



PROGRAM UNITE CONFERENCE 2025

UNDERSTANDING AND TARGETING RESISTANCE IN GLIOBLASTOMA

DATE: MAY 14 – 15 | 2025

Venue:
DKFZ Communication Center
Im Neuenheimer Feld 280 | 69120 Heidelberg

DAY 1, MAY 14TH

08:30-09:00 **Arrival and registration**

09:00-09:20 **Welcome and Introduction**

Wolfgang Wick, Stefan Pfister,
Michael, Platten, Christiane Opitz

09:20-10:40 **NEUROPATHOLOGY/CLASSIFICATION**

- Molecular Glioma Subtyping for Precision Diagnosis
Suwala, Abigail (UKHD, Heidelberg, DE)
- DNA Methylation Profiling in Glioblastomas:
Insights from Resource-Limited Settings
Suri, Vaishali (AIIMS, Delhi, IN)
- A platform for accessible and rapid comprehensive
molecular profiling of central nervous system tumours
Patel, Areeba (DKFZ, Heidelberg, DE)
- Short Talks

10:40-10:55 **COFFEE BREAK**

10:55-12:15 **GLIOMAGENESIS AND
NEURODEVELOPMENT**

- Recapitulating Human Brain Development in a Dish to
Understand Disease
Mayer, Simone (KIT, Karlsruhe, DE)
- Oncogenic transcription factors of the PLAG family
disrupt neurodevelopment to initiate pediatric glioma
formation
Kutscher, Lena (DKFZ, Heidelberg, DE)
- Adaptive clonal evolution shapes brain development
Wei, Pei-Chi (DKFZ, Heidelberg, DE)
- Short Talks

12:15-13:00 **POSTER PITCHES 1 (TOPIC I – IV)**

13:00-13:45 **LUNCH BREAK**

13:45-14:30 **POSTER SESSION 1 (TOPICS I – IV)**

14:30-15:50 **TUMOR HETEROGENEITY & CANCER
NEUROSCIENCE**

- The role of cell state in glioblastoma resistance
Parrinello, Simona (UCL, London, GB)
- Brain Cancer Neuroscience: from bench to bedside
Winkler, Frank (UKHD, Heidelberg, DE)
- Spatiotemporal determinants of glioma heterogeneity
Liu, Ilon (Charité, Berlin, DE)
- Short Talks

15:50-16:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

16:00-17:20 **TUMOR MICROENVIRONMENT**

- Immunodynamics: a journey across space and time
Kirschenbaum, Daniel (USZ, Zurich, CH)
- The heterogenous vascular tumor-immune
microenvironment in GBM
Bergers, Gabriele (KU Leuven, Leuven, BE)
- Mapping and modeling brain macrophages
Ginhoux, Florent (Gustave Roussy, Villejuif, FR)
- Short Talks

17:20-18:20 **TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES SHAPING
THE FUTURE OF BRAIN TUMOR
RESEARCH**

- Studying the Beast in Its Ecosystem: A Human Ex Vivo
Brain Slice Model for Glioblastoma
Madapusi Ravi, Vidhya (UKF, Freiburg, DE)
- Deuterium Metabolic Imaging in Glioblastoma:
Differentiating Tumour Subtypes and Monitoring
Treatment Response
Hesse, Friederike (Charité, Berlin, DE)
- Liquid Biopsy for CNS Tumors Using Tumor-Secreted
Extracellular vesicles
Ricklefs, Franz (UKE, Hamburg, DE)
- Uncovering spatial design principles of gliomas through
integrative spatial analysis
Greenwald, Alissa (Weizmann, Rehovot, IL)

From 19:30 **CONFERENCE DINNER**

DAY 2, MAY 15TH

09:00-10:20 IMMUNOTHERAPY

- Novel immunotherapeutic approaches against glioblastoma
Weiss, Tobias (USZ, Zurich, CH)
- Evasion from T cell-mediated Immunity in GBM
Wucherpfeffnig, Kai (DFCI, Boston, US)
- Hiding in plain sight: T cells in the skull bone
Dobersalske, Celia (DKTK, Essen, DE)
- Short Talks

10:20-10:35 COFFEE BREAK

10:35-11:55 LIQUID BIOPSIES

- Clinical implementation of liquid biopsies in brain tumors – the liquid biopsy board and towards clinical trials
Kessler, Tobias (UKHD, Heidelberg, DE)
- Leveraging liquid biopsy to transform patient care in pediatric neuro-oncology
Northcott, Paul (STJUDE, Memphis, US)
- Towards Clinical Implementation of Liquid Biopsy Analysis for Pediatric Brain Tumor Patients – A Pan-European Effort for Standardization
Maaß, Kendra (KITZ, Heidelberg, DE)
- Short Talks

11:55-12:40 POSTER PITCHES (TOPIC V – VIII)

12:40-13:30 LUNCH BREAK

13:30-14:15 POSTER SESSION 2 (TOPICS V – VII)

14:15-15:35 METABOLIC CROSSTALK IN CANCER

- mTORC1 dictates the cellular response to energetic stress
Leprivier, Gabriel (UKD, Duesseldorf, DE)
- Metabolic adaptations of Glioblastoma during tumor relapse
Daubon, Thomas (UB, Bordeaux, FR)
- Amino acid metabolism in glioblastoma
Opitz, Christiane (DKFZ, Heidelberg, DE)
- Short Talks

15:35-16:00 COFFEE BREAK

16:00-17:20 CLINICAL TRIALS

- IDH1-targeting vaccines - new results and developments
Platten, Michael (UMM, Mannheim, DE)
- Lessons for the next steps from molecular informed trials
Wick, Wolfgang (UKHD, Heidelberg, DE)
- Glioma trials according to patient-derived cell drug screening
Bergmeister-Berghoff, Anna (MedUni, Wien, AT)
- Short Talks

17:20-18:20 Perspektive einer Patientin (in German language)

- „Alles gut? Alles gut: unsere unglaubliche Geschichte von Tod und Leben“
Assmann, Marlene
- Diskussion

18:20-18:40 Meeting adjourns

Wolfgang Wick, Stefan Pfister, Michael Platten, Christiane Opitz

