matters**
  - » **Stay Connected**
- 

## **News from the Press Office**

---

## **European million grants for three DKFZ researchers**



From left to right: Bernd Bukau, Hans-Reimer Rodewald, Tobias Dick © Roman Jowanowitsch/DKFZ

Three scientists from the German Cancer Research Center (Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum, DKFZ) have each been awarded one of the prestigious European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grants comprising €2 million Euros. One of the grants goes to Hans-Reimer Rodewald, who has developed a barcode system that makes it possible to track the path of immune system cells in the living organism. Tobias Dick is studying how reactive oxygen compounds in altered metabolism influence an organism's resistance. Bernd Bukau, who also pursues research at the University of Heidelberg, wants to find out how proteins are given their final outfit. [read more](#)

[»Top](#)

## Outstanding work in brain tumor research

The Heidelberg medical doctor Matthias Osswald receives the Hella Bühler Prize, which is endowed with 100,000 Euros. The prize is awarded to young researchers at the Heidelberg scientific community, which have already attracted attention through outstanding scientific quality in cancer research. The prize money serves to further promote their innovative work.

At the DKFZ and the Heidelberg University Hospital, Matthias Osswald is investigating the communication and network formation between the cells of malignant brain tumors.

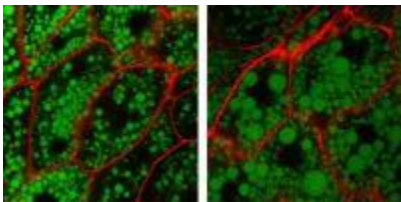
[Press release only in German](#)



Dr. Matthias Osswald ©  
Universitätsklinikum Heidelberg

[»Top](#)

## What obese fruit flies may tell us about the evolution of cold tolerance



© DKFZ/Teleman

Researchers have hypothesized that migrations into higher, colder latitudes may lead to evolution of fast-burning metabolisms that keep cells warm, boosting cold tolerance. Researchers of the DKFZ now show that a gene called THADA helps flies burn energy from fat. When the gene is knocked out in flies, they become obese and burn less energy. This finding may be a clue to previously observed correlations between ancestral latitudes and metabolism in humans. [read more](#)

[»Top](#)

## Human blood cells develop in a continuous process instead of a stepwise one

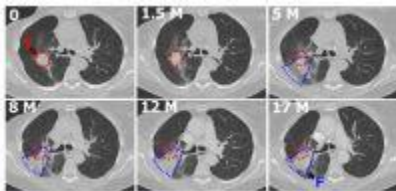
Scientists from the DKFZ, the Heidelberg Institute for Stem Cell Technology and Experimental Medicine (HI-STEM) and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) used a new combination of analysis methods to study in single cells how blood stem cells in the bone marrow differentiate into mature blood cells. Their results have turned textbook knowledge of the past decades upside down. [read more](#)



© Tobias Wüstefeld/EMBL

[»Top](#)

## Antibody is effective against radiation-induced pulmonary fibrosis



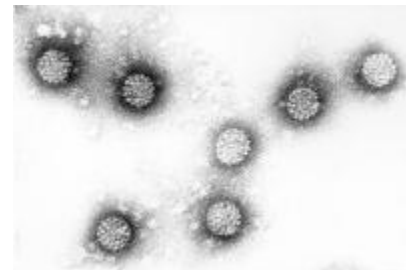
© Huber/DKFZ

Radiation therapy of the lungs often leads to irreversible connective-tissue changes that cause functional impairments in the pulmonary tissue. Scientists from the DKFZ have now been able to prevent, and even reverse this process in mice using an antibody. [read more](#)

[»Top](#)

## A biomarker for cancer of the oropharynx

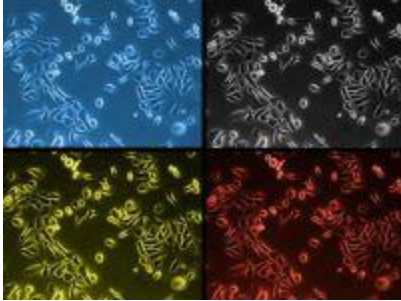
A growing number of cases of oropharyngeal cancer are considered to be a consequence of infection with human papillomaviruses (HPV). Scientists at the DKFZ have now revealed that a single blood sample test for specific antibodies can identify persons who are at a high risk of developing this type of cancer ten years or more before cancer diagnosis. [read more](#)



© DKFZ/Zentgraf

[»Top](#)

## DKTK Munich: "Jumping gene" uncovers genetic networks involved in prostate and breast cancer



Prostate cancer cells under the microscope. © Lukasz Kacprzyk / DKFZ

Mutations in tumor suppressor genes mean that they can no longer keep tumors from growing. In developing cancer, often several mutations come into play. Using "jumping genes," scientists from the Technical University of Munich (TUM) and the German Cancer Consortium (DKTK) together with teams from Great Britain and Spain have identified a number of genes that can influence the growth of prostate and breast tumors. They published their results in "Nature Genetics". [read more](#)

[»Top](#)

## Peptide acts as mediator for learning

In order to adapt to changes in the environment, the brain produces new nerve cells (neurons) even at adult age. These young neurons are crucial for memory formation and learning. Scientists from the DKFZ and Heidelberg University Hospital have now discovered that a small peptide plays the role of a mediator in this process. In response to an external stimulus such as a varied environment, the mediator peptide boosts the proliferation of neural stem cells and neural progenitor cells. [read more](#)



© Ionut Dumitru, DKFZ

[»Top](#)

## Highlight Publications

### Selected by the Research Program Coordinators

#### **Infectious Agents in Bovine Red Meat and Milk and Their Potential Role in Cancer and Other Chronic Diseases.**

Curr Top Microbiol Immunol. 2017 Mar 28. doi: 10.1007/82\_2017\_3. [Epub ahead of print]  
Zur Hausen H, Bund T, de Villiers EM [link to article](#)

#### **DNA methylation-based classification and grading system for meningioma: a multicentre, retrospective analysis.**

Lancet Oncol. 2017 Mar 14. pii: S1470-2045(17)30155-9. doi: 10.1016/S1470-2045(17)30155-9. [Epub ahead of print]  
Sahm F, von Deimling A, et al. [link to article](#)

#### **Pan-mutant-IDH1 inhibitor BAY1436032 is highly effective against human IDH1 mutant acute myeloid leukemia in vivo.**

Leukemia. 2017 Feb 24. doi: 10.1038/leu.2017.46. [Epub ahead of print]  
Chaturvedi A, Krämer A, et al. [link to article](#)

---

## New Research Groups

---

### First professor appointed at NCT Dresden: Computer scientist develops assistance systems for cancer surgery

Since April 1st, Stefanie Speidel is professor for "Translational Surgical Oncology" at the National Center for Tumor Diseases (NCT) Dresden. The computer scientist conducts research on intelligent assistance systems for the operating room. These innovations will help to lead the surgeon safely to his goal during minimally invasive procedures. In particular, tumor operations in the abdomen could become even more accurate and lower in risk. Speidel is the first professor to be financed by NCT Dresden. Four other NCT professors are to be appointed until next year. [read more](#)



Prof. Dr. Stefanie Speidel

»Top

---

### DKTK Frankfurt/Mainz: New young investigator group to study the emergence of leukemia cells in bone marrow



© Markus Schmidt /  
Universitätsmedizin Mainz

Since 15 March 2017, Dr Borhane Gueguez is leading a new young investigator group for cancer immunotherapy at the University Cancer Center (UCT Mainz), part of Mainz University Medical Center. The group he is leading is one of two young investigator groups set up by the German Cancer Consortium (DKTK) at its Frankfurt/Mainz partner location to promote clinically oriented cancer research. The focus of the new young investigator group is the identification of regulatory mechanisms in specialized bone marrow tissue (niche cells). They are responsible for self-renewal and ensure the survival of blood stem cells, but they can also contribute to the development of abnormal leukemia stem cells. [press](#)

[release](#)

»Top

---

## Lectures & Conferences

---

### New Monthly Event Series of the

## German Network for Bioinformatics Infrastructure (de.NBI)



Technical sessions with de.NBier

Heidelberg Center for Human Bioinformatics (HD-HuB) is hosting an event series – Technical sessions with de.NBier, in order to provide a common platform to the life-scientists in and around Heidelberg to network with each other and exchange their knowledge. We will organize this event periodically on various technical issues to facilitate discussions and opportunities for scientific networking in an informal set-up over drinks and snacks. [read more](#)

[»Top](#)

## DKFZ-Bayer Drug Discovery Lecture Series 2017 Structural Biology



**17 May 2017, 13:00**

**Lecturer: Dr. Martina Schäfer, Structural Biology 4, Bayer AG**

[read more](#)

[»Top](#)

## 2nd European Cancer Epigenetics Conference 2017

**11 – 13 May 2017**

The 2017 meeting will be organized into 5 sessions covering the following fields:

- Mechanisms of Epigenetic Deregulation
- Epigenetics of Single Cells and Molecules
- Epigenetic Programming & Epigenetic Plasticity
- Translational Epigenetics
- Epigenetic Therapy

Keynote Speaker:

Stephen B. Baylin, Virginia and D. K. Ludwig Professor in Cancer Research; Director, Cancer Biology Program

[read more](#)



[»Top](#)

---

## “Science Communication” Career Day



**19 May 2017**

You know about the importance of communication, both between scientists and with the public, and would like to get more input on how to benefit from your skills in communication as a scientist? Maybe you even consider a career in science communication? Then join us for our DKFZ

Career Day on “Science Communication”!

This day will give you the unique opportunity to join workshops, learn about various aspects of Science Communication and to get in contact with DKFZ Alumni who work in this sector (e.g. as PR-consultant from DK Life Science Communications, Editors from Wiley, Springer Nature and many more).

Bring your enthusiasm, fascination and a lot of questions to a day filled with short talks, workshops and interesting discussions. To receive updates on the growing program please join the event on [www.dkfz-connect.de](http://www.dkfz-connect.de). [read more](#)

[»Top](#)

---

## Nobel Laureate Lecture Series: Françoise Barré-Sinoussi - Nobel Prize in Medicine or Physiology 2008



**June 8, 2017, 17:00 - 18:30**

Contemplating an end to the HIV epidemics - what is left to be done?

Much progress has been made in the development of tools to prevent, diagnose and treat HIV infection. However, we still do not have a vaccine and antiretroviral treatments are not curative as HIV persists in many compartments of the body. The implementation of these tools at large scale worldwide remains a critical challenge as well as the sustainability of these life-long therapies. Recent advances in our

understanding of protective immune responses and of HIV persistence have generated some optimism about the development of novel vaccine and HIV cure strategies, which are an absolute necessity to end the HIV epidemics. [read more](#)

[»Top](#)

---

## Heidelberg Forum for Young Life Scientists “A Tale of Cells & Organisms”

8 - 9 June 2017

The Heidelberg Forum for Young Life Scientists (HFYLS) is a scientific symposium organized every two years by PhD students working in the field of life sciences in Heidelberg and Mannheim, Germany. The goal is to bring together young scientists from all over the world, from a broad range of life-science-related disciplines, for a two-day conference. In doing so, the organizers seek to foster interdisciplinary exchange and to provide new insights into a broad range of current research topics. [read more](#)



[»Top](#)

### 3rd International Symposium: "Innovations in Oncology" - How to Eliminate Colon Cancer - A Road Map



26 - 27 June 2017

Hosted by the National Center for Tumor Diseases (NCT) Heidelberg, the German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), the Heidelberg University Hospital, the Felix Burda Foundation, the German Network against Colorectal Cancer and in cooperation with the German Cancer Society (DKG) the 3rd International Symposium: "Innovations in Oncology" will bring together scientists and physicians from academics to industry and foster interdisciplinary communication and collaboration. [read more](#)

[»Top](#)

### Personalized Medicine - International Symposium 2017

3 - 4 July 2017

**Key Note Speakers** are among many other distinguished scientists:

Mike Snyder, Stanford

Luis Serrano Pubul, Barcelona

Anne-Lise Børresen-Dale, Oslo

**Program:**

The detailed program will be published by mid June 2017 and will be sent to all registered participants via E-mail. Please find the preliminary program and the conference poster in the "Download" section. A list with a variety of hotels in Heidelberg is provided for download, too.

**Conference Registration:**

Registration is free of charge, but is mandatory for participating in the conference.

Registration deadline: June 19, 2017. Early registration is advised due to limited capacity.

**Call for Posters / Short Talks:**

If you wish to present your research as poster or short talk, please submit an abstract via the "Registration and abstract submission" Link below.

Abstract submission deadline: May 29, 2017.

[read more](#)

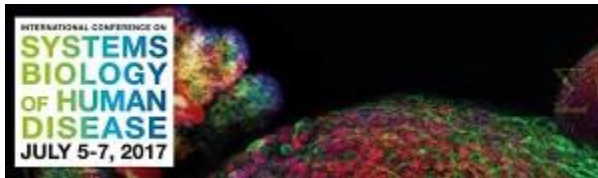


[»Top](#)



---

## International Conference on Systems Biology of Human Disease (SBHD)



5 - 7 July 2017

The International Conference on Systems Biology of Human Disease (SBHD) is a transatlantic event and communication

platform for scientific exchange that takes place alternately between the United States and Germany.

SBHD 2017 is continuing a conference series launched by Peter Sorger and colleagues from Harvard Medical School in 2008. The conference focus is on mammalian systems biology, particularly on its application to human disease and therapy. [read more](#)

[»Top](#)

---

## Job Openings

---

### PhD Positions in Cancer Research



**Application** is now open for the Summer Selection of the of the International PhD Program. We would be very grateful if you would share this information with students that you think would be interested in doing a PhD at the DKFZ. The deadline is 31st May 2017 and more information can be found [here](#).

Many thanks in advance for your support!

[»Top](#)

---

## Job Openings

### Scientific jobs

- 118/2017 Diplom-Bioingenieur/in/ Master of Science Biotechnologie - Hochdurchsatzsequenzierung
- 111/2017 Postdoc for developmental neuro-oncology - Pediatric Neuro-Oncology
- 107/2017 Postdoc - Chronic Inflammation and Cancer

- 106/2017 Full Professor (W3) for Tumor Microenvironment and Metabolism -
- 098/2017 Arzt/Ärztin / Facharzt/Fachärztin in der Forschung - Translationale Onkologie
- 096/2017 Bioinformatician - German Cancer Consortium (DKTK) München
- 091/2017 Postdoc - German Cancer Consortium (DKTK) Freiburg
- 090/2017 Group leader position induced pluripotent stem cells and brain malignancies -
- 086/2017 Postdoc Position - Cell Plasticity and Epigenetic Remodeling
- 084/2017 Full Professorship (W3) for Translational Radiation Oncology -
- 082/2017 Postdoc in Stem Cell Research - German Cancer Consortium (DKTK) Frankfurt/Mainz
- 072/2017 Senior Scientist/ Statistician - Cancer Epidemiology
- 068/2017 Postdoc - German Cancer Consortium (DKTK) Frankfurt/Mainz
- 059/2017 Scientist Positions in Applied Health Economics - Health Economics
- 017/2017 Postdoc Position Wnt signaling in Mouse Developmental Biology - Molecular Embryology
- 008/2017 Postdoc Position Wnt signaling - Molecular Embryology

### **PhD studentships**

- 117/2017 PhD Student - Chronic Inflammation and Cancer
- 114/2017 PhD Student in physics - Medical Physics in Radiation Oncology
- 112/2017 PhD Position - Preventive Oncology
- 097/2017 PhD Student - German Cancer Consortium (DKTK) München
- 089/2017 PhD Student - DNA repair mechanisms and cancer
- 088/2017 2 PhD Studentships in Molecular Virology - Pathogenesis of Virus-Associated Tumors
- 080/2017 PhD candidate in MR image reconstruction for non-Cartesian data and quantitative susceptibility mapping using generalized sampling - Medical Physics in Radiology
- 047/2017 PhD Student to work on the advanced analysis of proteomic and genomic data in cancer research - German Cancer Consortium (DKTK) Freiburg

### **Laboratory / Engineering department**

- 120/2017 MTA/ BTA - Deutsches Konsortium für Translationale Krebsforschung (DKTK) Essen/ Düsseldorf
- 115/2017 Leiter/in für das Probenaufarbeitungslabor innerhalb von DKFZ-HIPO - Heidelberger Zentrum für Personalisierte Onkologie
- 108/2017 Technische/r Assistent/in - Angewandte Funktionelle Genomik
- 081/2017 BTA/ MTA/ Biologielaborant/in - Molekulare Grundlagen Gastrointestinaler Tumoren
- 071/2017 Technische/r Assistent/in - Angewandte Funktionelle Genomik

### **Administration**

- 119/2017 Kauffrau/ Kaufmann für Bürokommunikation in Teilzeit 19,75 Std./Woche - Forschungssekretariat - Deutsches Konsortium für Translationale Krebsforschung (DKTK) Essen/ Düsseldorf
- 110/2017 Sekretär/in - Personalabteilung
- 109/2017 2 Volljuristen/innen - Stiftungsvorstand
- 102/2017 Arzt/ Ärztin in Teilzeit 20 Std./Woche - Krebsinformationsdienst

### **Further job offers**

- 116/2017 Medizinische/r Dokumentar/in/ Study Nurse - Heidelberger Institut für Radioonkologie (HIRO)

- 104/2017 Medizinische/r Dokumentar/in - Deutsches Konsortium für Translationale Krebsforschung (DKTK) Frankfurt/Mainz
- 103/2017 Tierarzt/ Tierärztin - Zentrum für Präklinische Forschung (ZPF)
- 099/2017 Klinische/r Dokumentar/in - Translationale Onkologie

[»Top](#)

## Alumni Matters

### DKFZ Reception for Alumni and Friends at the AACR Meeting in Washington



*Dr. Carsten Haber (Pepperprint), Prof. Stefan Wiemann (DKFZ)  
(left to right) © Jürgen Berger, DKFZ*

On Sunday, 2nd April 2017 the DKFZ Management Board invited DKFZ alumni, cooperation partners and friends to an evening reception on the occasion of this year's meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) in Washington. About 75 invited guests met at the Renaissance DC Downtown Hotel just opposite of the Washington Convention Center, where the meeting took place. Prof. Michael Baumann warmly welcomed all guests to a relaxed evening with snacks, beverages and inspiring conversations.

[»Top](#)

### DKFZ cooperation partner of governmental initiative „Research in Germany“ at the AACR Meeting 2017 in Washington



At this year's AACR  
exhibition, the DKFZ was a

*Emily Formica (DFG office Washington), Solveig Berkman (DAAD office New York),  
Jürgen Berger (DKFZ) (left to right) © DKFZ*

cooperation partner under the roof of the governmental initiative "Research in Germany". DFG, DAAD, the American Friends of the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung and DKFZ informed over 400 interested visitors about funding possibilities, cooperation models and concrete DKFZ vacancies. A "Meet the Scientist"- event took place at the booth.

[»Top](#)

---

## Stay Connected

---



### Join the Alumni Association

Alumni members benefit from an attractive range of activities:

- Alumni Monthly electronic newsletter reporting on recent developments at the DKFZ
- Publication of Alumni Magazine reporting on Alumni activities
- Eligibility for a DKFZ Alumni email address [your.name@alumni.dkfz.de](mailto:your.name@alumni.dkfz.de)
- Biennial General Alumni Meeting and Scientific Symposium, including travel grants

All current and former DKFZ colleagues are welcome to join. Please register at [www.dkfz.de/alumni](http://www.dkfz.de/alumni)

[»Top](#)

---



## Join DKFZ Connect

Join more than 1800 colleagues on DKFZ Connect, the online platform for networking and mentoring between former and current employees, including events and job postings. You can register per email or easily sync your profile with social media on [www.dkfz-connect.de](http://www.dkfz-connect.de)

- Current & former DKFZ
- Employees & Alumni
- Career Network
- Advice & Mentoring
- News & Events
- Jobs



[»Top](#)

## Imprint

Responsible for the Content:  
Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum  
Alumni Association  
Chairman: Prof. Dr. Manfred Schwab  
Editor: Susanne Schunk  
Im Neuenheimer Feld 280  
D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany  
Phone: +49 (0) 6221 42-4499  
E-Mail: [Susanne.schunk@dkfz.de](mailto:Susanne.schunk@dkfz.de)  
Internet: <http://www.dkfz.de/alumni/en>