



T-OP European Training Network for Optimizing Adoptive T cell Therapy of Cancer

Scientific meeting of the members of T-OP

Closed sessions

Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th July 2022 in Munich, Germany



COME IN & TAKE PART



Place

Bayerische Akademie der Wissenschaften
Alfons-Goppel-Str. 11
D-80539 Munich



Venue

From the airport (around one hour):

Take the regional train lines S1 or S8 to “Marienplatz”
(around 45 minutes)

Stop at “Marienplatz”: Change from the regional train lines
to the subway lines U3/U6 and take the direction “Olympia
Zentrum/Garching Hochbrück”

Stop at “Odeonsplatz” (first stop after “Marienplatz”)

10 minutes on foot: go through the park of the “Residenz”,
then turn right in the “Alfons-Goppel-Strasse”

The entrance of the “Bayerische Akademie der
Wissenschaften” is in front of „Institut Cervantes“



Dinners

Monday 4th July, 7.30 p.m. : Restaurant Tambosi,
Odeonsplatz 18, 80539 Munich

Tuesday 5th July 7.00 p.m.: Restaurant Conviva im
blauen Haus, Hildegardstr.1, 80539 Munich

Program

Monday, 4 th July 2022	
11.00 a.m.	Arrival
11.30 a.m.	Welcome <i>Sebastian Kobold, Coordinator, LMU</i>
12.00 am	Lunch
1.15 p.m.	Introduction of T-OP and presentation of the scientific and training program <i>Sebastian Kobold, Coordinator, LMU</i>
	Presentation of the individual research projects and of the Career Development Plans <i>Early Stage Researchers (ESR) and Project Leaders (PL)</i> 10 minutes presentation + 5 minutes discussion
1.30 p.m.	<i>David Andreu Sanz, ESR and Sebastian Kobold, PL, LMU</i>
1.45 p.m.	<i>Keerthana Ramanathan, ESR and Maria Ormhøj, PL, DTU</i>
2.00 p.m.	<i>Andreas Kongsgaard, ESR and Tanja de Gruijl, PL, Amsterdam UMC</i>
2.15 p.m.	Break
2.35 p.m.	<i>Fabian Richter, ESR and Christophe Paget, PL, INSERM</i>
2.50 p.m.	<i>Mar Guaza Lasheras, ESR and Christian Buchholz, PL, PEI</i>
3.05 p.m.	<i>Annina Kurzay, ESR and Per Thor Straten, PL, UHH</i>
3.20 p.m.	<i>Johanna Nimmerfroh, ESR and Alfred Zippelius, PL, UB</i>
3.35 p.m.	Break
3.55 p.m.	<i>Emanuele Carlini, ESR and Sebastian Kobold, PL, LMU</i>
4.10 p.m.	<i>Dominic Schwarz, ESR, Christian Klein, PL and Dario Venetz, PL, RICZ</i>
4.25 p.m.	<i>Catarina Guerra, ESR and Robert Hawkins, PL, Instil Bio</i>
4.40 p.m.	<i>Laura Marcos Kovandzic, ESR and Camille Bigenwald, PL, UPS</i>
4.55 p.m.	Break
5.15 p.m.	<i>Adriano Carboniero, Sebastian Theurich, PL, LMU</i>
5.30 p.m.	<i>Valeria Durante, ESR and Sonja Schallenberg, PL, MB</i>
5.45 p.m.	<i>Thy Luu, ESR and Per Thor Straten, PL, UHH</i>
6.00 p.m.	<i>Imke Reith, ESR and Michal Lotem, PL, HMO</i>
6.15 p.m.	Closing session <i>Sebastian Kobold, Coordinator, LMU</i>
7.30 p.m.	Dinner

Program

Tuesday, 5 th July 2022	
9.00 a.m.	Meeting for the Early Stage Researchers <i>Participants: ESR and Project Manager (PM)</i> 1. FAQ T-OP
10.00 a.m.	Pave the way to successful collaborations within the network of T-OP. An interactive session for all members of T-OP to benefit from experiences and knowledge cross cultures, disciplines, and sectors. Coached by: Alexandra Hauser and Ellen Schmid , Munich Center for Leadership GmbH Aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Get to know better – reflection on own research in an interdisciplinary and intersectorial context: how to communicate to understand and been understood across disciplines, cultures and sectors of activity? Communicate on your methods, equipment, main scientific focuses and way of working. Translate your own methods and terminologies for the other fields. – Identify synergies - Where are the potentials of cooperation between disciplines and their limits of within T-OP? – Develop your tools of cooperation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How to use the network to boost the research projects? (Plan secondments, cooperation, communication, incl. exchange of methods among the ESR and the PL, create tools for the network, communication within the work packages, communication among the ESR, create a pool of projects) 2) How to use the network to enhance knowledge and competencies: mentoring and scientific meetings.
1.00 - 2.00 p.m.	Lunch
2.00 p.m.	Workshop Part 2 Wrap up and results
4.00 p.m.	Break
4.15 p.m.	Mentoring: meetings of Mentors and Mentees
5.00-6.00 p.m.	Third Supervisory Board Meeting Welcome of Stefan Endres, Ombudsmann, LMU <i>Participants: Coordinator, PL, PM and representatives of ESR</i>
7.00 p.m.	Dinner

Coaches

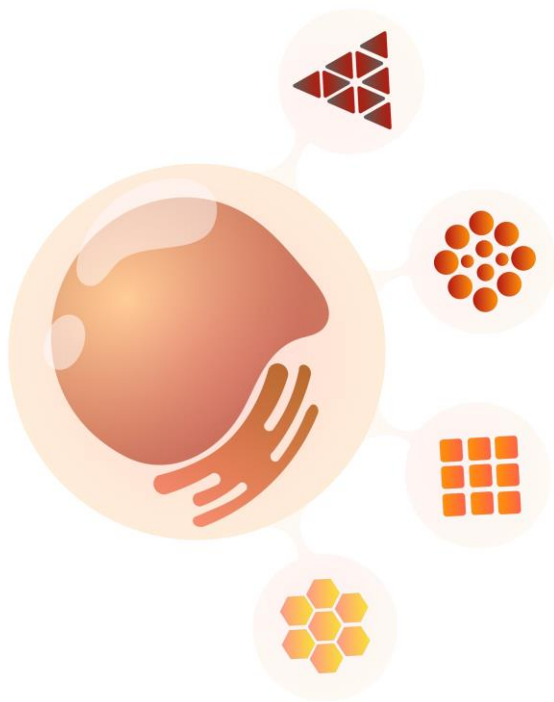


Alexandra Hauser is Professor of Responsible Leadership at Munich Business School in Munich. She studied psychology at the University of Freiburg and received her doctorate summa cum laude from the LMU Center for Leadership and People Management in 2015. She then moved to the Technical University of Munich, where she was Head of Learning Design at the TUM Institute for LifeLong Learning in the area of leadership and programme development. In 2016, she founded the Munich Center for Leadership GmbH together with former colleagues and is active there as a systemic business coach and trainer in addition to being a partner. Alexandra Hauser teaches, researches and publishes international articles in the field of responsible leadership, self-leadership and organisational behaviour with a focus on the new world of work.



Ellen Schmid is Professor of Human Resources and Organisational Development at the University of the Federal Armed Forces in Munich. She studied psychology at the Otto Friedrich University of Bamberg and the University of London and then worked for several years as an HR Business Partner at General Electric's European Research Centre. In 2011, she moved to the Technical University of Munich, where she received her doctorate summa cum laude and most recently headed a competence centre for leadership development in the digital world. In 2019, she accepted an appointment at Munich Business School as Professor of Responsible Leadership. Ellen Schmid teaches and researches in the field of human resource and organisational development with a focus on leadership development in a digital world of work. The results of her research have been published in leading international journals and she has received various awards for her teaching and research.

[Munich Center for Leadership GmbH](https://www.muc-leadership.de)
www.muc-leadership.de



Challenges and potential new avenues in therapeutic cell development

First international conference of the European Training
Network for Optimizing Adoptive T cell Therapy of Cancer T-OP

Wednesday 6th July 2022 in Munich, Germany





WELCOME

Welcome to the first international conference of our training network T-OP. We are very proud to kick off our project with the amazing topic of future developments of cell products to fight cancer and other diseases. Now more than ever, the technologies improving immunity and based on cells are required.

Adoptive T cell therapy (ACT) is a breakthrough cancer treatment and is developing rapidly. An estimated 753 different cell therapies are currently in development, of which 375 are in clinical trials world-wide. The global cell therapy market is expected to reach \$8.21 billion in 2025. Despite this dazzling progress, the generation of ACT products is ill-defined, especially the utilization of cytokines. This challenge will be the core of our project and 15 PhD students, so called Early Stage Researchers have just started their scientific work to step forwards in this challenging and exciting field of research.

Today we are delighted to welcome international experts of cell developments from academy and industry. We will raise topics at the cutting edge of current research like tumor infiltration of T cells, technologies from stem cells to improve immunotherapies or viral vectors targeted to T cell surface markers.

The conference will take place on site and be live streamed online.

We wish you an inspiring event!

Your organisation's team

COME IN & TAKE PART

Online

The conference's platform provides you with live broadcasts of the talks. <https://itn-top.dealroomevents.com/registration>

On site



Campus LMU Klinikum city center

Klinik und Poliklinik für Mund-, Kiefer- und Gesichtschirurgie

Lindwurmstr. 2a, 80337 Munich

Please note that we have a limited number of 100 attendees onsite

Talks: Großer Hörsaal MKG - 1st Floor

Venue



Subway lines U3, U6

Stop at "Goetheplatz"

Exit "B", "Goethestrasse"



Dinner

7.00 p.m. Restaurant Banyan, Goethestr. 68 – 80336 Munich

PROGRAM

8.45 am	Registration
9.15 - 9.30 a.m.	Sebastian Kobold , Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, Germany Welcome address and introduction of the European Training Network to Optimise Adoptive T cell Therapies – T-OP
9.35 - 9.50 a.m.	Maria Ormhøj , Technical University of Denmark Antigen scaffolds for expansion of tumor-specific functionally improved T cells for adoptive cell therapy
9.55 - 10.15 a.m.	Tobias Feuchtinger , Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, Germany Learning from the bone marrow niche for immunotherapy of acute leukemia
10.15 a.m.	Coffee break
10.40 - 10.55 a.m.	Michael von Bergwelt , Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, Germany Understanding and managing side effects: the needle hole for the long-term success of cancer immunotherapy?
11.00 - 11.15 a.m.	Christian Buchholz , Paul-Ehrlich-Institut, Germany Surface engineered viral vectors for improved CAR gene delivery
11.20 a.m.	Lunch break
1.00 - 1.15 p.m.	Sebastian Kobold , Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, Germany Moving T cells into tumors for cancer therapy
1.20 - 1.35 p.m.	Markus Barden , The Leibniz Institute for Immunotherapy (LIT), Regensburg, Germany IL12 cytokine linked to a CAR: a novel CAR design with unexpected properties
1.40 - 1.55 p.m.	Roch Houot , Université de Rennes 1, France DESCAR-T Registry: Lessons learned from the French real-life database for CAR T cells in hematologic malignancies.
2.00 p.m.	Break
2.20 - 2.35 p.m.	Michal Lotem , Hadassah Medical Organization, Israel Alternative splicing of checkpoint receptors: a regulatory mechanism and an opportunity for new therapies.
2.40 - 2.55 p.m.	Robert Hawkins , InstilBio Inc, Great Britain Optimizing Costimulatory Antigen Receptors (CoStAR) to Enhance the Efficacy of TIL Therapy
3.00 - 3.20 p.m.	Sonja Schallenberg , Miltenyi Biotec GmbH, Germany Automated manufacturing of gene-engineered (CAR) T cells for adoptive T cell therapy
3.20 p.m.	Coffee break
3.40 - 3.55 p.m.	Per thor Straten , University Hospital Herlev, Denmark The exercise of TAMing the immune system
4.00 - 4.15 p.m.	Annette Künkele , Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany L1CAM-specific CAR T cell therapy for childhood neuroblastoma
4.20 - 4.35 p.m.	Alfred Zippelius , Universität Basel, Switzerland T-cell directed cancer immunotherapies
4.40 p.m.	Closing remarks
7.00 p.m.	Dinner for speakers

SPEAKERS



Markus Barden is research fellow at Prof. Hinrich Abken's Laboratory for Genetic Immunotherapy at the Leibniz Institute for Immunotherapy (LIT) in Regensburg, Germany. He studied medicine at University of Cologne and joined Prof. Abken's group in 2016. His current research is aimed at improving T cell targeting of cancer and developing novel strategies in modulating an immune response, in particular by next generation chimeric antigen receptors (CARs).



Michael von Bergwelt MD, PhD, MSBM, EDIC, studied medicine and human biology at the universities of Freiburg and Paris. He completed his training in internal medicine, hematology, oncology, infectious diseases, emergency and intensive care medicine at the University of Cologne medical center. Scientifically, Dr. von Bergwelt was educated in immunology at Harvard and Stanford university.

He is an expert in immuno-oncology/cellular therapy and intensive care of immunocompromised patients and is the chair and director of the Department of Hematology and Oncology at LMU Munich.

SPEAKERS



Christian Buchholz, PhD, heads the Section of Molecular Biotechnology and Gene Therapy at the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut (PEI) and is Associate Professor for Biochemistry at the University of Frankfurt. He studied microbiology at LMU and holds a PhD from the Max-Planck-Institut for biochemistry. At PEI, Dr. Buchholz combines responsibilities in gene therapy medicinal product regulation with the maintenance of a research laboratory active in studying the safety and efficacy of viral vectors. Dr. Buchholz has published more than 100 articles focusing on the engineering of the surface of viral vectors. He aims to understand the molecular events during viral cell entry and to improve their applicability in modern molecular medicine. Recently, his team has provided proof-of-principle for the in vivo CAR T cell generation thereby making use of viral vectors targeted to T cell surface markers.



Tobias Feuchtinger is Professor of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at LMU Munich. He is Director of the Department of Pediatric Hematology, Hemostaseology, Oncology and Stem Cell Transplantation at Dr. von Hauner University Children's Hospital of LMU. He studied medicine in Hamburg, received his M.D. at University of Bochum and was postdoctoral research fellow in the Stem Cell Laboratory at Tübingen University. Dr. Feuchtinger published numerous peer-reviewed articles in journals like Blood or Oncoimmunology. Since 2018, he has been coordinating the European consortium on adoptive T-cell transfer for viral complications after allogeneic stem cell transplantation (TRACE). His work centers on development of experimental knowledge to clinical application of T-cell therapy approaches.

SPEAKERS



Robert Hawkins is Chief Strategy Advisor to Instil Bio Inc and Honorary Professor at University of Manchester. His main clinical specialty was renal cancer, and he led clinical development of several immune and targeted agents. In cell therapy, he has been the coordinator of several major European Union consortia and has published widely in scientific and clinical journals (H-Index 61). He founded a spinout company, Immetacyte Ltd, to focus on the development of adoptive cell therapy using tumour infiltrating lymphocytes and gene engineered products for a range of solid tumours. The company has filed several patents on manufacturing of TIL and on methods to engineer “second-generation” TIL products. Immetacyte was acquired by Instil Bio Inc and with substantial investor backing the combined company is expanding its operations in the US and UK. It is developing a range of TIL based clinical trials US and Europe with the aim of producing products to benefit patients with many solid tumours.



Roch Houot is Professor of Medicine and Head of the Hematology Department at the University Hospital of Rennes (France). He obtained his M.D. from Lyon University and received a PhD for his work on immunostimulatory antibodies in lymphoma that he performed in the laboratory of Ronald Levy at Stanford University. He is currently pursuing his preclinical research at the INSERM of Rennes. He is a member of the Scientific Committee of the LYSA. Professor Houot is particularly involved in the development of immunotherapies for lymphoid malignancies.

SPEAKERS



Sebastian Kobold is Professor of Medicine and Experimental Immuno-oncology at the Medical Faculty of LMU Munich and coordinates the European Training Network of T-OP. He has studied medicine at the universities of Saarland, Bordeaux and Zurich and he received his M.D. from the universities of Saarland and Zurich. He trained in internal medicine, hematology, oncology, clinical pharmacology in Hamburg, Munich and Boston. He has completed his Habilitation in experimental internal medicine at the Medical Faculty of LMU. He is board certified clinical pharmacologist and immunologist. The focus of Dr. Kobold's research work is on developing novel cellular therapy approaches against cancer and deciphering novel resistance mechanisms that need to be overcome for T cell activity.



Annette Künkele PD Dr. Annette Künkele is associate professor for cellular therapies and senior attending physician at the Department of Pediatric Oncology and Hematology at Charité University Medicine Berlin. Dr. Künkele studied medicine at Heidelberg University, and was a pediatric resident at both the University Children's Hospital Essen and Charité Berlin, subsequently specializing in pediatric oncology and hematology. She focused early in her career on cellular therapies, and consequently worked for three years as a postdoc in the laboratory of Prof. Michael C. Jensen at Seattle Children's Research Institute, to develop a CAR targeting neuroblastoma and initiate a first-in-human phase I/II trial using this CAR T cell product. Dr. Künkele's current research focuses on identifying novel CAR targets as well as hurdles preventing CAR T cell success against solid tumors.

S P E A K E R S



Michal Lotem is Head of the Center for Melanoma and Cancer Immunotherapy at the Sharett Institute of Oncology of the Hadassah University Hospital in Jerusalem and Associate Professor of Oncology at the Faculty of Medicine, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Michal Lotem has been a senior physician at the Department of Dermatology at the Hadassah University Hospital and is a Lecturer in Dermatology and Oncology at the Faculty of Medicine of the Hebrew University. She conducted a research fellowship in the Surgery Branch at the NCI, NIH, was visiting Professor at Stanford University and was a visiting scholar at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, USA. She published in numerous high-ranking journals and participated in several international research consortia. Her lab is intensely involved in studying the SLAM (signaling lymphocyte activation molecule) family of receptors in the anti-cancer immune response. Her team is deeply engaged in treating melanoma patients with new immunotherapies.



Maria Ormhøj received her PhD degree in cancer immunology in 2019 from University of Southern Denmark. Maria Ormhøj is a senior postdoctoral fellow at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) where her main research area is development of chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cell therapy for treatment of cancer. Maria Ormhøj also functions as scientific organizer in the Center for Nano-Immune Cell-Engineering (NICE), an interdisciplinary research center with researchers from DTU and Leibniz Institute for Immunotherapy (LIT), focusing on in vivo CAR gene delivery to T-cells.

SPEAKERS



Per thor Straten received a master degree in biology in 1992 from University of Copenhagen, and a PhD in tumor immunology in 1998 from Open University, UK. He has been an independent researcher since 2001 and was appointed Professor of Translational Tumor Immunology at University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences in 2009. Currently, Per thor Straten is Vice-Director at Centre for Cancer Immunotherapy (CCIT), Department of Oncology at University Hospital Herlev, Denmark. He has authored and co-authored more than 200 peer-reviewed articles. He is co-author of five patents on peptide antigens recognized by T cells, and founder and co-founder of several biotech companies. His main interests are co-stimulation and inhibition of T and NK cells, therapeutic vaccinations against cancer, adoptive cell therapy in cancer, and exercise immunology and oncology.



Sonja Schallenberg is Team Coordinator clinical T cell processing development, R&D Immunotherapy at Miltenyi Biotec GmbH. She graduated at the University Tübingen in Biology, and then performed her PhD project at the Dermatology Department of the University Hospital and the DKFZ in Heidelberg. She focused on investigating the role of regulatory T (Treg) cells during treatment of malignant melanoma in a mouse model. She conducted her Postdoc at the CRTD in Dresden on basic research about the development of Treg cells in vivo. At Miltenyi, Sonja Schallenberg works on development and improvement of procedures for automated CAR T cell manufacturing in a GMP-compliant fashion and the generation of non-clinical data packages for our CAR T cells that are currently under investigation in several clinical trials.

S P E A K E R S



Alfred Zippelius is full Professor of Translational Oncology and Vice Chair of the Department of Medical Oncology at the University Hospital Basel. He studied medicine in Munich and performed post-doctoral research work at the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research in Lausanne. After completing his training in medical oncology and heading a junior research group at the university hospital Zurich, he was then appointed Swiss National Science Foundation Professor and group leader of the Laboratory of Cancer Immunology, Department of Biomedicine, University of Basel, where he subsequently became full Professor of Translational Oncology and Vice Chair of the Department of Oncology, University Hospital Basel. Prof. Zippelius is author of > 150 high-impact publications and inventor of several patents in the field of cancer immunology and received numerous fellowships and awards.



T-OP European Training Network for Optimizing Adoptive T cell Therapy of Cancer

Workshops

Thursday 7th and Friday 8th July 2022 in Munich, Germany



COME IN &
TAKE PART



Place

Treffpunkt Philosophie

Neue Akropolis e.V.

Schwanthalerstr. 91, 3.Stock

80336 München



Venue

Subway lines U3/U6

Stop at “Odeonsplatz” and change to subway lines U4/U5
direction “Heimeranplatz/Laimer Platz”

Stop at “Theresienwiese”

5 minutes on foot

PROGRAM

Thursday, 7th July 2022	
Skills – Transfer of technology	
Part 1- Being an entrepreneur is much more than doing business. It means understanding a problem, finding a solution, recognizing an opportunity for change and building an organization that is able to transform the solution into application. In this workshop, we provide a rough overview on basics of academic entrepreneurship and discuss inspiring LMU-examples of entrepreneurship as a tool to bring research into application.	
9.00 a.m.	Spin-off: entrepreneurship competences, from the idea to the start up Gisa Todt , LMU Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center Philipp Landerer LMU Spin-off Service
10.30 a.m.	Coffee break
10.45 a.m.	Report of experience – “Interdisciplinary research beyond clinical trials - case studies t-cell therapy” Karin Berger-Thürmel , Angewandte Versorgungsforschung / Gesundheitsökonomie, KUM
12.00 a.m.	Lunch break
1.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.	Protection of Intellectual Property Jürgen Meier , Vossius & Partner – Patent attorneys
6.00 p.m.	ESR self organised dinner event
Friday, 8th July 2022	
Career development – Part 1 Develop methods of self-organisation to conduct your doctorate	
<i>Common part with students of the network EUGLOH – Online session</i>	
The event will begin with a presentation giving practical advice to help participants get started on what is probably the biggest project they have had to tackle so far. Topics covered include supervision, time and project management, as well as some experience-based tips for successfully starting a PhD. In the second part, two postdocs, former members of the Immutrain European Network, will share their experiences and answer the audience's questions.	
9.00 a.m.	Isolde von Bülow , GraduateCenter ^{LMU} Starting your doctorate
10.00 a.m.	Siret Tahk , Icosagen, Estonia Mohamed-Reda Benmebarek , National Cancer Institute, NIH, USA Looking back at the time of the Doctorate: two Postdocs share their experience Report of experience Q&A
Career Development – Part 2 Introduction to the career coaching of T-OP	
Specific for the Early Stage Researchers of the European Training Network of T-OP	
The third part of the workshop is planned as an interactive workshop, where doctoral researchers will reflect their expectations of the skills and competences currently required against the background of their personal development as professional academics. Complementary to the group workshop, it is offered to deepen and specify the started considerations within the framework of a professional individual online coaching.	
11.00 a.m.	Isolde von Bülow , GraduateCenter ^{LMU} Veronika Krönert , GraduateCenter ^{LMU} Kerstin Bleuel , GraduateCenter ^{LMU} Introduction, objectives and timeline of the career coaching of T-OP
12.30 a.m.	End of the Workshops

SPEAKERS



Gisa Todt is Knowledge Management Lead, Researcher, and Start-up Impact Coach at the LMU Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center. Since her doctorate, her research interests have included resilience, failure, and purpose. In addition to publications in peer-reviewed journals, her edited book „Work-Life after Failure?! How Employees Bounce Back, Learn and Recover from Work-Related Setbacks” was recently published. Previously she worked for Lufthansa and held several lecturer positions.

[LMU Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center](https://www.iec.uni-muenchen.de)

<https://www.iec.uni-muenchen.de>



Philipp Landerer studied BWL and worked eight years in the field of Mobile Operator Product Development and Product marketing. He then has moved for 12 years Founder Company “Keepsakes” Wholesale for prof. photographers. Philipp Landerer has managed for three years Startup Incubator and has joined LMU Spin-off Service since 2020.

[LMU Spin-off Service](https://www.lmu.de)

<https://www.lmu.de>

SPEAKERS



Karin Berger Thürmel studied business administration and health economics at the University of Bayreuth and completed then her doctorate at the Medical Faculty of LMU Munich on health economic issues in the context of rare diseases using the example of haemophilia. As part of her habilitation in the field of health services research, she worked on the topic of "Health services research to support health economic decision-making processes in haematology". From 1997 to 2007, Karin Berger-Thürmel was managing partner of MERG, Medical Economics Research Group, which specialised in national and international analyses, multidisciplinary development of solutions and consulting on medical-economic issues relating to health system development and the use of innovative diagnostics and therapeutics. MERG was acquired by IMS Health (now IQVIA) in 2007. After the acquisition, Karin Berger-Thürmel led the Health Economics & Outcomes Research team at the Munich office, later taking on a senior role at Real World Solutions, London. Since 2018, she has headed the Applied Health Services Research & Health Economics group at the LMU Munich Hospital, Department of Haematology and Oncology. The overall goal of the group is to scientifically publish data and information to continuously improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of care for patients with rare malignant and non-malignant haematological and oncological diseases.

[Angewandte Versorgungsforschung/Gesundheitsökonomie](https://www.lmu-klinikum.de)
<https://www.lmu-klinikum.de>

S P E A K E R S



Jürgen Meier studied biology and biochemistry at the Universities of Freiburg im Breisgau (Germany), Sussex (England) and Dundee (Scotland). After obtaining his doctorate at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Heidelberg, he worked for several years at the Centre de Recherche en Neuroscience at McGill University in Montréal, Canada, on gene therapy approaches in neurology. He joined VOSSIUS in 1998 and qualified as a European Patent Attorney in 2001. In 2004, he was admitted as a Patent Attorney and as a European Trademark Attorney and has been a partner at Vossius & Partner since 2004.

[Vossius & Partners](https://www.vossius.eu/de)

<https://www.vossius.eu/de>

SPEAKERS



Mohamed Reda Benmebarek studied Biochemistry and completed a Master in Translational Cancer Medicine at Kings College London. He applied then successfully to the European Initial Training Network for The Immunotherapy of Cancer – Immutrain and conducted his doctorate at the Lab of Sebastian Kobold, LMU focusing on the development of cell and antibody-based therapies for the treatment of solid tumors. During his doctorate, he spent research secondment at Roche Innovation Center Zurich. He then started as a Postdoc at the Division of Clinical Pharmacology and went 2021 to [National Cancer Institute](#), NIH, at the Lab of Tim F. Greten. He investigates now liver cancer, with a focus on the tumor micro-environment and the development of immunotherapeutic strategies. Moreover, Reda co-funded [Graphit](#) an enterprise specialized in scientific communication.



Siret Tahk is Senior Researcher at [Icosagen Factory](#) in Tartu, Estonia, an enterprise producing recombinant antibodies and proteins. She joined the company after having completed her Doctorate at Gene Center Munich in the Lab of Karl-Peter Hopfner, LMU where she was selected as an Early Stage Researcher of the European Initial Training Network for The Immunotherapy of Cancer – Immutrain. The topic of her PhD was: “Development of bifunctional cancer-targeting antibody constructs for the local blockade of CD47/SIRPα immune checkpoint in acute myeloid leukemia and neuroblastoma.” During the program of Immutrain, Siret went to the Lab of Gosse Adema at Radboud Medical Centre, Netherlands for a research secondment. Siret previously studied Biomedicine at the University of Tartu and received numerous awards and grants.

Coachers



Isolde von Bülow studied Biology at the University of Tübingen, Germany. After her doctorate, she worked as a postdoctoral researcher in the field of clinical pharmacology for a Swiss pharmaceutical company. From 1992 on Isolde von Bülow took over various management positions in science first at the University of Tübingen (Graduate Program in Neuroscience, 1992-1994) and from 1995 until today at LMU München. Among others she was responsible for the management of various interdisciplinary doctoral research training programs at the university's life science campus supported by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, European Framework Program, and the German Excellence Initiative. Since December 2007 Isolde von Bülow is Head of the GraduateCenterLMU, the central coordination and service unit for doctoral studies at LMU München. In addition to her many years of work in the field of doctoral education, she has completed a training as a systemic business coach and as conflict mediator.

[GraduateCenterLMU](https://www.en.graduatecenter.uni-muenchen.de)

<https://www.en.graduatecenter.uni-muenchen.de>

Coachers



Kerstin Bleuel studied Biology at the Technical University Darmstadt, Germany. After her doctorate at the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg she worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the German Cancer Research Center and at the Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry in Munich-Martinsried. Since 2017, Kerstin Bleuel is part of the GraduateCenterLMU Team with a focus on doctoral programs in Natural Sciences and Medicine.

In addition, she has joined different trainings in Good Scientific Practice and Research Integrity, career coaching and consulting/coaching skills.



Veronika Krönert worked as a research assistant at University of Bremen in the field of media and cultural change after her studies in media and communications at Technical University Ilmenau, Germany. In 2013 Veronika Krönert joined the GraduateCenterLMU as a consultant with a special focus on the Social Sciences and Economics. In addition to her work in third-party funding advice and the field of quality assurance in the promotion of young researchers, individual support for doctoral researchers as a systemic advisor and career coach is particularly close to her heart.

[GraduateCenterLMU](https://www.en.graduatecenter.uni-muenchen.de)

<https://www.en.graduatecenter.uni-muenchen.de>

ABOUT

T-OP
Training Network for Optimizing
Adoptive T cell Therapy of Cancer



Key facts of the European project T-OP:



17 partners from industry, academy and public authority and hosted in 7 countries



From 01.03.2021 to 28.02.2025



4,1 Mio. € from the European H2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie program

ABOUT

T-OP
Training Network for Optimizing
Adoptive T cell Therapy of Cancer



T-OP improves the efficacy of cell therapies by better defining the role of cytokines in their production. The generation of adoptive T cell therapy products is a complex but ill-defined process with limited harmonization across production and clinical studies, even for the same indication. Cytokines are central to the generation of such products, whilst also playing a key role in the efficacy and safety of the cellular product. There is however a limited understanding as to which cytokines might lead to the best outcome on any of these steps. T-OP targets a pioneering research question: How do cytokines influence the therapeutic outcome of ACT products? You will find all details and future developments on: www.itn-top.eu

T-OP trains future experts of cellular therapies by providing them with cutting-edge knowledge on T cell therapies and cytokine effects thereon. The training by research focuses on excellent individual supervision and on cross fertilization of expertise with secondments and mentoring. We organize regularly international conferences, workshops and career events. Follow all our events on [LinkedIn](#)

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